

Monthly Report to Tribal Council

Vision Statement of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

Preserving, reviving, and living the Washoe culture and traditions. Where: Respect for one another and tribal values promote our spiritual, physical, and environmental wellness. Educational opportunities are available for all tribal members and descendants. A solid economic foundation ensures self-sufficiency for tribal success. Responsive government promotes teamwork, professionalism, and accountability. On safe and secure tribal lands.

Director/Department

Teri Gilbert-Eisenga, Director WTHC

March 2022

Department Positions

A. Vacant/Open – Many of our clinical positions have compensation ranges 30 to 50% less than comparable positions in our service area. This is creating barriers to recruiting and retaining clinical positions in Dental, Behavioral Health and Medical.

Behavioral Health

Mental Health Therapist (2)
Substance Abuse Counselor
Administrative Assistant
Behavior Intervention Specialist
Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner
Psychologist PhD
Wellness Advocate

Clinic Administration

Medical Records Clerk I
Building Maintenance Specialist
Janitor II

Clinic PRC and Wellness

Benefits Coordinator I (2)
Exercise Specialist
Reception/ Front Desk Wellness center
PRC Agent (2)

Clinic Medical

Medical/ Telemedicine Assistant
Medical Case Manager
Business Office Utility (Scheduling x1)
Dental Hygienist
Dentist
Family Nurse Practitioner
Licensed Practical /Vocational Nurse (2)

Report Information Related to the Washoe Tribe's Vision Statement

A. Describe Current Projects/ Operations –

Pardon Our Dust – Construction!

1. Diabetes Health and Wellness (Sprung Structure Project)

The new wellness center needs a name. Please encourage tribal members to submit name ideas to WTHComments@washoetribe.us We will be opening soon.

2. Behavioral Health Grant – Our Healing Center is working on a large project to provide much-needed beds for Elder assisted living, youth, and individual tribal members needing behavioral health beds. This is a large project with a 30 year life span.

3. Acute Care and Chiropractic – We have revamped the former dental wing and conference room in Clinic Main, and are opening to Acute/ Same Day Care and Advanced Chiropractic care very shortly. This will increase patient beds x6, Chiropractic Beds x3 and x2 additional telehealth beds for speciality patient care with Renown Health.

3. Multi-Year Funding Agreement – the current multi-year funding agreement requires re-negotiation. The last negotiation period was 2016 – 2018. We are working with Tribal HQ toward a new agreement to maximize funding from IHS.

4. **Imaging Suite** – We will be using ARPA funds to build an accredited imaging suite at Clinic Main campus. In house imaging will provide much needed X-ray and CT services for our patients. It will allow us to cease referrals for these services and create the ability to bill directly for them resulting in revenue generation for Tribal Health.

5. **EHRs – NextGen vs Epic**

We are assessing whether to move forward with NextGen’s mandatory upgrade or move to Epic systems. We will need to move forward with this project in 2022/ 2023.

NextGen is not performing/ costing the Tribe over \$2 Million for a system that **was not configured**. NextGen is requiring a new system conversion to its new platform and will not support our current version after 4Q 2022. Retaining the system will require additional resources to maintain the new platform.

Epic will chart share with all local hospitals (Renown, Carson Tahoe, Carson Valley Medical Center, and Barton, St. Mary’s, Northern Nevada Medical Center) providing continuity of care, reconciliation of billing and coding, streamlined accounts receivable, and require low in-house maintenance.

6. **ARPA funds**

Washoe Tribal Health has received \$6,141,123 in ARPA funds. We are project planning for \$1 million of these funds to be spent on an Imaging/ Radiology suite. The new X-ray and CT scanning service unit will be a revenue-generating service and will directly serve Tribal members.

7. **Governance and AAAHC Accreditation:** We are moving rapidly toward accreditation which will open the door to Tribal FQHC. **Tribal Health requires a new governing body with legal responsibility for administrative standards which are required by AAAHC.**

B. Current Program Status Narrative –

C. Describe Program Challenges and Barriers Since Last Report Period –

D. Describe Contributions to the Washoe Tribe’s Vision Statement Since Last Report Period

Washoe Tribal members have a dedicated staff of medical, dental, and vision experts who serve the healthcare needs of the Tribe. Clinic staff is committed to fostering an environment of wellness, disease prevention, and collaborative care.

E. Additional Program Summary Information –

The Healthcare Center is to provide exceptional care and service to our members and patients. We are striving toward a seamless and advanced care experience with our healthcare similar to the proven methodologies of successful healthcare organizations such as Dignity Health, Scripps Health, and Renown Health. Thank you for your support. We are teaching servant leadership, treating all with kindness, respect, dignity, and collaboration at all times.