



Doni L. Wilder

Acting Deputy Director for Indian Health Policy Indian Health Service

Doni L. Wilder, an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux tribe, was appointed as Acting Deputy Director for Indian Health Policy for the Indian Health Service (IHS), an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), effective March 3, 2008. As the Acting Deputy Director for Indian Health Policy, Ms. Wilder serves as the principal advisor to the Director of IHS for policy formulation and communications activities, which include implementing the Agency's goals and mission, and developing strategic plans and policies in support of the Director. Ms. Wilder provides management direction to the Office of Tribal Self-Governance, Office of Tribal Programs, Office of Urban Indian Health Programs, and the Policy Formulation and Communications Group (consisting of the Public Affairs Staff, Policy Support Staff, Congressional and Legislative Affairs Staff, Management Policy and Internal Control Staff, Diversity Management and Equal Employment Opportunity Staff, and the Executive Secretariat Staff). Her management duties influence program and resource allocation decisions that impact the total organization.

The IHS is composed of 12 regional (Area) offices and a system of hospitals and clinics and works with tribal and urban programs that provide health services to approximately 1.9 million American Indians and Alaska Natives who belong to 562 federally recognized tribes in 35 states.

Before assuming the duties of the Acting Deputy Director for Indian Health Policy, Ms. Wilder served as the IHS Portland Area Director where she managed a unique health care program that includes clinical, dental, behavioral health, nutrition, environmental health, and facility construction services. Ms. Wilder also managed a large Contract Health Service (CHS) program through which inpatient and specialty care are purchased. The Portland Area IHS provides access to health care for an estimated 158,000 American Indian residents of 43 tribes located in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. It also provides funding to three urban health clinics located in Seattle and Spokane, WA, and in Portland, OR, and two youth residential treatment programs.

Ms. Wilder began her career in Indian health in 1983 as the Assistant General Manager of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon. In 1986, she joined the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) and became the Executive Director in 1989. She served in that capacity until 1998 when she accepted the position of Area Director for the IHS Portland Area.

Ms. Wilder earned a bachelor of science degree in anthropology from Portland State University (PSU). She continued her professional education at PSU in Education and Public Administration. Among her awards are a special recognition from the National Indian Health Board for her work in rebuilding that organization and a 10-year service award from the NPAIHB recognizing her contribution to national resource allocation and information system issues.