



DOUGLAS P. BLACK, M.P.H.

Director

Office of Tribal Programs

Indian Health Service

Douglas Black, a member of the Seneca Nation of Indians of New York, began his career with the Indian Health Service (IHS), an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), in 1982. Mr. Black first served in the IHS as a program analyst for the Office of Program Planning within the Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Legislation (OPEL) at the IHS headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. In 1983 he was promoted to the position of Management Analyst, Division of Management Policy, in the Office of Administration and Management. Mr. Black served in that capacity until 1985, when he was named Director, Division of Community Services and Urban Program Coordinator in the Office of Tribal Activities (OTA). Mr. Black remained with the OTA, assuming positions of increasing responsibility, until 1989, when he was promoted to the post of Acting Associate Director. In 1991 he was named to the position on a permanent basis. In 1997, IHS Headquarters was reorganized and OTA was transferred to the Office of the Director and renamed Office of Tribal Programs (OTP).

As Director, OTP, Mr. Black is responsible for a wide range of Agency functions that are critical to the IHS's relationships with tribal leaders, organizations, and other American Indian and Alaska Native groups. The OTP is the Agency's principal liaison with Indian organizations and more than 550 federally recognized tribes. Mr. Black directs a national program of providing information, technical assistance, and policy coordination in support of Indian self-determination.

The IHS is composed of 12 regional offices and a system of hospitals and clinics and works with tribal and urban programs to provide health services to approximately 1.5 million American Indians and Alaska Natives who belong to more than 550 federally recognized tribes in 35 states. The IHS is the principal federal health care provider and health advocate for Indian people.

In addition to other career training and education, Mr. Black earned an associate's degree from Eastern Oklahoma State University, Wilburton, Oklahoma; a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland; and a master's of public administration from the University of Southern California at Los Angeles.

Mr. Black has been the recipient of numerous public service honors and awards, including the IHS Group Award for the Office of Program Planning, OPEL; the HHS Intergovernmental Management Program Award; the Assistant Secretary for Health's Award for Exceptional Achievement; the Public Health Service Special Recognition Award, and the HHS Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service. Mr. Black has also received an award for "significant contributions" from the National Indian Health Board.