



Asha Petoskey Acting Director Bemidji Area Indian Health Service

Asha Petoskey, an enrolled citizen of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, is the acting director of the Indian Health Service Bemidji Area. The IHS, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the principal federal health care advocate and provider for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Ms. Petoskey was appointed as acting director of the Bemidji Area in January 2024 and is responsible for providing leadership in the administration of a comprehensive federal, tribal, and urban Indian health care system for American Indians and Alaska Natives, primarily members of the 34 federally recognized tribes and six urban Indian health programs located in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. She also provides oversight of three federally-operated service units in the Bemidji Area and maintains a close working relationship with the local tribal health board.

Ms. Petoskey joined the IHS in 2012, serving in the Portland Area as the special assistant to the Portland Area director. Ms. Petoskey has held a variety of positions at IHS headquarters, Area Offices, and with tribes and tribal organizations, supporting American Indians and Alaska Natives throughout the Portland and Bemidji Areas. In 2021, Ms. Petoskey served as the Bemidji Area Compliance Officer, where she was responsible for key compliance activities focusing on independent, internal oversight activities to assess area-wide clinical and administrative risk management, and to identify systemic changes needed to improve the quality of health care services in IHS-operated hospitals and clinics. In addition, she provided leadership for continuous improvement of management accountability and administrative systems for effective and efficient program support services Area-wide.

Ms. Petoskey holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education from University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and a Master of Public Health from the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine.