

**Nashville Area Report
Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee
FY2022 3rd Quarter Report
January- March 2022**

Area Tribal Representatives: Chief William Harris, Catawba Indian Nation Chief Stephen Adkins, Chickahominy Indian Tribe	Federal Liaison: Dr. Vickie Claymore, NAO Field Operations Ashley Metcalf, NAO Office of Tribal Affairs
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Goal 1: To ensure that comprehensive, culturally appropriate personal and public health services are available and accessible to American Indian and Alaska Native people

Catawba Service Unit (CSU) Public Health Nutritionist (PHN) partnered with the Catawba 4-H Program to deliver cooking/nutrition classes to the Tribal afterschool programs. Classes were completed January through March, with varied participants. In January, 2 classes were taught to a total of 29 youth at Suuk Sarak (Kindergarten through 5th grade). Staff also partnered with the Catawba Nation Wellness Department to offer nutrition classes at the newly opened Senior Center, host a bi-monthly Catawba Cooking Contest, work on completion of a Community Health Assessment, along with planning of future and ongoing initiatives. The CSU staff also partnered with the Nation’s Wellness Department to host a 4-week blood pressure management program titled King Hagler Max Program. Twelve individuals joined the program with 10 completing the program. Sixty percent of participants had an improvement in their systolic blood pressure from Week #1 to Week #4; 80% of participants had an improvement in their diastolic blood pressure from Week #1 to Week #4. On average, the group of participants improved both their systolic and diastolic blood pressure readings by 2 points from Week #1 to Week #4. Sixty percent of participants increased their minutes of physical activity from Week #1 to Week #4. On average, the group of participants increased their minutes of physical activity by 28 minutes from Week #1 to Week #4. CSU Nursing, Pharmacy, and Nutrition partnered with the Catawba Wellness Department to host the Catawba Second Wind Program, which was a 4-week tobacco “quit or cut down” program starting in February. Fourteen individuals joined this program with 11 completing it. Six individuals enrolled in the CSU Pharmacy Tobacco Cessation Program. Data from this program is still being analyzed. In March, all CSU departments partnered to host a CSU Blood Pressure Screening Day. For this clinic, 17 patients came, 6 immunizations were given, and 2 patients were scheduled for COVID-19 vaccine clinics. Dental was able to complete 5 initial visits, 2 follow-ups, and 2 screenings at this clinic. Eight patients had blood pressures <140/<90 mmHg. All patients were given 2 heart-healthy recipes and a goody bag for attending the clinic. This quarter, the PHN/Diabetes Coordinator also partnered with the Catawba Food Sovereignty Working Group to provide at-home and program gardens to the community. Finally, CSU submitted the SDPI 2021 Annual Progress Report and Data Summary Report for our Best Practice (Blood Pressure Control).

Mid-Atlantic Service Unit (MASU) on-boarded a Primary Care physician and Health Technician this quarter. This complements the Behavioral Health Director and Dentist who joined the unit last quarter. Assistants to these positions have been selected. The Health Technician has begun working this quarter and we are awaiting start dates for the Behavioral Health Assistant and Dental Hygienist. Progress continues on the migration to direct care services with the construction of two clinics and the planned launch of three mobile health units. It is noteworthy to mention that these mobile units, when operational, will boast an internet connectivity capability available in only one other location in the nation. This connectivity will significantly boost the operational functions of our newly designed Resource and Patient Management System (RPMS), Electronic Health Records (EHR), Dentrix, ICare, and Vista Imaging. Construction for the clinic site located in Madison Heights, VA, is underway. The Mid-Atlantic Tribal Health Center clinic, located in Charles City, VA, is expected to go out for bid next

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quarter. MASU community health technicians have been busy establishing a health fair calendar, including community partners, and a community newsletter.

This quarter, the Lockport Service Unit distributed 800 Moderna doses to the Tonawanda Nation. Several COVID supplies were distributed to both Nations, such as Clorox wipes, masks, gloves, hand soap, home test kits and hand sanitizer. The Lockport Service Unit also established Optical services in February for eye exams, frames, contact lens and sports and safety wear. Patients are receiving the services from Lockport Optical, a local vendor near the Service Unit

Unity Healing Center (UHC) provided services to 2 residents during this quarter. Both successfully discharged the program on January 6th, 2021. The program actively accepted and reviewed 3 additional applications for admissions. However, determined in February that the program would need to temporarily pause application review/acceptance pending the vacancies of mission critical positions. UHC actively recruited for the following positions: Clinical Director, Teacher, Social Service Assistants (SS) and Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). Selections for the Teacher position and 2 SSA positions were completed and attentively accepted by applicants. UHC completed a contract request action to hire 2 LPN contractors to assist with nursing and resident management duties. Additionally, the positions will provide nursing support for employee health services such as COVID 19 activities and infection prevention. UHC management identified program staff to attend White Bison trainings to provide implementation on onsite group intervention utilizing their culturally adapted substance use education curriculum. The program registered 6 employees for virtual trainings in May.

Shinnecock Service Unit initiated a new Rate Quote Agreement with a Dentist familiar with the Shinnecock Community. The new Dentist offers comprehensive dental services including dental surgery, with a dental lab on-site. This helps expedite care above and beyond what was previously available to patients. Shinnecock Service Unit also participated in the HHS Region II Tribal Affairs Meeting via telephone on March 15th. This call included introductions for the new Regional Director, Dr. Dara Kass with the Nation. Preliminary planning was discussed for the upcoming Regional Tribal Consultation in Syracuse, and the potential for Dr. Kass to schedule a future trip to Shinnecock to meet with the Council of Trustees.

Goal 2: To promote excellence and quality through innovation of the Indian health system into an optimally performing organization

Catawba Service Unit (CSU) continues to utilize Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy (CMOP) program. Currently, 359 patients are enrolled in CMOP. This is a 3.6% enrollment increase from last quarter.

Mid-Atlantic Service Unit and Mashpee Service Unit continue to work on establishing a Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy (CMOP). This work included Mashpee Service Unit meeting to collaborate with State Medicaid to establish pharmacy all-inclusive rate-for billing and reimbursement.

On-boarding of staff remains a top priority for the Mid-Atlantic Service Unit. The MASU management team and support staff continue to refine the onboarding process, the team developed checklists of pre-, during and post- start date necessities to aid in the process.

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Unity Healing Center completed the Joint Commission full two day survey on January 4th-5th, 2022 for recertification for the Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Behavioral Health Care and Human Services from their full survey. The renewal of accreditation will be active for 36 months and supports the continued effort to uphold quality standards for service delivery to Native youth and families who are experiencing substance use addictions. Unity is committed to our tribal communities and focused on strengthening youth and their families by providing residential treatment that supports recovery of substance use and mental health while enhancing resiliency in our youth. Visit <https://www.ihs.gov/nashville/healthcarefacilities/unity> for Unity program information.

Shinnecock Service Unit met this quarter with Stony Brook Psychiatric Associates of the Stony Brook Medical Center, Department of Psychiatry to continue to explore potential contract implementation for psychiatric services and behavioral health strategic planning.

Goal 3: To strengthen IHS program management and operations

Mashpee Service Unit reassessed the Risk for Infection, Surveillance, Prevention and Control Programs in Ambulatory healthcare Settings. The plan included goals for reducing the risk of infection associated with each of identified risk, a measurable objective for each goal, and evidence based strategies for meeting each of these objectives. The team also identified the personnel responsible for implementing the strategies and included mechanisms for evaluating the effectiveness of the meeting the objectives. Both the Policy Addendum written for Infection Control (COVID), and the 2022 Risk Assessment (ASK_Risk Assessment) were completed in January.

The Nashville Area federal facilities total visits for the reporting period of January 2022 – March 2022, total 7,568. This data includes Ambulatory, Pharmacy, and Telemedicine visits. Overall, the Nashville Area visits have decreased by 12% in comparison to the prior quarter. The Nashville Area billed \$1,258,600.41 for reimbursement for services rendered. Third party billing has increased by 33% comparison to the prior quarter. The FY22 projection goal for collections remained at \$1,932,770.00 with collections for January 2022 – March 2022 of \$614,407.82 a 30% increase to the prior period. Currently the Nashville Area has reach 52% of the FY22 projected goal with total FY22 collections of \$1,087,880.66 and Medicaid as the highest payer.