

# Message from the Chief Executive Officer

Yá'at'ééh (it is good and beautiful) and Happy New Year,

As the newly appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Fort Defiance Indian Hospital (FDIH), it is, indeed, a privilege and honor to report on several major accomplishments last month and look forward to year 2011 with great confidence. First, I am grateful to the clinical, administration and support staff for their talent and professionalism. I am, also, appreciative of the Fort Defiance Indian Health Board for their vision and guidance to enter into Indian Self-determination and Educational Assistance Act, 93-638, contract with the Indian Health Service. In eight (8) months we have accomplished a plethora of task as the FDIHB set several objectives for the FDIH to achieve in 90 days in the areas of finance, human resource, clinical and planning. These areas were presented to the staff during our staff meeting. We, the administration and board, are appreciative and proud of these monumental tasks to



building a sound corporate foundation. As you know, it takes teamwork, cooperation to initiate and execute various initiatives and mission. The following are some of the accomplishments for the past month:

- With regard to teamwork and collaboration, one major accomplishment during the month of December 2010 was the FDIH Human Resource Department. They reported 535 FDIHB employees are now corporate employees, which exceeded 50% of all employees at FDIH. The

FDIHB board and administration is appreciative concerning FDIH Human Resource employee converting IPA staff to corporation status. This is no small feat but with determination and hard work accomplishment as such this is possible.

- Majority of the FDIH Policies and Procedures were approved by the board and implemented.
- 95% of the 30-60-90 day Strategic Plan objectives established by the FDIHB were accomplished by FDIH employees. This is one example of employees working jointly and in solidarity.
- The FDIH Planning and Logistic division continues to plan for the hospital's future.
- Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement department was established to adhere to the CMS protocol; an effort to measure and further the quality of clinical practice at FDIH. In a concerted effort, FDIH staff strives to keep the hospital safe for employees and patients. In addition, we anticipate CMS arrival for its survey this Spring 2011.
- In December 2010, the FDIHB held its annual meeting and elected new officers.

With continued growth and strength, FDIH plans to develop new programs and services to meet the needs of our community, advance the hospital and honor the traditions of clinical excellence. Since becoming a corporation in March 2010, we have fortified the organization to serve our patients better. As CEO of the FDIH Corporation, I am confident and optimistic that our preparation, herein, will lead us to prosperity and better business practices. Thank you.

**Dr. Leland Leonard, CEO**  
**Fort Defiance Indian Hospital**



**Fort Defiance Indian Hospital Board, Inc. | phone 928-729-8000 | www.fdihb.org**

The Fort Defiance Indian Hospital Board, Inc. (FDIHB) is located in northeastern Arizona, ten miles north of the capital of the Navajo Nation, Window Rock, and is situated directly on the Arizona and New Mexico state line. Through the enactment of the Indian Self-Governance and Educational Reconciliation Act, the hospital was established in March 2010 under the provisions of P.L. 93-638. FDIHB provides health care services to 16 chapters within the Fort Defiance Agency by operating a 56 bed inpatient facility, a 20 bed adolescent psychiatric unit, and a large ambulatory, dental, and community health care program. It also operates the Nahata' Dził Health Care Center in Sanders, Arizona. The mission of the hospital is to provide superior and compassionate healthcare to our community by raising the level of health, Hózhó and quality of life.