Health IT Modernization: 
*Tribal Recommendations and Next Steps*

Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee
*February 9, 2022*
Overview: National Tribal Health IT Summit

SUMMIT AGENDA

• Presentations
  • Industry Perspectives on Health IT by Leidos
  • Overview of Health IT Modernization in Indian Country
  • Governance and Leadership in Health IT Modernization - Dr. Stewart Ferguson
  • National Perspective on Health IT Modernization: Update from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

• Roundtable Discussions
  • Budget & Funding
  • Tribal Experiences with Health IT

• Tribal Discussions

THEMES

• Importance of planning and strategy regarding data sharing, security, and privacy
• Open, deliberate, and effective communication among all stakeholders
• Highly complex nature of any health IT modernization effort
• Emphasized the immense impact changing health IT has on every aspect of a healthcare organization
  • Cost & Staff time
  • Maintain focus on lived experience, end users, and patients

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Key Takeaways

- Early planning and thorough understanding of Health IT needs & goals
- Widely varying Health IT needs
- Defining modernization standards
- Uncertainty around budget recommendations and amount of funding needed
- Consideration of Tribal investment in HIT modernization
- Opportunities for inter-tribal collaboration
- Greater tribal involvement & engagement
- Establishing a national, tribally led, steering committee
- Continue to ask: Who’s voices are we missing?
Moving Forward

Develop a Budget Recommendation

• National Needs Assessment & Gap Analysis
• National Tribal Steering Committee

Increase Tribal Engagement

• IHS IT Modernization Project Governance Model
• Building Tribal Space & Resource Hub
• Fill all ISAC Seats

Improved Communications Plan

• What guidance can we provide IHS to ensure they are improving communications and facilitating transparency with Tribal leaders?

Follow-Up Health IT Summit

Resources to keep the ball moving forward

The big question is HOW?

• Who can lead this effort?
• Who needs to be at the table?
Other Considerations

- Workforce Capacity & Infrastructure
- Upcoming RFP & Proposal Review
- IHS HIT Modernization Project Governance Structures