

COMMUNITY
HEALTH AIDE
PROGRAM
CHAP



CHAP



CHAP is a “multidisciplinary program of mid-level behavioral, community, and dental health professionals working alongside licensed providers to increase access to health care services in AIAN communities. CHAP legislation was passed by the Montana State Legislature in 2019 and signed into Law by the Governor on May 9, 2019.

• **CHAP IS COMPRISED OF THREE PROGRAM SERVICES:**

- 1. Community Health Aide
- 2. Behavioral Health Aide
- 3. Dental Health Aide Therapist
 - a. Primary DHA
 - b. Expanded function DHA
 - c. DHA Hygienist
 - d. DHA Therapist

BENEFITS TO TRIBES:

- ❖ Raises Standard of Care through Certified Training
- ❖ Jobs for interested and eligible Tribal Members
- ❖ Support to Licensed providers in MH, Dental, Clinical
- ❖ Provides growth path to higher professional achievement
- ❖ Increases access to health care services, locally
- ❖ Economic growth to local economy



STATUS & action:

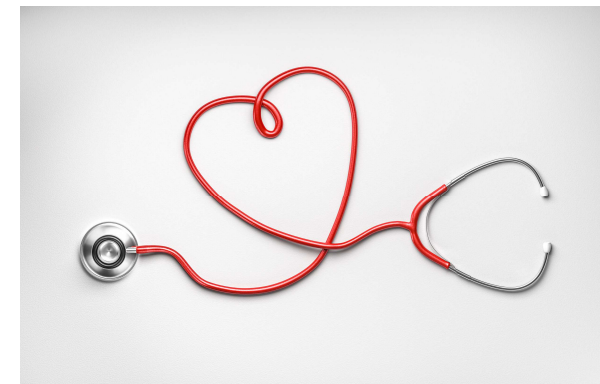
Fort Belknap Tribes took a strong lead on behalf of Montana Tribes to seek legislative support and provide leadership toward implementation of CHAP throughout Montana and Wyoming.

In order to achieve this, the Tribes established an initial **Area Certification Board**, supported by subcommittees: **Academic Review Committee** and **Training** (curriculum is currently under development).

- **Billings Area Office:** Expected to conduct an area-wide tribal consultation, formally appoint an Area Certification Board representative of MT/WY Tribes. Engage at National Certification Board level.
- **Montana Medicaid:** Directed by the State Legislature, the Montana Medicaid program is to develop a **State Plan Amendment (SPA)** for submission to CMS to implement a CHAP that will meet the unique Tribal needs. The Tribes will work with Medicaid for this purpose. Approval will authorize CHAP CHAs, BHAs, and DHAs to become certified providers, delivering services that are reimbursable under Medicaid.
- **TRIBES - Actions required ASAP**
 - Appoint Tribal Representative to the **Area Certification Board**
 - Participate in Monthly CHAP conference calls, facilitated by Byron Larson, Consultant to Fort Belknap.
 - Send letter to IHS requesting Area Tribal Consultation and request to begin a CHAP independent of a National Certification Board. **cc:** IHS HQs Leadership.
 - Request SPA development by State Medicaid Leadership.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
TRIBAL LEADERS
COUNCIL



Questions

Comments?