



## *Office of the Director*

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### **Tribal Activities Highlights Report September 01 – November 30, 2011**

**Overview:** Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) covers three main service areas which are: (1) behavioral health services including oversight of the Arizona State Hospital (AzSH), (2) public health services and (3) medical facilities and day care licensing. Michael Allison is the Native American Liaison.

#### **Project Results and Accomplishments:**

**Division of Behavioral Health Services:** Continued working relationships between the Tribal/Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (T/RBHAs), tribes and urban Indian programs located within the RBHAs' geographic service areas, in conjunction with the four RBHA Tribal Liaisons. Conducted three monthly coordinating meetings with the RBHA Tribal Liaisons and received monthly activity reports. RBHA Tribal Liaisons conducted service delivery coordination meetings with 15 of the 17 tribes that do not currently have an IGA with DBHS. Monitored and provided on-going technical assistance to the three Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (TRBHAs), which are the White Mountain Apache Tribe, Gila River Indian Community, Pascua Yaqui Tribe and the Navajo Nation and Colorado River Indian Tribe (CRIT), which have Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) for a limited set of behavioral health services. In September worked with the State Court Forum work group to draft a judicial involuntary commitment for tribal members (ARS 12-136) curriculum for planned on-line training. Continued providing substance abuse prevention services with nine tribal nations.

**Division of Public Health Services (Preparedness):** Continued IGA contracting with Fort Mojave Tribe for Public Health Emergency Preparedness Tribal Coordination services and 12 tribes for public health emergency preparedness services. Held 3 monthly conference calls with tribal contractors and continued on-going collaboration and support for the Arizona Tribal Executive Committee (AzTEC), the tribal public health emergency preparedness representative entity. Presented a First Responder Outreach training to the Gila River Fire Department on 9/12-13/11. The class discussed the preparedness capabilities of the State Lab as a CDC Laboratory Response Network (LRN) facility. Conducted a LRN training at the Chinle IHS Hospital on 10/6/11 focusing on the collection and submission of clinical samples arising from a radiological and/or chemical exposure. Continued routine State Lab testing of samples of public health significance for Arizona Tribes with an increase in samples submitted for Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF). Continued to provide Immunization Vaccines for Children (VFC) vaccine to tribes and IHS medical facilities that are enrolled as VFC providers. Worked with the San Carlos IHS Hospital to enroll in the Arizona State Immunization Information System. Provided training on tuberculosis prevention and control to six IHS service units within the Navajo Nation in November, 2011 in collaboration with the New Mexico state health department. Continued to assist the San Carlos Apache and White Mountain Apache Tribes with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF) prevention and control efforts.

**Division of Public Health Services (Prevention):** Continued tobacco education and prevention contracting funding through a contract with ITCA to five tribes and three urban Indian centers. Work goals include outreach into tribal communities to increase the number of referrals to quit line cessation services and developing youth coalitions to change the social norms to make tobacco less desirable. On October 26, 2011 launched the Phoenix Area Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center. Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, IHS Director was a guest speaker. Over 300 people attended hearing testimonials about breastfeeding. Collaboration continued with the Navajo Nation Cancer Planning Project.

**Division of Licensing Services:** Provided technical assistance to the Tohono O'odham Nation Assisted Living project and the Ganado, Navajo Nation Assisted Living facility. Provided on-going coordination with the Navajo Division of Health on behavioral health licensed providers. Coordinated a health and safety situation in which children had to be relocated from a licensed facility. Routinely discussed public information relating to providers who have applied for contracts with tribes and who are currently licensed by the state off the reservation. Conducted courtesy fire inspections and courtesy licensing renewal surveys on six Developmental Disability Group Homes located on the Navajo Nation. Sixteen applications are pending for the same service on the Navajo Nation which are expected to complete in late December/early January.

#### **Current Projects:**

**Division of Behavioral Health Services:** An Involuntary Commitment training for the Tohono O'odham Nation is planned for December 6, 2011 in Sells. Planning continued for the Native American Behavioral Health Forum II. Work on a new IGA for the White Mountain Apache Tribe was initiated.

**Division of Public Health Services (Preparedness):** Worked with contracted tribes for end-of-year emergency preparedness reporting to CDC. Working to improve electronic transmission of IHS immunization records to ADHS, this is a priority for the ADHS Immunization Program and ITS Departments. Assisting tribal partners in the investigation of the emergence RMSF through epidemiologic consultation, laboratory testing, and the provision of tick control supplies. Attend monthly tribal RMSF stakeholder coalition meetings.

**Division of Public Health Services (Prevention):** Continued Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program contracting relations with ITCA and the Navajo Nation. ITCA continued contracts with five tribes. Continued contracting relations with ITCA and the IHS Sells dental service unit to provide technical assistance and equipment for a Teledentistry demonstration practice model and partnered with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community providing information/resources and assisting with identifying speakers for their Health Bi-Monthly Meetings. Through newly awarded Affordable Care Act Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program funding initiated working arrangements with the White Mountain Apache Tribe. Implemented the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health for Communities Organized to Respond and Evaluate (REACH CORE) Program, a CDC funded program to improve health among the American Indian, African American, Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic/Latino communities in Maricopa County using a community-driven process called Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP). Facilitated trainings on the U.S. Diabetes Conversation Maps and promoted the Eagle book series, a set of books geared toward Native American children with diabetes. Provided diabetes education materials to the Navajo Nation Special Diabetes Project for their annual staff training conference held in November.

#### **Future Deadlines:**

**Division of Behavioral Health Services:** A Behavioral Health Tribal Consultation meeting has been scheduled for January 18, 2012 from 1-4:30pm. The Statewide Arizona American Indian Behavioral Health Forum II will be held on February 15-16, 2012.

**Division of Public Health Services (Preparedness):** Annual AzTEC meeting planned for January 2012. Apply for federal CDC grant funding to continue to support RMSF control activities in all RMSF affected tribal areas.

**Division of Public Health Services (Prevention):** An emergency care for children in Arizona tribal communities is scheduled for January 25-26, 2012. Meet with Tohono O'odham Nation representatives in early December to help plan for a diabetes wellness event in the spring of 2012. A Statewide Arizona American Indian Pathways into Health Conference is scheduled for April 4-5, 2012.