# Northwest Portland Indian Area Health Board VA OTGR Update



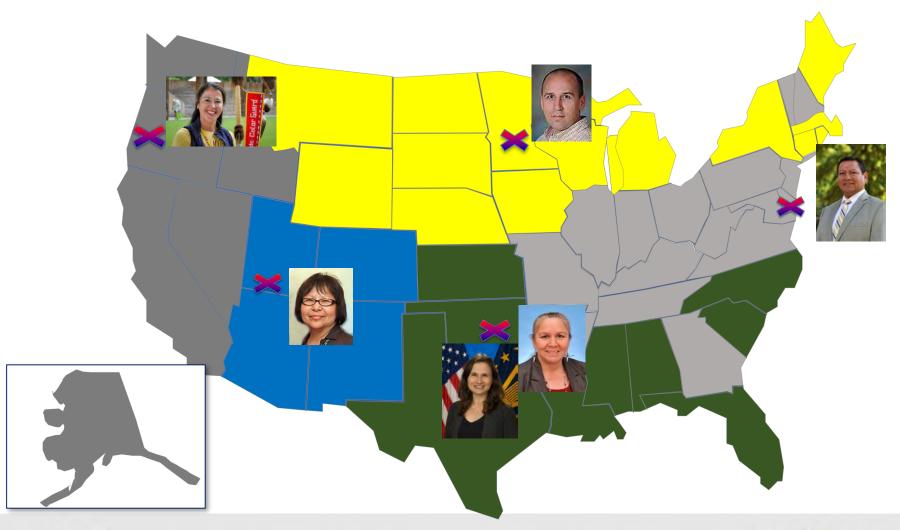
April 22, 2021
Stephanie Birdwell, Director, VA OTGR
Terry Bentley, Regional Specialist, VA OTGR







## **VA Office of Tribal Government Relations (OTGR)**







#### Recent Enactments of the 116th Congress: Native Veterans legislation Updates

- Reimbursements to Indian Health Service and PRC (HR 6237)- Status: A series of informational calls were held between VHA, IHS and members from IHS's PRC workgroup to gain an understanding of the PRC program. VA and IHS office of general councils are working together on details of the legislation.
- Co-pay prohibitions for Native American Veterans (HR 7105 section 3002) Status: March 29 DTLL for consultation, virtual session April 29 and written comments due by May 29, 2021
- State Veterans Homes Grants (HR 7105 section 3004) Status: Listening sessions held March 3, 2021 – DTLL forthcoming for consultation
- HUD-VASH (section 4206) Status: Secured and increased funding
- VA Tribal Advisory Committee (HR 7105 section 7002) Status: Nominations and first committee meeting to occur by Sept 2021
- Urban Indian Health Programs and Reimbursement Agreements with VHA (HR 6237) – Status: VHA is working National Council of Urban Indian Health and IHS Office of Urban Indian Programs to understand scope of services, clinic locations, and anticipated Veteran volume. Listening session was held March 23 with NCUIH.





#### **Current VA Consultation**

- Joint Agency Tribal Consultation with Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Department of Treasury, Social Security Administration; U.S. Small Business Administration on the Presidential Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships (seeking input on how we can improve Departments and Agency's Tribal Consultation Policy. DTLL sent March 8, virtual consultation sessions April 6, April 7, and April 8 with written consultation due April 9, 2021
- Co-pay prohibitions for Native American Veterans (HR 7105 section 3002) Status: March 29 DTLL for consultation, virtual session April 29 and written comments due by May 29, 2021
- VA / IHS MOU update Consultation Report being drafted





#### Virtual Outreach - OTGR Webex Wednesdays

**4/7/21** Native American Veterans:

Kelly Woodall, Steven Juneau,

**Federal Employment** 

Courtney Bernal, Allison

**Phillips** 

4/21/21 VA Education 101

Terry Warren, Stakeholder,

Engagement, Education Office

4/28/21 VA vaccinations in Tribal

Communities

Dr. Jane Kim





### **Regional Updates**

- Regional Webex trainings offered
  - March 25, 2021 Complex PTSD & Whole Health (55 attended)
  - June 8, 2021 Behavioral Health Series, Part 2 Dr. Sarah Sunigah
- Virtual Claims events with tribes
  - Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
  - Viejas Tribe
  - Rincon Tribe
- Tribal Veteran Representative (TVR) Virtual Training will be held on April 28-29, 2021 in collaboration with ODVA hosted by Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation





## Regional Updates

## VA-IHS/THP Reimbursement Agreements Through February 2021

#### **Executive Summary**

					Program
	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Difference	FY21	Inception to
Disbursed	\$1,620,603.35	\$2,211,951.56	\$591,348	\$8,283,709	\$131,558,647
Unique Veterans	1,581	2,313	732	4,361	12,198
Inpatient Claims	493	406	-87	1,898	7,349
<b>Outpatient Claims</b>	3,610	5,526	1,916	18,819	368,691
Total Claims	4,103	5,932	N/A	20,717	376,040

	IHS/THP Feb 2021		
	IHS	THP	
Claims	2423	3509	
Unique Veterans	911	1435	
Disbursed	\$664,515.71	\$1,547,435.85	





#### **OTGR Team and Contact Information**

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www.va.gov/tribalgovernment - Main website

<u>Tribal.agreements@va.gov</u> – VA-IHS-THP Reimbursement Agreements

<u>Tribal.Consultation@va.gov</u> – email for tribal leaders to submit inquiries directly to VA



