



COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM (CHR)

Community Health Representative (CHR) Program Overview

The Community Health Representative (CHR) Program serves as a vital liaison between patients, the community, and the health care system. The program focuses on improving access to care, strengthening health education, and ensuring continuity of services for community members.

Core Services

The CHR Program provides a wide range of community-based health services, including:

- Health education and promotion
- Home visits
- Medication setup and adherence support
- Monthly health screenings
- Patient care, monitoring, and case management
- Transportation to medical appointments and health services
- Wound checks and dressing changes

Mission Statement

The Community Health Representative (CHR) Program is housed at the Tribal Headquarters, located at **3410 P St NW**. The program provides in-house health screenings at the **Myaamia Community Center** and conducts in-home screenings as needed.

The CHR Program is funded through **Indian Health Services (IHS)**, which also supports the Miami Area IHS Clinic. CHRs work closely with the clinic to extend health care services beyond clinical settings and into the community, ensuring culturally responsive and continuous care for the Indian people it serves.

Through one-on-one interactions with clients, CHRs often identify health concerns that may not surface during brief medical appointments. Many clients have been successfully referred to physicians and are now actively managing diagnosed conditions due to early intervention and follow-up provided by the CHR Program.



COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM (CHR)

Program Goal

The goal of the CHR Program is to improve health knowledge, attitudes, and practices among American Indian and Alaska Native people by promoting, supporting, and assisting IHS in delivering comprehensive health care services.

The program emphasizes follow-up care and sustained contact with the health care delivery system at the community level. This approach helps meet the most basic health needs of the population and strengthens the overall American Indian and Alaska Native health service delivery system.

The CHR Program addresses health care needs through:

- Community-oriented primary care services
- Integration of traditional Native concepts
- Service delivery in multiple settings
- Utilization of well-trained, medically guided, community-based health care workers

Role of the Community Health Representative

CHR staff play a critical role in bridging clinical care and community wellness by:

- Visiting clients in their homes and referring individuals to appropriate health care facilities
- Explaining available health programs, policies, and procedures required when accessing health services
- Organizing and facilitating community health promotion and disease prevention activities, including:
 - Immunization events
 - Home safety education
 - Safe use of machinery and motor vehicles
 - Proper medication and drug storage
 - Sanitation and maintenance of homes, buildings, and community grounds
- Educating community members about health risks related to:
 - Alcohol use
 - Tobacco use
 - Poor nutrition
 - Poor personal hygiene



COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM (CHR)

- Providing transportation to health promotion and medical facilities when needed
- Entering patient-specific diagnostic data into official medical records using the CHR component of the **Resource and Patient Management System (RPMS)**
- Coordinating police or ambulance transport in emergency situations

Responsibilities

CHR staff are responsible for:

- Attending staff meetings
- Maintaining professional standards and ethical conduct
- Reporting on the overall impact and effectiveness of the CHR Program to the Service Unit Director
- Advocating for community health needs and program improvements