

Billings Area

Area Tribal Representatives: 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
Ms. Kim Welch, 638 Contract Specialist, Office of Admin. Support, BAIHS

People:

- ❖ The Office of Tribal Programs and Contracting Department provided 638 101 Training for the Crow Tribal Health Department staff on March 19 & 20, 2018. Programs and topics included: Community Health Representative, Health Education, Long Term Care, Security, Substance Abuse, and Tribal Health. Overview of Indian Self-Determination Act & Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), Differences between Title 1 Contracting & Title V Compacting under the (ISDEAA), Budget, Scopes of Work, and Executed Modifications.
- ❖ The Billings Area met with the Billings Urban Indian and Wellness Center Board of Directors, Executive Director and center staff on March 29, 2018. Topics included reporting requirements, invoicing, hiring, backgrounds checks, board establishment, equipment, referral services, finance, website accessing, and medical services.
- ❖ The Billings Area Centralized Verification Office provided credentialing support and training to the Wind River Family and Community Health Care (Northern Arapaho Tribe) credentialing staff in February 2018 and the Fort Peck Tribes in April 2018.
- ❖ The Billings Area and Service Units completed a Trauma Informed Care Assessment in 2017, as a result in 2018 the Billings Area established priority recommendations in manageable bites for implementation purposes to become a trauma informed system of care.
- ❖ **Vacancy Rate for the Billings Area Service Units**

	<u>Browning</u>	<u>Crow</u>	<u>Ft. Belknap</u>	<u>Ft. Peck</u>	<u>Wind River</u>	<u>N. Cheyenne</u>
Dental Assistant (EF)	25%	29%	0%	0%	25%	0%
Dental Assistant	75%	0%	33%	33%	75%	0%
Community Health Dental Hygienist					0%	
Clinical Psychologist	33%	0%	33%	33%	25%	
Social Worker	0%	0%		0%	100%	
Mental Health Spec	0%			0%		
Physician	56%	36%	57%	22%	13%	43%
Physician Assistance	43%	0%	33%		43%	40%
Nurse Practitioners	25%	22%	0%	33%	0%	40%
Nursing	24%	13%	22%	19%	8%	12%
Pharmacist	0%	0%	25%	0%	0%	20%
Diagnostic Rad Tech	50%	17%	0%	0%	80%	50%

Partnerships:

- ❖ Billings Area in partnership with Montana and Wyoming Tribal Leadership, through the Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council hosted a Health Conference “Building Trauma Informed Systems ~ The Power of Collaboration” April 10-12, 2018.
- ❖ Billings Area hosted a Medical Services Committee Meeting on April 3-4, 2018. Billings Area Medical Staff and Tribal Leadership participated in the working meeting to discuss, identify and prioritize medical services enhancements.
- ❖ Eastern Shoshone Tribe and Northern Arapaho Tribe from the Wind River Reservation is collaborating with the State of Wyoming Medicaid on a demonstration proposal to financially assist the Indian Health Service and Tribal Health facilities on the Wind River Reservation.
- ❖ Blackfeet Tribe is working with the State of Montana to create a comprehensive Medication Assisted Treatment; the MAT Program is the provision of medication, behavioral health support, chemical dependency support and social services to Opiate addicted mothers.
- ❖ ACOG and CONACH (the AAP’s Committee on Native American Child Health) is working with Indian Health Service on a grant to develop best practices in Prenatal Care and Neonatal (newborn) management with support from a grant from the Office of Women’s Health.

Quality:

- ❖ The Blackfeet Service Unit hosted a Community Health Fair on April 3, 2018, at the Blackfeet Hospital and Heart Butte Clinic. Topics included flu vaccinations, blood pressure readings, men’s health screenings, blood sugar readings women’s health screenings, nutrition, and career pathways.
- ❖ Billings Area Office of Environmental Health and Engineering installed a new water tank in Lodge Grass, Montana on April 12, 2018, which provides services to the community, schools and Lodge Grass Clinic.
- ❖ Billings Area organized a Decision Support Team (Data Analytics Team) in February 2018, the team will track and report data throughout the Billings Area and Service Units.
- ❖ Service Unit Leadership attended the Billings Area Office workshop “Refreshing the IHS Governing Board” in Billings, MT on January 17- 18, 2018. The workshop focused on defining and understanding Governing Board membership and responsibilities and standardizing agenda and topics for presentation. Monthly calls are scheduled with Service Units to identify improvements for Governing Board Meetings.
- ❖ Fort Peck Service Unit: Women’s Health team met on February 13, 2018. Increasing well woman services being a goal, Laurel Christian, CFNP, in Wolf Point has carved out time in her weekly schedule for walk in well woman visits to increase access.
- ❖ Northern Cheyenne Service Unit: As part of the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Tribes project, the service unit has been able to identify gaps in their current prenatal system and have instituted several new processes to better accommodate and increase the number of prenatal visits to the Northern Cheyenne Service Unit. The long term goal is to form a multi-disciplinary team to coordinate services to provide support and encouragement for prenatal ladies using drugs or alcohol during pregnancy. The Service Unit is coordinating with Tribal programs to provide a more comprehensive plan of care.
- ❖ Northern Cheyenne Service Unit: PRC continues to operate at a medical priority level of 4. The staff assists clients with the HELP, Medicaid, applications as well as the Tribe’s medical resource program.
- ❖ Fort Belknap Service Unit: The Service Unit is promoting Just Culture. Meetings scheduled with all Executive and Clinical staff starting with Nursing staff to discuss and emphasize being comfortable in disclosing errors including their own while maintaining professional accountability. Reinforced to staff it is through our errors/failures we make some of the best improvements.

Resources:

- ❖ Billings Area hired a Revenue Director and reorganized under one management umbrella the Purchased Referred Care (PRC), Health Information Management (HIM) and Business Office Programs to create a Revenue Department in April 2018.
- ❖ Billings Area Finance Office and Office of Tribal Programs has worked vigorously to get the Tribal Health Programs and Urban Health Centers paid up to the end of the 5th Continuing Resolution (CR) for March 24, 2018 until April 22, 2018. Billings Area effectively managed over \$44,462,113 in Tribal and Urban Contracts/Compacts for FY 2018.
- ❖ Funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians has been authorize until 2019.
- ❖ Fort Peck Service Unit: Third party enrollment assistance is provided in applying for eligible programs (Medicaid, Medicare), patients are referred to the TSHIP program if over income for Medicaid for possible TSHIP enrollment. TSHIP has approximately 338 enrollees at the end of February 2018.