Indian Health Service
Office of Director Updates

November 3, 2026

Benjamin Smith,
Deputy Director IHS

CHAP Nationalization

- Combined MOU between the ANHB, ANTHC, and IHS, took effect May 20, 2026.
- *As a component of CHAP Nationalization efforts, IHS will support availability of AK CHAP Materials (v7.30.25), pursuant to the stipulations of the MOU including*
    - the Community Health Aide Manual (CHAM),
    - Behavioral Health Aide Manual (BHAM), and
    - CHAP Curriculum.
- *IHS commits to ongoing dialog with Alaska Native Health Board/Alaska Tribal Health Compact Co-Signers regarding collaboration on CHAP Expansion.*

Staffing Update

FY 2026 / FY 2027 Q1 Reported Activity

1,454

Civilian Hires

967 Hired June–October

Including 203 in October

Recruitment Activity

Jobs Advertised	**1,157**
Candidates Referred	**10,420**
Selections	**2,063**

250 **Commissioned Corps Officers Onboarded**

1,537 Civilian Separations

756 Resignations, 359 Voluntary Retirements, and 422 Other Separations

Retention Remains a Priority

Realignment Timeline

Next Steps
Consultation/Confer Comment Period Closed – Feb 2026
Federal Register Comment Period (30 days) - TBD
Federal Register Notice
Transition to Future State

Indian Health Service
Office of Indian Self-Determination and Self-Governance (OSD)

November 3, 2026

Rena Macy, Acting Director

FY26 Self-Governance & Self-Determination Activities

OSD reviewed 4 additional tribes for entry into Self-Governance, 2 are pending negotiation, 2 were deemed in-eligible

New Title V –

- Pechanga Band of Indians (Feb 2026)
- Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma (July 2026)

Assumptions of Service Units in 26/27

- Confederated Tribes of Colville, Oct 1, 2026
- Catawba Indian Nation, August 1, 2026.
- White Earth Tribe, October 1, 2027.

Cooperative Agreements

Awarded $648,000 in FY2026

Planning Grant	Location	Amount
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	Elton, LA	$142,170
Guidiville Indian Rancheria	Talmage, CA	$164,487
Klamath Tribes	Klamath Falls, OR	$180,000

Negotiations Grant	Location	Amount
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	Wewoka, OK	$84,000
Guidiville Indian Rancheria	Talmage, CA	$164,487

ISDEAA Stats for FY2026

Title I

- 220 Tribes and Tribal Organizations
- 239 contracts and annual funding agreements.

Title V

- 416 Tribes and Tribal Organizations
- 148 Funding Agreements;
- Over $3.3 billion of the IHS budget was transferred to Tribes and Tribal organizations

Approximately 65% of budget is transferred to Tribes.

Fiscal Year 2026 Payments

Type	IHS TITLE I	IHS TITLE V	Grand Total
Program Funding	781,100,524	2,568,050,357	3,349,150,881
CSC	305,255,129	1,414,196,335	1,719,451,464
Leases	156,875,445	551,243,286	708,118,731
Grand Total	**1,243,231,098**	**4,533,489,978**	**5,776,721,076**

Leasing Program – 105(l)

- Leases are Annual Agreements so they do require activity every year
- Team is developing External Leasing Guide
- Continue to have staffing challenges
  - Recruitment underway for Leasing Director and 2 Realty Specialists
- As of Oct 2026 there are 1,443 active leases with the Agency
  - Pending finalization – 262
  - Pending signature/final payment – 52
  - Finalized and paid - 1129

Contract Support Costs

CSC Advisory Group (CSCAG)

- October 28, 2026 – Virtual
- December 15, 2026 – Virtual, (Technical Session)
- February 17-18, 2027 – Location TBD

Training & Outreach

- Portland Area Training - Pending
- Recorded Online training – Pending
- Podcast, Shell it like it is (recorded Aug 2026) - Pending

**IHS team will shift focus to reconciliation and closeout of canceling year FY2022.*

Status of Reports to Congress

Administration of the Indian Health Service Tribal Self-Governance Program

1. FY2022 and FY2023 – Pending Final Review by HHS, then posting to Newsroom
2. FY2024 and FY2025– Finalized draft routing for internal clearances, then will go out for tribal consultation.

Contract Support Costs

1. FY2025 – Finalized draft routing for internal clearances.

Have established timeline for FY26 with target of completion by end of FY2027

Final reports can be found at https://www.ihs.gov/newsroom/reportstocongress/

Status of Current Agency Consultations

Special Diabetes Program for Indians

- The IHS met with the TLDC on September 15 to discuss the feedback received through Tribal Consultation and Urban Confer.
- Next steps included finalizing TLDC recommendations to the IHS for consideration and the IHS conducting internal deliberations on funding decisions. The IHS is committed to reviewing all feedback, recommendations, and relevant programmatic, budgetary, grants, and policy considerations in determining how the additional SDPI will be allocated and implemented.

Loan Repayment

- comment period closed on October 23, the IHS is evaluating all feedback received.

Facilities Modernization – Accepting comments through Friday, January 8, 2027, *consultation@ihs.gov.*

- On October 20, the IHS hosted a listening session at the National Congress of American Indians to provide an overview of the IHS Health Care Facilities Construction Priority System, review the remaining projects on the IHS Facilities Construction Priority List and their status, and describe how Congress funds health care facilities construction. Approximately 90 participants in attendance and the IHS received direct input from 13 commenters representing 6 IHS Areas, with strong representation from California Area.
    - **Phoenix Indian Medical Center replacement project**
        - On November 9 and December 1 Phoenix Area will host in-person Tribal Consultation and Urban Confer sessions with Tribes, Tribal Organizations, and UIOs in the IHS Phoenix Area on the PIMC replacement project on. The goal is to seek input on options to move the project forward, including the project delivery approach, future construction funding, and partnerships that can support health care access during and after construction


INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
PHS • 1955 •