ALLISON BARLOW RECEIVES INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE AWARD
Honored for her contributions to improving American Indian Health

Allison Barlow, MPH, Ph.D., associate director and director of behavioral health for the Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health, is the 2014 recipient of the Indian Health Service Director’s Special Recognition Award. This award is given to individuals who have made important contributions to the mission of the IHS to raise the health status of American Indian and Alaska Native people to the highest possible level, and reflects the Director’s appreciation. The award honors those who partner with the Indian Health Service and have demonstrated extraordinary achievements in public health leadership.

The award will be presented to Barlow at a ceremony on November 6, 2014, at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, MD.

Mathuram Santosham, MD, MPH, founder and director of the Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health, said, “Allison’s tireless commitment and contribution to tribal communities over the past 23 years is extremely laudable and I am delighted she is being recognized for it.”

Barlow joined the Center in 1991. Her research and program development work focuses on family-based approaches to child and adolescent health and well-being for reservation-based American Indian tribes. Projects to date have included suicide prevention; alcohol and drug abuse prevention; teen parenting outreach and early childhood development; and youth development focused on fitness, nutrition, healthy lifestyles, cultural preservation and civic leadership. All programs she works on and leads center on a strategic approach of employing indigenous paraprofessional community health workers to develop, administer and evaluate interventions. Her research has produced pioneering evidence to support the effectiveness of lay health workers to address disparities and overcome health access barriers in low income communities, while building local human capital.

Her education includes a PhD from the University of Amsterdam, an MPH from Johns Hopkins, an MA from the University of Melbourne, Australia, focused on Aboriginal Studies, and a BA from Dartmouth College.

About Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health
The Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health was founded in 1991 and is now one of the largest national resources to advance the health of Native peoples. Working in partnership with tribes, the Center has achieved landmark public health breakthroughs that today save and improve millions of lives worldwide. The Center’s current work focuses on the critical needs of Native communities, including obesity, diabetes, suicide, depression, substance abuse and HIV/AIDS.

For more information about the Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health, please visit www.jhsph.edu/caih. Contact: Lindsey Ford, Director of External Affairs, lford12@jhu.edu.