

Project Title:	Yellowhawk Rural Health Outreach	Phone Number: 541-278-7547
Applicant:	Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center P. O. Box 160 Pendleton, Oregon 98701	Fax Number: 541-278-7579 Email Address: tingilbert@yellowhawk.org
Contact Name:	Tim Gilbert, CEO	Website: www.yellowhawk.org

Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center (YTHC), a tribally operated health center located on the Umatilla Reservation of Eastern Oregon is requesting \$596,105 from the Office of Rural Health Policy to implement a three year rural health outreach grant. This project will be carried out collaboratively with Providence St. Mary's Medical Center (Walla Walla, WA) St. Anthony Hospital, the Umatilla County Health Department, Blue Mountain Community College and Lifeways of Pendleton, OR. Other collaborators will be added in years one and two of the project. The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) have operated YTHC since 1989. In that time, the tribe has maintained AAAHC accreditation and established an excellent track record for providing ambulatory care to the 4,000 users of the facility. YTHC is a full service ambulatory care clinic that provides medical, dental, pharmacy, behavioral health, and prevention services. The health center is governed by a Board of Commissioners comprised of community members who are appointed by the elected Board of Trustees of the CTUIR.

The service area for the proposed project is the CTUIR and Umatilla, Union, and Morrow Counties of Oregon and Walla Walla County Washington. This service area has a population of 173,258 including 5,275 American Indians and Alaskan Natives. Upon receipt funding, YTHC will work with its collaborators to implement evidence based practices (Team Care, Healthy Heart and JNC7 for cancer) physician residencies and traineeships with local colleges, and new services to address the high rates of chronic disease and mental disorders that affect the tribe and local residents. Throughout the project, community education and awareness activities will be carried out. In addition, a number of studies will be completed on the reservation and within the service area to improve access to behavioral health, determine cancer clusters, and expand telemedicine. Collection of data using YTHC's existing information system will also be ongoing. YTHC is currently collecting all required PIMS data. Evaluation of the project will be carried out by the Northwest Portland Area Health Board working directly with staff of the health center.

Upon receipt of funding, YTHC's Network Development Specialist will assume responsibilities as Project Manager (.25 FTE) and a half-time (.50 FTE) Outreach Nurse will be hired. New services established during the grant will include telemedicine, school based behavioral health services, and a cancer navigator and registry. An updated network strategic plan will be completed in year one. The project's outreach nurse will provide ongoing care to high risk patients both within YTHC and across the service area. The Project Manager will coordinate the project's activities and work with the network to resolve access barriers, improve outreach, and implement new services. Data collection to verify project outcomes will be coordinated by IT staff of YTHC and the project's evaluator. The CTUIR and YTHC believe the proposed project will be sustainable and has significant potential for improving health care both in Eastern Oregon and on other Indian reservations nationally. **YTHC is requesting funding preference as a HPSA and Medically Underserved Population (See Attachment 6)**