



HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS

Discontinuing IBH Services for Skookum Health Assistance Program

Please remember that if you are in need of mental health or alcohol and drug treatment, you need to call Shasta Customer Service for an in-network provider before receiving services.

Do not call IBH. This information was recently ran in *Smoke Signals* and provided in a letter from Shasta Administrative Services with your new Skookum Health Assistance Program cards mailed in December.

If you did not receive your new card, please contact Shasta Customer Service at 1-800-880-5877.

If you have questions, please call Tresa Mercier, 503-879-2008, or Barbara Steere, 503-879-2487.

Information about Skookum coverage and your taxes

You'll answer a question about your 2016 health coverage when you file your federal income tax return. If you didn't have a minimum level of health coverage for all of 2016, your taxes could be affected. It's important to remember the Skookum Health Assistance Program is NOT health insurance. It is a payer of last resort, which means any other coverage pays before Skookum. Requiring members to apply for and use primary coverage before Skookum will ensure the Skookum Health Assistance Program is sustainable and available for years to come.

You don't have to pay the fee if you get an exemption

American Indians and Alaska Natives who are eligible to receive services from an Indian health care provider will be exempt from the "shared responsibility payment." To receive an exemption, members of federally recognized Tribes may apply through the marketplace or handle this through the tax filing process.

Individuals who are not members of federally recognized Tribes, but are eligible to receive services from an Indian health care provider must apply for an exemption through the marketplace. American Indians and Alaska Natives receiving the exemption can be enrolled in Medicaid, CHIP or QHP offered through the health insurance marketplace if deemed eligible.

When filing taxes, you will want to use form 8965 Health Coverage Exemptions part III. Exemption type (E) check box (d) for full year.

This form will be available whether you do your taxes yourself through TurboTax, etc., or if you go to a certified public accountant (tax preparers, H&R Block, etc.)

For more information on filing for a tax exemption, call Loretta Meneley 503-879-1359 or e-mail loretta.meneley@grandronde.org.

Safety first!

For the safety of our Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center patients and staff during inclement weather, please call before traveling to your appointments. We don't want you traveling if we are not open.

Please call 503-879-5211 for up-to-date, weather-related closures or delays. You can sign up and receive emergency alerts and severe weather warnings that could affect you or your family. Just go to www.grandronde.org to sign up.

Two optometrists available

Did you know that the Health & Wellness Center's Optometry Department has two optometrists and appointments available in as soon as a week? If you are tired of squinting, give them a call at 503-879-2097. Get your appointment scheduled today!

Pharmacy in transition

The Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Pharmacy is currently in a staff and process improvement transition. We are working hard to improve service delivery to our patients.

Please have patience if wait times are slightly longer than usual.

Massage at Health & Wellness Center

Mind, Body & Soul Therapeutic Massage started at the Health & Wellness Clinic last year. **Remember:** Appointments for massage are not managed by the Health & Wellness Center staff. To schedule an appointment, call 971-237-2561.



Join our nursing staff in the Clinic's Atrium

Wednesday March 22, 2017

11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.



High Fiber Snacks
Prizes
Colorectal Cancer Information

Now Available
Diabetic Foot Care
by trained nursing staff

Call Medical today to schedule an appointment
503-879-2002