



Tamara Clay, MSW, LISW

Tamara Clay is a member of the Omaha Nation of Nebraska. She was raised in South and North Dakota, and Montana. She earned her Masters in Social Work at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, HI, and her Bachelors in Psychology at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, HI. Tammy was recruited into Indian Health Service through the Emerging Leaders Program in 2002. During this time she fulfilled her fellowship requirements mostly in the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH), at the IHS Headquarters, located in Rockville, MD, and completed one rotation at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration. Tammy has worked as a Public Health Advisor with the DBH from July 2004 to July 2009. In this position she served as the lead for suicide prevention activities, and co-chaired several workgroups with IHS and the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada, on suicide prevention/intervention and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) respectively. Tammy has expertise in the areas of mental health, substance abuse and disabilities.

Tammy was detailed to the U.S. Senate, serving as a Legislative Assistant, through the Brookings' Institute Congressional Legis Fellowship program, with Senator Max Baucus' Office, Senator for Montana, and the Senate Committee on Finance from March through October 2009. As a Legislative Assistant, she focused on issues and legislation regarding American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIANs) at the national level, and within the State of Montana. Tammy also worked on legislation regarding health and child welfare, such as the *Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008*.

Since July 2009, Tammy has been working as a Policy Analyst with the Division of Regulatory Affairs (DRA), within the IHS Headquarters. This position involves reviewing, analyzing, interpreting and providing guidance for complex policy issuances to determine their legal effect and impact on the IHS mission and its ability to serve the AIAN people.