

Health

The Tribal Health Program is pleased to announce the start up of our tribal operated Contract Health Service. The start of the Contract Health Service began August 18, 1986. From now on you will be getting your preauthorization for health care from the Grand Ronde Contract Health Service.

The take over of Contract Health will not change in terms of health services you have received, the only difference is you will be calling the Grand Ronde Tribal Health office for your preauthorization for health care. The toll free number you will be calling for your preauthorization is 1-800-422-0232 (for people out of the Grand Ronde area).

The take over will mean you will continue to follow the same procedure as you had Chemawa:

- Be contract health service eligible (register for the contract health service program receive approval letter)
- Get preauthorization for health care.
- Bill your insurance, medicare, medicaid before submitting your bill to Grand Ronde contract health care service
- Notify the Grand Ronde contract Health Service program of emergency services received within 72 hours.

The Grand Ronde Tribal Health Program has hired 2 people for the contract health service program. The Contract Health Clerk is Jackie Colton, and the Registration Clerk is Karen Wilson. Jackie's position is a full time position and Karen's is a half time position. They are in the office to take your calls. Welcome Jackie and Karen!

The health program will no longer be sending out the monthly "Health Notes" newsletter, to cut down on the use of the copier, instead we will combining our news with the monthly "Smoke Signals."

PROPOSED ELIGIBILITY CHANGES

These are the proposed eligibility changes submitted to Congress:

- Exclude tribal members who have less than 1/4 Indian blood from receiving health care services from IHS (Currently all enrolled tribal members can receive Indian Health Services.)
- Stop all direct care at an IHS facility unless the members are residents of their service area. (Currently Indian people, regardless of blood degree, living any place in the United States can go to any IHS facility and receive health care)

We are requesting the membership to write to the following individuals opposing the proposed changes, no later than October 8, 1986:

The Honorable Morris Udall, Chairman
House Interior Committee
1324 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mark Andrews, Chairman
Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs
838 Har Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510