

## Billings Area

**Area Tribal Representatives:** Mr. Donovan Archambault Sr., Council Member, Fort Belknap Community Council  
Mr. Dana Buckles, Tribal Executive Board, Fort Peck Tribes  
Mr. Clint Wagon, Chairman, Eastern Shoshone Business Council

**Area Federal Liaison:** Ms. Rikki Salazar, Supervisory Accountant, Office of Tribal Programs, BAIHS  
Mr. Ivan MacDonald, Public Health Advisor, Office of Tribal Programs, BAIHS

### a. People:

- ❖ Mr. Garland Stiffarm, Associate Area Director, Office of Tribal Programs has been detail to the Blackfeet Service Unit, Browning, Montana as Chief Executive Officer. Ms. Rikki Salazar, Supervisory Accountant is the Point of Contact for the Office of Tribal Programs.
- ❖ Blackfeet Service Unit: CEO requested to be on the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council Agenda; items addressed Operating Plan, Access (i.e. appointments, waiting time), Third Party Revenue and Customer Service.
  - ◆ CEO presented at Tribal Health Meth Symposium.
  - ◆ Mobile Surgical Unit has been in use since August 25<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Fort Belknap Service Unit: Addressing MU deficiencies, the FBSU has trained 15 personnel at FBSU and Hays Clinic to enroll members into PHR. Ongoing enrollment along with Flu Drive (October 18, 2017).
- ❖ FBSU has established a cohesive on-boarding/orientation for all new employees to include EHR/CAC, Safety, EEO, Culture (representative(s) from Tribal community), RN/Provider specific information, CEO tour.
- ❖ Fort Peck Service Unit: Created a Culture of Safety; monthly meetings are held in 1) Emergency Preparedness 2) Quality Council (compliance), and 3) Performance Improvement.
- ❖ FPSU emergency preparedness topics during the July 2017 meeting included COOP plan changes, discussion on the recent Active Shooter training, Codes Blue and Lockdown, and paging capability through the phones updates.
- ❖ Two medical providers was hired at the Fort Peck Service Unit in August 2017.

### b. Partnerships:

- ❖ The Billings Area IHS Urban Program Review Team is completing the FY 2016 Urban Program Reviews.
- ❖ Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council Quarterly Board Meeting, October 18-19, 2017, KwaTaqNuk Resort, Polson, MT
- ❖ Billings Area Office held the Service Unit's Quarterly Governing Board meetings in October.
- ❖ Blackfeet Service Unit: Purchase Referred Care has been meeting with Benefits Health Care to resolve issues concerning patient's accounts, this has been very beneficial for both entities to get patients accounts paid in timely manner.
- ❖ Fort Belknap Service Unit met with Tribal Council members to provide a weekly update and design a fostering relationship built on trust and transparency.
- ❖ Fort Belknap Service Unit hosted 45 soldiers from Active Duty Army as well as the Army Reserve (Walking Shield) to provide clinical and support services from July 24 to August 4, 2017.
- ❖ Fort Peck Service Unit hosted 35 military reservists for 2 weeks through Operation Walking Shield. The reservists worked alongside staff to provide health care to the service unit patients.
- ❖ Fort Peck Service Unit is providing VA tele psych care within the Service Unit facility.

### c. Quality:

- ❖ All Tribes are invited to attend local service unit governing board meetings held on-site throughout FY 2017. This gives an opportunity for the Tribes to acquire direct knowledge of the operations in the provision of services at their respective service unit. Official agenda topics include Quality of Care, Access, Financial and Administration achievements and interests for the quarter.
- ❖ Blackfeet Service Unit: Quality Director is meeting with tribal directors and supervisors on improving GPRA numbers at the Service Unit.

- ❖ PRC Supervisor, Blackfeet Service Unit submitted acquisition documents to implement contracts for Cardiology, Echocardiogram, Audiology, Neurology, Nephrology and Urology. These contracts will be for a base year with four years additional option years (total five years contracts). Also, implemented requisition to purchase Hearing Aids through a government contract for Fiscal Year 2018.
- ❖ The Service Unit is in process of renovating the North Clinic and Emergency Department triage area. The renovations are being completed to improve patient access as well as improved visual observation of patient waiting area.
- ❖ Fort Belknap Service Unit has relocated Behavioral Health to Outpatient Clinic. Working with Tribal Leadership and Tribal Programs as well as Billings Area Office to put a building/space use agreement in place ensuring background and credentialing is occurring for new Tribal employees. Ensuring new clinical spaces are suitable and able to accommodate the needs of our patients utilizing Behavioral Health Services.
- ❖ Fort Peck Service Unit ended the 2017 GPRA year meeting nine objectives, an improvement over the previous year.
- ❖ 21 CHEF cases have been submitted this fiscal year.
- ❖ Fort Peck Service Unit Infection Control Officer continues to do an Antibiotic sensitivity surveillance. Quarterly data has been collected and reported at the Governing Board meeting.
- ❖ Fort Peck Service is increasing preventive care screenings & care:
  - Optometry and dental are providing time in their schedules for dental appointments/screenings during Wolf Point diabetic clinics.
  - Public Health Nursing continues with their PDSA on reaching prenatal patients in their first trimester. Attendance at a Native American Women's Health Conference resulted in valuable info being brought back to the department.
  - Public Health Nurses are attending Flu Kickoff webinars and planning strategy for accessing individuals for flu shots.

**d. Resources:**

Billings Area effectively managed over \$79,300,000 in Tribal and Urban Contracts/Compacts for FY 2017:

- ❖ Tribal – Total \$75,700,000
  - Contract Support Costs - \$14,200,000
  - Buy Back and Tribal Reimbursements - \$2,600,000
- ❖ Urban – Total \$3,600,000
- ❖ Funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians has been authorize until 2019.