



California
Youth Regional Treatment Centers
Indian Health Service



October 19th Community Meeting

Proposed IHS Youth Treatment Center in Riverside County

- When:** October 19, 2010, 6:00 PM
- Where:** Cottonwood Country Council Meeting Room
at Cottonwood School (44260 Sage Rd, Aguanga, CA)
- What:** A community meeting hosted by the Indian Health Service
- Why:** To provide information to the public on the proposed IHS youth treatment center in Riverside County and to encourage public involvement in the project
- Who:** Everyone is welcome, no RSVP required

Community members and the public have a right to provide feedback about the project. The Indian Health Service (IHS) has a responsibility to provide factual information, listen to the community, and respond appropriately.

FACTS ABOUT IHS YRTCs

Youth Regional Treatment Centers (YRTC) provide residential chemical dependency treatment for American Indian and Alaska Native youth, ages 12-17, living in California.

- ✓ ARE residential chemical dependency treatment centers for American Indian and Alaska Native youth, ages 12-17
- ✓ ARE voluntary treatment centers only for youth whose parents or guardians consent to their treatment
- ✓ ARE secured around-the-clock by staff and electronic surveillance
- ✓ ARE a place for healing, learning, and restoring the balance and harmony in mind, body, and spirit
- ✓ ARE in 10 States and some have been operating for more than 20 years
- ✓ ARE State-licensed and staffed by licensed health care providers
- ✗ ARE NOT for violent criminals
- ✗ ARE NOT for youth who are likely to be dangerous and/or have been charged or convicted of violent crimes
- ✗ ARE NOT detention treatment centers nor are they juvenile justice facilities

The proposed YRTC in Riverside County will be located at 39990 Faure Rd., Hemet, CA (Taylor Ranch)

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What is the Indian Health Service (IHS) proposing to build near Oroville and Hemet, California?

The IHS is planning to build two Youth Regional Treatment Centers (YRTC) in California. The proposed centers will provide residential chemical dependency treatment for American Indian/Alaska Native youth, ages 12-17 who are living in California. There are 12 similar IHS-funded centers around the country. The treatment programs are usually 3 to 4 months in duration and incorporate mental health services, cultural programs, medical care, education, recreation, aftercare planning, and family participation. The proposed facilities, one at Honeyrock near Oroville and one south of Hemet, will be nationally accredited and State licensed, staffed by licensed health care providers, and will offer services for as many as 32 youth at a time at each facility. At Honeyrock, the IHS can preserve the historic stone lodge and build a new state-of-the-art, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-certified "green" facility at both locations.

Why did the IHS select the Taylor Ranch property near Hemet? Taylor Ranch (39990 Faure Rd., Hemet, CA) offers enormous potential as the ideal environment for youth treatment – a place for healing, learning, and restoring the balance and harmony in mind, body, and spirit. It will be a nurturing and safe healing experience for AI/AN youth. Its serene setting and the buildings, the pond and the natural landscape will be integral to the YRTC's holistic treatment philosophy.

Are they detention treatment centers? Will they house violent criminals? No. IHS YRTCs are voluntary chemical dependency treatment centers. They only admit youth whose parents or guardians consent to their treatment, and screen out youth who are likely to be dangerous. YRTCs do not admit youth who have been charged or convicted of violent crimes. While as many as half of the YRTC clients have been referred for treatment by the courts, they are not serving jail time at the YRTCs. Often judges and families decide that chemical dependency treatment is the best option for youth with substance-abuse-related infractions.

Will the treatment centers affect public safety in the neighborhoods? The YRTC staff will screen out youth who are likely to be dangerous and will not admit perpetrators of violence. The programs will have around-the-clock security supervision including electronic surveillance of the buildings and grounds. At no time will youth be allowed off site without an escort. Youth at YRTCs must adhere to a rigid, time consuming schedule. Youth at other YRTCs have chosen to leave on their own to return home. However, they are not violent criminals, and when they leave the YRTC, they do so to go home. If a youth decides to leave, a policy is in place to provide transportation home. Almost 20 years of experience tells us that this rarely happens.

Will the treatment centers bring revenue and/or jobs to the local communities? The IHS will accept applications from the local communities. However, it is impossible to predict how many of the jobs will be filled by local community members. The IHS must comply with the Federal Indian Preference hiring policy, which, in accordance with Title 25, United States Code (U.S.C.) 472, 472 a. and 479, ensures that members of federally-recognized Tribes who are qualified for IHS vacancies receive first consideration.

What is the timeline for development of the YRTC? When will the treatment center open? Pending appropriations approval the IHS anticipates beginning the construction of the treatment center in the summer of 2012 and opening for service 18 months later.

What will the treatment centers look like? Each YRTC is unique. However, all incorporate the physical environment in the healing process, and their success relies, in part on respect for and preservation of the land. The proposed YRTC will not look institutional or commercial. The IHS will pay special attention to the natural character of the land. The IHS will ensure that any new buildings will blend with the environment and exist in harmony with the neighborhood. State-of-the-art green technology will be fully implemented to create eco-friendly structures. The two facilities will be the first that the IHS proposes to build in California and will be models for treatment centers of the future.

The new YRTCs are the first
that IHS proposes to build in California.
They will be models for treatment centers of the future.