



INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

Director's Awards Ceremony



IHS Mission: To raise the physical, mental, social and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level.



IHS Director's Award

The Director of the Indian Health Service recognizes individuals or groups of employees whose special efforts and contributions, beyond regular duty requirements, have significantly benefited the IHS strategic goals, objectives and programs, customers, and fulfillment of the IHS mission.

2023 Indian Health Service Director's Awards Ceremony

Agenda

Commencement by the Master of Ceremonies

Darrell LaRoche, Deputy Director for Management Operations, Indian Health Service

Presentation of the Colors

Surgeon General's Honor Guard

Traditional Opening

Special Song "God Bless America" – Robinson Jones, NNMC, Indian Health Service

HHS Deputy Secretary's Remarks

Andrea Palm, Deputy Secretary, Department of Health and Human Service

IHS Director's Remarks

Roselyn Tso, Director, Indian Health Service

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Beverly Cotton, Nashville Area Director, Indian Health Service

Presentation of Awards

-  IHS Length of Service Awards
-  IHS Director's Awards
-  IHS Director's Awards for Customer Service
-  IHS Director's Awards for Patient Safety
-  IHS Director's Awards for DEIA Excellence
-  USPHS Commissioned Corps Honor Awards
-  IHS Director's Special Recognition Awards

Closing Remarks

Roselyn Tso, Director, Indian Health Service

DESCRIPTION OF AWARDS

IHS Director's Awards

40, 45, 50 & 55-Year Length of Service Award

This award recognizes IHS employees with 40, 45, 50 & 55 or more years of service.

IHS Director's Special Recognition Award

This award is reserved for the IHS Director to honor individuals and teams who demonstrate exceptional dedication and innovation in advancing the IHS mission.

IHS Director's Award

This Award recognizes service that has significantly advanced the IHS mission and vision through work focused on the goals and objectives in the IHS Strategic Plan: Access, Quality, and Management Operations with particular emphasis on quality improvement activities.

IHS Director's Award for Customer Service

This Award recognizes service that has significantly advanced the IHS mission and vision and strategic goals and objectives through customer service. This award is designed to recognize innovation and exceptional performance and/or exemplary actions resulting in quality service to customers, stakeholders, and/or partners of the IHS.

IHS Director's Award for Patient Safety

This award recognizes a service that has significantly enhanced patient safety through risk recognition, reporting, and mitigation, contributing to the achievement and sustainment of high-reliability principles and leadership in carrying out projects to implement and sustain Total System Safety.

IHS Director's Award for DEIA Excellence

This award recognizes exemplary contributions by Indian Health Service managers, supervisors, non-supervisory employees, contractors, and teams who work to cultivate an inclusive, diverse, fair, equitable, and accessible workplace.

USPHS Commissioned Corps Honor Award

This Award recognizes USPHS Commissioned Corps individuals for their Distinguished, Meritorious, and Outstanding Service.

2023 AWARDEES

Extraordinary Length of Service Awards

40 Years

Rose Cysewski (AK)	Jacqueline Lunasee (NAV)	Roy Kickapoo (OKC)
Andrea Gutierrez (ABQ)	Kathleen Shorty (NAV)	William Suapitty (OKC)
Cynthia Tsalate (ABQ)	Alvina Thomas (NAV)	Rhonda Blankenship (PHX)
Lydia Birdinground (BIL)	KatherinHe Westley (NAV)	Kendrick Fritz (PHX)
Patricia Spotted Bear (BIL)	Claudene Arney (OKC)	Mariana Harney (PHX)
Roselyn Tso (HQ)	Harold Cully (OKC)	Helen John (PHX)
Barbara Tulloch (HQ)	Wendy Dunson (OKC)	David Buys (POR)
Phyllis Ashike (NAV)	Janet English (OKC)	
Angela Charley (NAV)	Carol Ahhaitty-Wetselline (OKC)	

45 Years

Vincent Abeita (ABQ)	Teddy Greenstone (NAV)	Juliana Makil (PHX)
Charlotte Briggs (ABQ)	Herbert Hubbard Sr. (NAV)	Nola Naha (PHX)
Geraldine Butler (ABQ)	Pearl Tom (NAV)	Loretta Ondelacy (PHX)
Mary Wall (BIL)	Virginia Woodie (NAV)	Kathleen Sage (PHX)
Steven Brown Wolf (GP)	Lyna Cosay (PHX)	Majel Schurz (PHX)

50 Years

Rosita Chimoni (ABQ)	Rose McReeves (NAV)	Lois Lewis (PHX)
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55 Years

Emerald Janis (GP)



PAS Director's Awards

Individual Awards

Dr. Martha Cotten	(AK)	Chelsea McFadden	(NAV)
CDR Ashley Frost	(AK)	Arika Perry	(NAV)
Shannon Harrison	(AK)	Arlene Sandoval	(NAV)
Monica Weaver	(AK)	Kyle Thompson	(NAV)
LCDR Kristin Allmaras	(BEM)	Mary Jo Zunic	(NAV)
LCDR Shani Shriver	(BEM)	Kellie Bryant	(OKC)
Lisa Allen	(BIL)	LCDR John Michael Hunt	(OKC)
Ardith Aspaas	(BIL)	Sean Long	(OKC)
Lynette Dzuik	(BIL)	CDR Matthew Miller	(OKC)
Dawn Ewing	(BIL)	LCDR Whitney Mosley	(OKC)
Dana Matejovsky	(BIL)	Kristie Rivera	(OKC)
Marjorie Spotted Bird	(BIL)	Bobbi Jo Strahorn	(OKC)
William Freiberg	(GP)	Jonathan Enchinton	(PHX)
Sherry Lulf	(GP)	Rachelle Faas	(PHX)
Kyleen Neilan	(GP)	CAPT Ryan Manning	(PHX)
Jencie Rubio Majano	(GP)	Regina Adams	(POR)
Jacey Twiss	(GP)	Jamie Furniss	(POR)
Erica Zimprich	(GP)	LT Ashley Martinez	(POR)
Dr. Matthew Clark	(HQ)	Cameron Rosales	(POR)
CAPT Charles Woodlee	(HQ)	Angela Sanchez	(POR)
Ciara Hansen	(NAV)	Jolene Sullivan	(POR)

IHS Director's Awards

Team Awards

- Southcentral Foundation Gestational Diabetes MNGMT Continuous Glucose Monitoring Team
(AK)
- Albuquerque Area Division of Contracts and Grant Management
(ABQ)
- Albuquerque Area Office Division of Environmental Health Service Team
(ABQ)
- Albuquerque Area Office Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction
(ABQ)
- MIHC Medical & Nursing Team
(ABQ)
- Cass Lake Indian Health Service Pharmacy
(BEM)
- Leech Lake Community Wellness Recovery Navigators
(BEM)
- Crow Service Unit Pharmacy Department
(BIL)
- Crow Service Unit Quality Department
(BIL)
- Little Shell Health Center Pharmacy Department
(BIL)
- California Area Finance Team
(CA)
- California Area OEHE Tule River Flooding Emergency Response Team
(CA)
- Cheyenne River Health Center Outpatient Nursing Department
(GP)
- IHS Director's Awards Committee
(HQ)
- IHS Freedom of Information Act Team
(HQ)
- GIMC Emergency Medical Services for Children Hybrid Simulation Program
(HQ)
- Office of Finance and Accounting Division of Budget Execution Advance Appropriations Team
(HQ)
- Rosebud IHS Indian Hospital Emergency Medical Services for Children
Hybrid Simulation Program
(HQ)
- Whiteriver Indian Hospital Emergency Medical Services for Children
Hybrid Simulation Program
(HQ)
- Cherokee Indian Hospital Inpatient Pharmacy Team
(NAS)

IHS Director's Award

Team Awards Continued

IHS Classification Program
(NAS)

Nashville Area Administrative Officers
(NAS)

Nashville Area Division of Information Resource Management Staff
(NAS)

Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility Bridge Clinic Team
(NAV)

Chinle Service Unit Labor and Delivery Epidural Team
(NAV)

Gallup Indian Medical Center Emergency Department
(NAV)

Gallup Indian Medical Center Trauma Program
(NAV)

Choctaw Nation Stigler Dental Clinic
(OKC)

Clinton Service Unit Health Information Management Department
(OKC)

Lawton Indian Hospital Dental Clinic
(OKC)

Oklahoma City Area Institutional Review Board
(OKC)

Oklahoma City Indian Clinic Communications Team
(OKC)

Pawnee Indian Health Center E3 Initiative
(OKC)

Phoenix Indian Medical Center Pediatric Integrated Behavioral Health Program
(PHX)

Phoenix Indian Medical Center PGY-2 Health System Pharmacy & Administration Residency
Program
(PHX)

Phoenix Indian Medical Center Pharmacy Student Program
(PHX)

Supai Health Station Maternal Child Health Team
(PHX)

Puyallup Tribal Health Authority
(POR)

PHS Directors Award for Customer Service

Individual Awards

Brandon Cordray	(ABQ)	Ambrynne Davis	(NAV)
Katlyn Blowers	(BEM)	Shannon Little Wolf	(NAV)
Kyle Brady	(BIL)	Linda A. Yazzie	(NAV)
Cassandra West	(GP)	Patrik Jones	(OKC)
Dillon Dell	(HQ)	Chris Owens	(OKC)
Catherine Flynn	(HQ)	Marjorie Rogers	(OKC)
Jeffrey Johnston	(HQ)	Tricia Northcutt	(PHX)
Elisa Baldwin-Lewis	(NAS)	Kathy Gould	(POR)
Nivia Acevedo-Feliciano	(NAV)	Kayla Erickson	(POR)
Valerie Barker	(NAV)		

Team Awards

White Earth Health Center Environmental Services and Staff
(BEM)

Billings Area Office Credentialing
(BIL)

Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Tribal Opioid Response Asniyapi Clinic
(GP)

Division of Planning, Evaluation, and Research
(HQ)

Indian Health Geriatric Scholars
(HQ)

Cherokee Indian Hospital Outpatient Pharmacy Team
(NAS)

PAS Directors Award for Customer Service

Team Awards Continued

Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility Internal Medicine Clinic Care Coordinators

(NAV)

Kayenta Health Center Optometry Department

(NAV)

Tohatchi Health Care Center Dentist Support Staff

(NAV)

Tohatchi Health Care Center Pharmacy Support Staff

(NAV)

Choctaw Nation Pharmacy Department

(OKC)

Claremore Indian Hospital VA PACT Act Event

(OKC)

Oklahoma City Indian Clinic Clinical Pharmacy Team

(OKC)

Fort Yuma Health Center Behavioral Health Department

(PHX)

Havasupai Behavioral Health and Maternal Child Health Team

(PHX)

PIMC HICS Sober Living Community Intake Center Team

(PHX)

Warm Springs Service Unit Front Line Business Office

(POR)

Western Oregon Service Unit Customer Responsiveness Excellence Team

(POR)

Western Oregon Service Unit Pharmacy Team

(POR)

Directors Award for Patient Safety

Individual Awards

Lindsay McCoy	(ABQ)	Daniel Lillquist	(HQ)
Elizabeth Jansen	(BEM)	Carmen Percival	(HQ)
Anthony Lindom	(BEM)	Gerrick Jones	(NAS)
Sandra Olson	(BIL)	Jeanie Ringelberg	(NAV)
Johnna Watt	(GP)	Yvette Morrison	(OKC)
Tyler Lannoye	(HQ)		

Team Awards

White Earth Reservation Ambulance & White Earth Harm Reduction Team (BEM)
White Earth Service Unit Physical and Occupational Therapy Department (BEM)
White Earth Service Unit Sterilization Improvement Team (BEM)
SESS IHS Drug-Drug Interaction (PSN-DDI) Team (HQ)
Choctaw Health Center Quality Management Committee (NAS)
Crownpoint Health Care Facility Pharmacy Department (NAV)
Claremore Indian Hospital (OKC)
Phoenix Indian Medical Center Hospitalist Department (PHX)
Rabies Response Team (PHX)

IHS Director's Awards for Diversity Equity and Inclusion and Accessibility

Individual Awards

Brittany Hagen

(BEM)

Edina Morgan

(BIL)

Team Award

Diversity Management and Equal Employment Opportunity
Area EEO Workgroup
(HQ)



USPHS Commissioned Corps Honor Awards

Distinguished Service Medal

CAPT Carol Lincoln (HQ)

Meritorious Service Medal

CDR Brian Lefferts	(AK)	CAPT David Johnson	(GP)
CAPT Lara Nichols	(AK)	CAPT Jeffrey Lawrence	(NAV)
CDR Kyle Wright	(AK)	CAPT David Kramer	(PHX)
CAPT Kristy Klinger	(ABQ)	CAPT Catherine Witte	(PHX)
CAPT Ted Hall	(BEM)		

Outstanding Service Medal

LCDR Michael Bakker	(AK)	LCDR Samuel Frank	(ABQ)
CAPT Kristina Cohen	(AK)	LCDR Jason Harris	(ABQ)
CDR Adele Davis	(AK)	CDR Jeremy Parmley	(ABQ)
CAPT Hugh Denny	(AK)	CDR Alexander Varga	(ABQ)
LCDR Traci Elison	(AK)	LCDR John Naegeli	(BEM)
CDR Chris Fehrman	(AK)	LCDR Matthew Frye	(BIL)
CDR William Fraser	(AK)	LCDR Cody Plaisted	(BIL)
LCDR Allison Gallen	(AK)	CDR James Sims	(BIL)
CDR Sherry Hammock	(AK)	CDR Stacey Thomas	(BIL)
CDR Kathryn Jacques	(AK)	CDR Joshua Sims	(CA)
CDR Mary Mackey	(AK)	CDR Laura Botkins	(GP)
LCDR Yekaterina Manyoky	(AK)	LCDR Veronica Handeland	(GP)
LCDR Jodi Moore	(AK)	LCDR Jeremy Hyczyk	(GP)
LCDR Erin Naber	(AK)	CDR Tyler Lannoye	(GP)
LT Adriel Perry	(AK)	CDR Amanda Lessert	(GP)
CDR Shad Schoppert	(AK)	LCDR Chris Peltier	(GP)
LCDR Kimberly Warren	(AK)	LCDR Brad Weekley	(GP)
CAPT Aimee Young	(AK)	CDR Jeffrey Allen	(HQ)
LCDR Ubong Akpan	(ABQ)	CDR Jessica Anderson	(HQ)
CDR Chris Cordes	(ABQ)	CDR Shannon Beyale	(HQ)

USPHS Commissioned Corps Honor Awards

Outstanding Service Medal Continued

LCDR Fiona Chao	(HQ)	LCDR Jason Brown	(OKC)
CDR Ryan Clapp	(HQ)	CDR John Collins	(OKC)
LT Shawnell Damon	(HQ)	CDR Joseph Jones	(OKC)
LCDR Mark Downing	(HQ)	LCDR Matthew Laforest	(OKC)
CAPT Kailee Fretland	(HQ)	LT Jalissa Lauderdale	(OKC)
CDR Elaine Little	(HQ)	CDR Deona Roberson	(OKC)
CDR Matthew Mergenthaler	(HQ)	LCDR Joseph Rorabaugh-Irwin	(OKC)
CAPT Nathan Mork	(HQ)	CAPT Amy Rubin	(OKC)
CDR Columbus Nettles	(HQ)	CDR Ryan Thrasher	(OKC)
CAPT Stephen Piontkowski	(HQ)	CDR Scott Williams	(OKC)
CDR Monique Richards	(HQ)	CDR Karen Beauvais	(PHX)
CDR Witzard Seide	(HQ)	LCDR Jacqueline Campbell	(PHX)
CDR Kyle Sheffer	(HQ)	CDR Andrew Demotto	(PHX)
CDR Julie Whitmire	(HQ)	CDR Thelma Elliott	(PHX)
LCDR Sophia Yang	(HQ)	LCDR Patrick Galdun	(PHX)
LCDR Sophia Yang	(NAV)	LT Frederick Jaeger	(PHX)
CDR Esther Arviso	(NAV)	CDR Daniel Wallis	(PHX)
LT Catherine Bobea	(NAV)	LCDR Alyssa Fine	(POR)
CDR Kerri Culligan	(NAV)	CAPT Mark Iseri	(POR)
CDR Jennifer Kast	(NAV)	LCDR Rachel Taylor	(POR)
LCDR Karina Mancini-Gushue	(NAV)	CDR Amy Whisler	(POR)
LCDR Chelsea McFadden	(NAV)	CDR Michelle Womack	(POR)
CDR Scott Mitchell	(NAV)	CDR Delores Addison	(TUC)
LCDR Ronnie Rael	(NAV)	LCDR Jennifer Harrison-Hauer	(TUC)
CDR Martin Taxera	(NAV)	LCDR Pritesh Patel	(TUC)
CDR David Bales	(OKC)	CDR Elizabeth Van Dyne	(TUC)
CAPT Kelly Battese	(OKC)		

PAS Director's Special Recognition Awards

Special Recognition Award

Joe Amiotte
CAPT Joe Bryant
CAPT Carmen Clelland
CDR Pamela Detsoi-Smiley
Jim Driving Hawk
Daniel Frye
CAPT Laura Herbison
Daniel Hibbert

Dr. Natalie Holt
RADM Brian Johnson
Kara Kearns
Ashley Metcalf
CDR Deonda Roberson
CAPT Jana Towne
Denise Turk

Special Recognition Award for Tribal Leadership/Partnership Award

Dr. Alicia Mousseau
Andy Joseph Jr.
Councilwoman Phyllis Davis
Nickolaus D. Lewis

Chairman Lloyd Goggles
Chairman Terry Rambler
Chairman John St. Clair

Special Recognition Award for Urban Leadership Award

Carmelita Skeeter

Dr. Lyle Ignace

Special Recognition Award for National Council Leadership Award

Arlinda Lee
Dr. Timothy Lozon
Dr. Paul Charlton

Dr. Jean Howe
Dr. Melissa Hubbard
CDR Shannon Lowe

Luana Reyes Leadership Award



Luana Reyes

Luana Reyes Leadership Award

This award is reserved for an individual whose professional and/or community involvement demonstrates the kind of leadership that Ms. Luana Reyes exemplified. This awardee demonstrates exceptional initiative and made the most of the advantages and opportunities available to them.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES. USA



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