

# BILLINGS

## 4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER

### AREA REPORT



#### AT A GLANCE

**Goal 1: To ensure that comprehensive, culturally appropriate personal and public health services are available and accessible to American Indian and Alaska Native people.**

Goal 1 was met by implementing programs and events that increase quality and quantity of health care employees such as hiring college and high school graduates interested in careers with the IHS.

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

Goal 2 was met by achieving accreditations and coordinating with Tribes to address specific community needs.

**Goal 3: To strengthen IHS program management and operations**

Goal 3 was met by planning designs of new facilities, housing, and equipment to improve patient care visits.

**Billings Area  
Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee  
FY2019 4th Quarter Report  
May – July 2019**

<p><b>Area Tribal Representatives:</b> Mr. Dana Buckles, Fort Peck Tribal Executive Board Mr. Lynn Cliff, Jr., Fort Belknap Community Council</p>	<p><b>Federal Liaison:</b> Ms. Rikki Salazar, Acting Director, Office of Tribal Programs, Billings Area</p>
<p><b>Goal 1: To ensure that comprehensive, culturally appropriate personal and public health services are available and accessible to American Indian and Alaska Native people</b></p>	
<p>The Blackfeet Service Unit implemented a program to hire college and high school graduates interested in careers with the Indian Health Service. The service unit hired 20 students in July 2019 and will continue to work through August 2019. The goal is to improve the local work force, increase the knowledge of career opportunities, and develop an understanding of life skills (both medical and nonmedical) throughout the Blackfeet Community Hospital and Heart Butte Clinic.</p> <p>On June 8, 2019, the Blackfeet Service Unit hosted the inaugural “Summer Hustle” Fun Run/Walk. The event was open to all staff and family members to encourage an active lifestyle. This year’s run attracted over 80 participants for the 5K and 1 Mile run/walk.</p> <p>The Fort Peck Service Unit scheduled a recognition ceremony on July 31, 2019 to recognize employees for Federal length of service.</p> <p>The Wind River Service Unit established a Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement Nurse position and the employee entered on duty July 21, 2019.</p> <p>The Wind River Service Unit Chief Executive Officer met with the Eastern Shoshone Tribe on June 28, 2019 to provide an overview of the Community Health Aide Program (CHAP) and draft policy.</p>	
<p><b>Goal 2: To promote excellence and quality through innovation of the Indian health system into an optimally performing organization</b></p>	
<p>On July 17, 2019, the Northern Cheyenne Service Unit met with Big Horn County Commissioners and the Director of Big Horn County Emergency Medical Services to discuss the need for Advanced Life Support and Critical Care Transportation Services.</p> <p>In June 2019, the Blackfeet Service Unit coordinated efforts with the Blackfeet Tribe, Browning Public Schools, Heart Butte Public Schools and Walking Shield to provide optometry services to the community. Over 1,200 community members received free eye exams and glasses.</p> <p>The Northern Cheyenne Service Unit is one of two IHS facilities that continue to participate in the CMS Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) program. Care coordination has been enhanced with a focus on longitudinal care management, episodic case management and completion of risk stratification on over 6,000 patients.</p>	

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The Blackfeet Service Unit is in process of coordinating staff efforts in preparation for submitting an application for Joint Commission Accreditation by December 2019. The service unit was surveyed by CMS in October 2018 and the corrective action plan was accepted in December 2018.

The Crow Service Unit underwent an unannounced accreditation survey on May 14-17, 2019. The corrective action plan was submitted to the Joint Commission for review and final approval prior to notification of obtaining Joint Commission Accreditation.

The Fort Peck Service Unit is beginning work to establish an Asthma/COPD Collaborative Practice with the service unit pharmacy program and medical clinic.

The Wind River Service Unit held Trauma Informed Care training for service unit staff and Eastern Shoshone Tribal Health employees on June 27, 2019.

The Wind River Service Unit Pharmacist presented at the Wyoming State Pharmacy Association Meeting on emergency kits and Naloxone. Training certification has been provided to nine Bureau of Indian Affairs law enforcement officers.

The Wind River Service Unit Chief Executive Officer and staff met with the Northern Arapaho Tribe regarding the Dental Lunch Box Program for school children.

The Wind River Service Unit staff met with Eastern Shoshone Tribal Health and WYhealth to discuss options for reducing patient travel for chemotherapy services. The collaborative group meets monthly to discuss improvement of patient care.

**Goal 3: To strengthen IHS program management and operations**

The Blackfeet Service Unit is in the planning stages to design an 18 unit apartment-housing unit; construction is projected to start in the Summer 2020 with a projected completion date of August 2021.

The Blackfeet Service Unit Mammography Project will increase access to quality health care services at the service unit. The project includes the purchase of equipment (\$500K) and renovation of the existing department. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of fiscal year 2019.

The Fort Peck Service Unit continues to work on process improvement within the Purchased Referred Care department. The areas for improvement include communication internally and with patients; transportation capabilities internally and with local partners; staff capabilities and working relationships with referral partners.

The Fort Peck Service Unit's third party revenue has allowed the service unit to improve the Poplar and Wolf Point facilities. A modernization contract for the Chief Redstone Clinic included a site visit on June 12-13, 2019. The service unit will receive a report to include recommendations on renovation and expansion of the Wolf Point facility.