



White Mountain Apache Tribe
Community Health Representative Program

CHR Mission Statement

“Helping and teaching our people the way to good health”.



Program Goal

To raise the level of awareness and promote a healthier lifestyle among the community members of the White Mountain Apache Tribe.



What is the history of CHR?

- In 1968, Under the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), surveys were conducted on health issues. These surveys identified many health concerns among Native Americans in need of a program to provide services relevant to Native cultures and languages. Based on this need, the Community Health Representatives evolved in Native Country.
- In the 1970s, Alaska tribes requested for a CHR Program with Indian Health Services. The I.H.S. receives the funding and disburses it to all tribes to function as a tribal program. The CHR's have become an important liaison between the community and the I.H.S.
- To date, there are over 1,400 CHR's serving over 250 tribes in the United States.

CHR PROGRAM PURPOSE

- The CHR Program was implemented to improve the health knowledge, attitudes and practices of Indian people by promoting, supporting, and assisting the IHS in delivering a total health care program. The efforts of CHR program staff have produced an American Indian and Alaska Native health service delivery system, which provides for follow-up and continued contact with the health care delivery system at the community level, thereby meeting the most basic needs of the American Indian and Alaska Native population.
- The goal of the CHR Program is to address health care needs through the provision of community-oriented primary care services, including traditional Native concepts in multiple settings, utilizing community-based, well-trained, medically-guided health care workers.

CHR program was created to meet four needs in Indian Country

- The need for greater involvement of American Indians/Alaskan Indians in their own health programs, and greater participation by Native Americans in the identification and solving of their health problems.
- The need for greater understanding between the Indian people and the Indian Health Service Staff.
- The need to improve cross-cultural communication between the Indian community and the providers of health service.
- The need to increase basic health care and instruction in Indian homes and communities.

CHR PROGRAM SERVICES

- Provide health education on all health disparities linked to curative and preventative purposes to improve individual health care.
- Act as an advocate/liaison between patients and I.H.S. providers by interpreting and translating medical information, assisting with care plans, and ensure patient satisfaction.
- Provide extensive health promotion/disease prevention information and instruction in self help services that address chronic health problems.
- Provide home health care services
- Provide transportation within local community to/from an I.H.S. or tribal hospital or clinic for routine, non emergency problems, to a patient without other means of transportation, when necessary
- Ensure availability of appropriate I.H.S. medical guidance of CHR Program
- Ensure compliance with the requirements of CHR data collection plan
- Provide health care education and facilitate understanding by using Native language when appropriate, thereby fostering greater cross-cultural understanding
- Assess community health care resources, both I.H.S. and non I.H.S. and to facilitate appropriate utilization of those resources

WMAT CHR PROGRAM

- The WMAT CHR Is HIPPA Compliant, all documents and encounters are kept confidential and private
- ELIGIBILITY open to all Native Americans of all ages whom reside on the reservation
- We have a referral system implemented with IHS and all the Departments therein
- Community are welcomed to refer self or family for CHR services
- All CHR's attend trainings on all health topics and keep all certificates up to date to stay compliant with all local, state and federal agencies

CHR Job Duties & Responsibilities

- Complete referrals from I.H.S on a daily basis



- Provide screening at community events to check blood pressure, blood glucose & interpret results



- Escort patients to medical appointments to interpret & translate ALL medical information



- Conduct home visits to provide basic home health services & follow-up on care



- Support Emergency Management during any community incidents

CHR PROGRAM SUCCESS

- Assist Diabetes door to door campaign 2015
CHR's went door to door from CBQ - McNary, educated on diabetes and checked blood sugars. CHR's were able to find lost to care patients and assist newly diagnosed patients to increase clientele.
- Assist local community schools with screening in the following areas: vision, hearing, head lice & acanthosis
- Assist Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Prevention Program with all community campaigns

CHR PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Plan, design & implement a successful Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Prevention Program
- Assist Emergency Management in 2016 during water shortage & Cedar Fire. CHR's assisted with delivering water & pre-evacuation notices & pre-evacuation kits.
- Diabetes Door to Door Campaign results:
Homes visited: 3,406 Homes educated: 1,447
Screening: 881 Patients refer for follow-up: 238
- CHR Program results October 2015-August 2016
Completed referrals: 2,913 Home Visits: 2,557
Screening: 3,063

We love to be CHR's



I am a Tribal CHR

I am a health educating, case finding, screening, interpreting & translating, community developing, advocating, health fair conducting, injury controlling, socioeconomic connecting, exercise leading, health promoting, emergency responding, CHR PCC documenting, patient monitoring, listening & caring Tribal CHR

