



Behavioral Health Aide Education Program and Portland Area CHAP Certification Board (PACCB)

July NPAIHB QBM

July 29, 2021



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Objectives

- Overview of the Tribal Community Health Provider Project (TCHPP)
- Overview of the Behavioral Health Aide role in Tribal communities
- Overview of the Behavioral Health Aide Education Program and Student Recruitment
- Update on the Portland Area CHAP Certification Board
- Project outreach and education opportunities



Tribal Community Health Provider Project (TCHPP) Team



Christina Peters
TCHPP Director



Carrie Sampson-Samuels
CHAP Director



Miranda Davis
NDTI Director



Danica Brown
Behavioral Health Director



Samantha Wells
Legislative Field Organizer



Tanya Firemoon
TCHPP Specialist



Pam Johnson
NDTI Manager



Katie Hunsberger
BHA Student Support Coordinator



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**Tribal Community Health Provider Project
(TCHPP)**



**Behavioral Health
Aide/Practitioner
(BHA/P)**



**Dental Health
Aide/Therapist
(DHAT)**



Native Dental Therapy Initiative

**Community Health
Aide/Practitioner
(CHA/P)**



Behavioral Health Aide (BHA) Role in Tribal Communities

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AIDE PROGRAM



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What is the definition of a BHA?

- A Behavioral Health Aide (BHA) is a counselor, health educator, and advocate. BHAs help address individual and community-based behavioral health needs, including those related to alcohol, drug and tobacco abuse as well as mental health problems such as grief, depression, suicide, and related issues. BHAs seek to achieve balance in the community by integrating their sensitivity to cultural needs with specialized training in behavioral health concerns and approaches to treatment.

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), <https://anthc.org/behavioral-health-aide-program/>, Accessed 6/7/21



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Who can be Behavioral Health Aides?

- Natural helpers
- Cultural advisors and teachers
- Counselors – individuals whom are good listeners
- Advocates
- Peer recovery mentors, peer support specialists, traditional health workers, community health workers or community health representatives that want to take the next step in their careers
- Anyone wanting to further explore a career in behavioral health – BHA program can be a stepping stone



Who do BHAs serve?

- ENTIRE COMMUNITIES

- Elders
- Older Adults
- Adolescents
- Children

- BHAs serve Tribal Health Organizations

- BHAs may have cultural knowledge and expertise and be asked by their Tribal organizations to provide trainings to staff or local and state partners



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What services do BHAs provide?

BHA I

- Wellness Promotion (crafts, culture, drumming, dancing, sports, education, etc.)
- Talking Circle on BH topic
- Education on BH topic
- Advocacy on BH topic
- Community Needs Assessment
- Screening
- Intake
- Referral
- Crisis Management
- Case Management
- Life Skill & Resource Development/Coaching
- Medication Education
- Psychoeducation
- Individual Interventions
- Group Interventions

BHA II

- Substance Use Disorder Assessment
- Substance Use Disorder Diagnosis
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment Planning
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment Implementation
- Community Readiness Assessment
- Family Interventions/Counseling

There are 2 additional advanced BHA levels:

- BHA III
- BHA/P

These levels won't be available through NW education programs immediately.



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What topics do BHAs need to understand?

- Substance abuse
- Healthy relationships
- Grief
- Development of healthy coping strategies
- Suicidality
- Parenting
- Caring for Elders
- Development across a lifespan
- Developmental disorders
- Hallucinations and delusions
- Trauma and PTSD
- Stages of change
- Cooccurring disorders
- Medication management
- Behavioral health and medical conditions
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
- Foster care and CPS
- Incarceration
- Abuse and neglect
- Mood disorders
- Learning and cognitive disorders
- Bullying
- Anger
- Motivation



What other knowledge do BHAs need to have?

- Working with others – communicating effectively and building relationships, may include meetings internally or with partners
- Integration with other providers within the Tribal health system
- Documentation and Medicaid billing
- Mandatory reporting
- Understanding of risk management and malpractice
- HIPAA and confidentiality
- Electronic health records
- Traditional practices



Let's break it down, the more you know!

- BHAs must be employed by an Indian Health Service facility, a Tribe, or a Tribal Health organization that operates a community health aide program. Job Titles of a BHA may vary among the tribes as they also vary in Alaska
- Certification is extremely valuable
 - Process of certification will be outlined while in the BHA program, certification will be done by the Portland Area CHAP Certification Board with the guidance of the Behavioral Health Academic Review Committee (BHARC)
 - Certified BHAs may become billable within their respective states and therefore become a sustainable resource for their organization
- BHAs must practice under a master's level clinical supervisor
- An Electronic Behavioral Health Aide Manual (eBHAM) will be available for BHAs to reference during and after completion of the program



BHA Education Program



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Heritage University

- Private University in Toppenish, Washington
- \$14,000 average financial aid package
- 95% of undergrads receive financial aid
- Generous scholarships page with updates
- Semester-based (in-person; hybrid)
- Campus locations
 - Toppenish
 - Tri-Cities
 - Yakima (Yakima Valley Community College)



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- Tribal College in Bellingham, Washington
- FAFSA + Scholarship opportunities
- Quarter-based (online)
- Campus Locations
 - Muckleshoot Campus offers Associate of Technical Arts in Chemical Dependency Studies



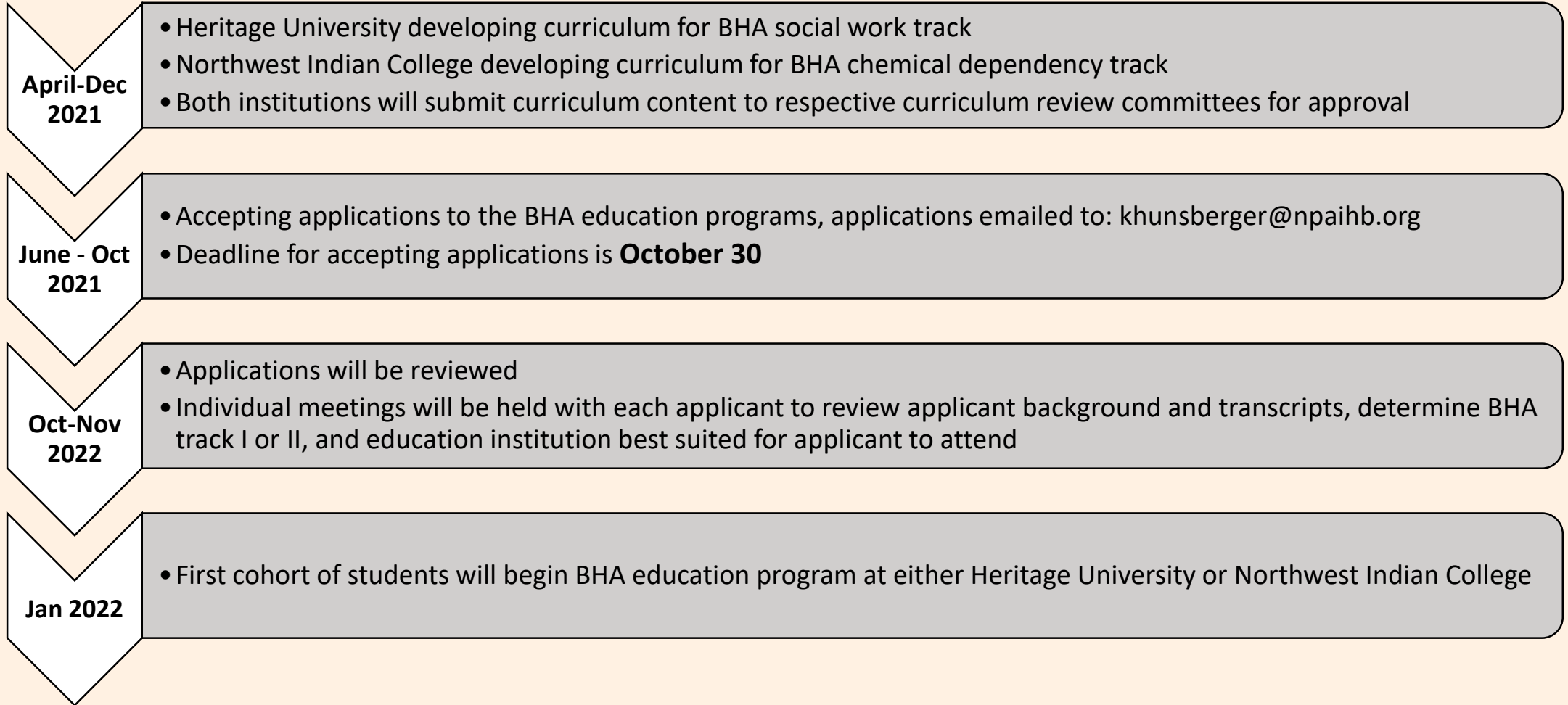
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Educational Pathways

- BHA-1 or BHA-2 – whichever level is a better fit depending on:
- **Alternative (academic) vs. Specialized (non-academic) Matrix**
 - Student can work with Coordinator to determine which level they would be the best fit for
- **Full time student vs. Part time student**
 - Level 1 = 12 months
 - Level 2 = 18 months
- **3 pathways will be available for students:**
 - Certificate/AA in Social Work at Heritage University*
 - AA in Chemical Dependency from Northwest Indian College
 - Certificate/AA in Behavioral Health from either Institution



BHA Education Program Timeline



Decision Making Matrix

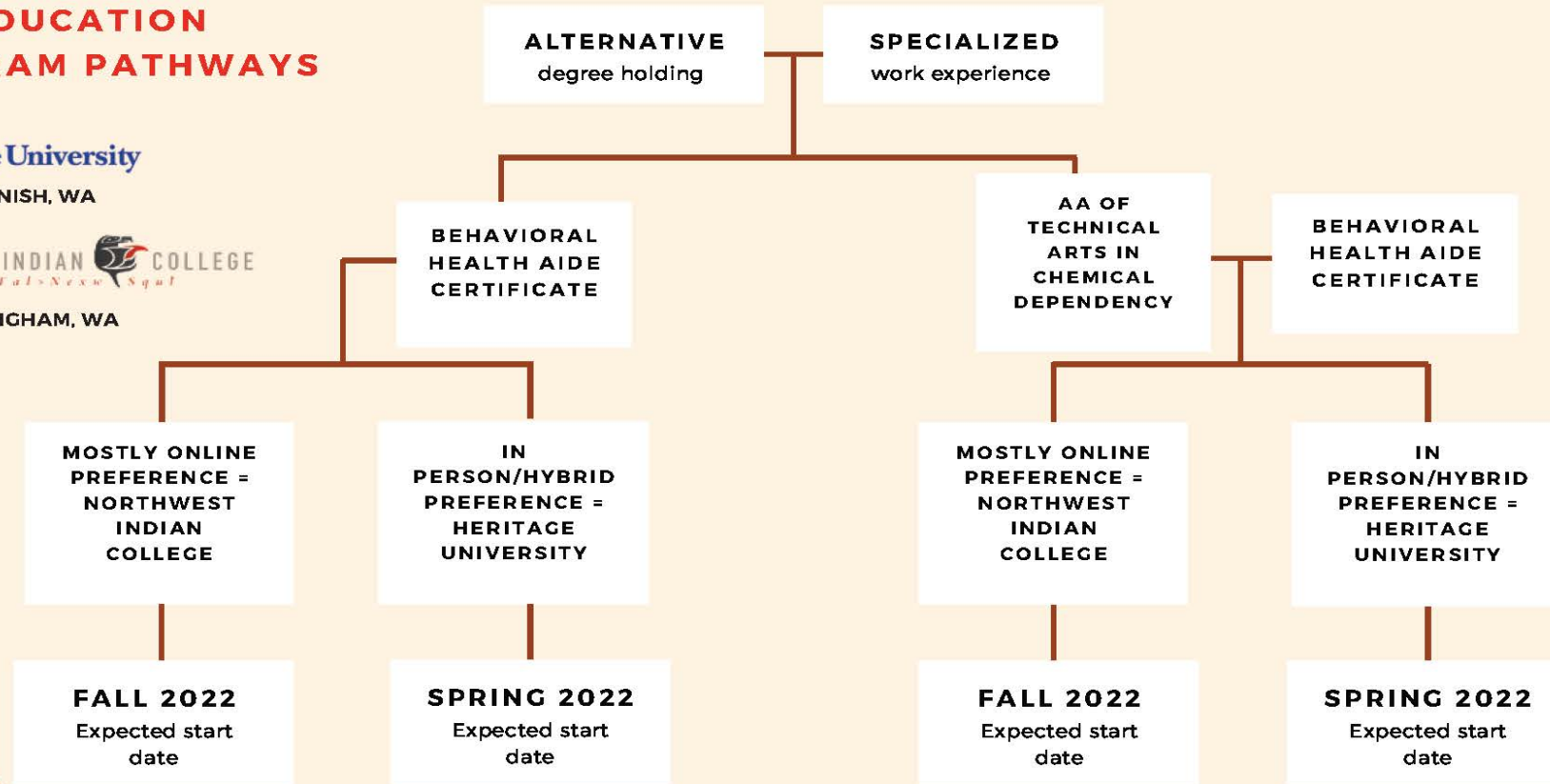
TCHPP

A PROJECT OF THE NORTHWEST PORTLAND
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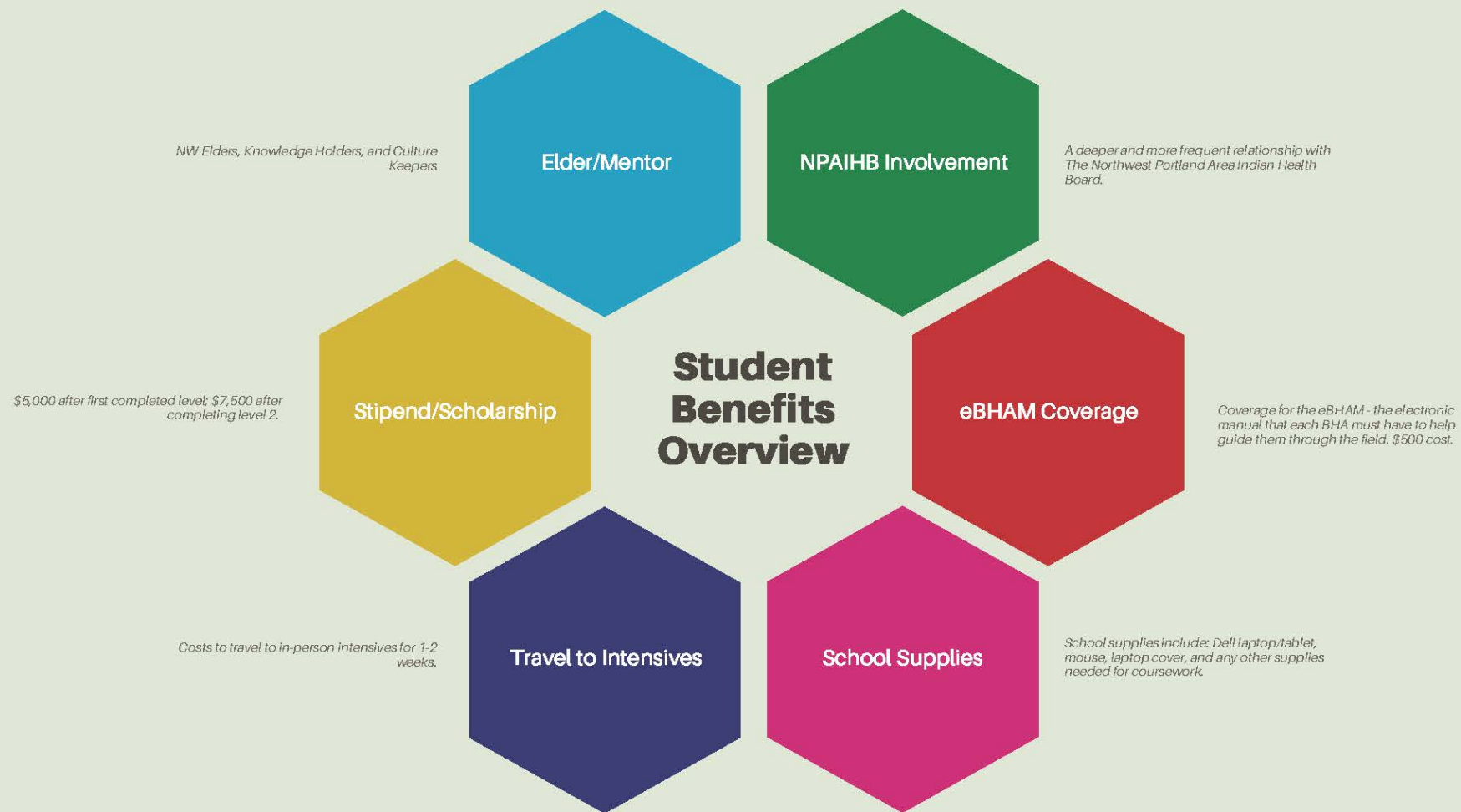
BHA EDUCATION PROGRAM PATHWAYS



PROSPECTIVE STUDENT



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The above shows the benefits of being a part of the Behavioral Health Aide cohort that is affiliated with the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board.

For those interested in this relationship with the Board, students must: take part in monthly check-ins with the BHA Student Support Coordinator; submit grades, class schedules, tuition ledgers & other school related documents; and self-identify a mentor.

Technical assistance is provided to Tribes and Tribal Health Organization who would like to know more about program benefits.

www.tchpp.org

CHAP Student Successes in the Northwest

BHA

- 2 BHA students graduating June 2021 serving the following communities:
 - Lower Elwha S'Klallam
 - Swinomish
- 9 BHA students from Yakama recently started the BHA program at ANTHC

DHAT

- 13 active DHAT's serving the following communities:
 - Port Gamble S'Klallam
 - Coquille
 - Colville
 - Lummi
 - Swinomish
 - NARA Dental
 - CTCLUSI
 - Coeur d'Alene
 - Tulalip



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Portland Area DHATs



Naomi Petrie,
CTCLUSI, 2017



Jason Mecum,
Coquille, 2018



Marissa Gardner,
CTCLUSI 2018



Kari Douglass,
Chickasaw, 2019



Asiah Gonzales,
Swinomish, 2019



Aveena Finkbonner,
Lummi, 2019



Angela Johnson, First
Nations, 2019



Anna Degraffenreid,
Coeur d'Alene, 2019



Arielle Cawston,
Colville, 2019



Rochelle Ferry, Port
Gamble S'Klallam



Inga Weddle,
Tulalip, 2020



Sarah Chagnon,
Swinomish, 2019

Portland Area BHAs



Philysia Deleon, Swinomish
Amy Redner, Lower Elwha K'lallam
BHA Students, Graduating 2021

Other BHA Students

Ken Hamilton, Colville
Sasha Corpuz, Yakama
Jenece Howe, Yakama/Colville
Kamien Sanchez
Adrienne Hamilton, Assiniboine/Sioux
Elizabeth Villa, Nez Perce
Venissa Williams, Upper Skagit
Shaniya Shipman
Andrea Batin, Yakama



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Portland Area CHAP Certification Board



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Goals of the Portland Area CHAP Certification Board (PACCB)

- 1) Certification application review and recommendation of Tribal BHA/Ps, DHA/Ts, and CHA/Ps;
- 2) Certification of all Tribal education and training programs created for BHA/Ps, DHA/Ts, and CHAPs;
- 3) Approve all continuing education (CE) of Tribal Community Health Providers (TCHP);
- 4) Address health disparities within the Tribal Health System (THS) by review and recommendation of individual, education programs and continuing education by maintaining certification standards. The PACCB will create opportunities to increase mid-level CHAP providers within the THS to increase access to quality care.



PACCB Member Seating Chart

Left Column:
Seating Chart

Right Column:
Nomination
Recommendations



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PACCB Member Seating Chart		
Position	Nominating Tribal Organization or Partner	Role on the PACCB
1 – PAIHS Director	IHS Area Director	This member is appointed by the Portland Area IHS Director as required by IHS Circular No. 20-06. This delegate serves as a liaison between PAIHS and PACCB.
2- NPAIHB Delegate	NPAIHB Delegates	This member is nominated by the NPAIHB delegates to also serve as a liaison between the NPAIHB Delegates and the PACCB.
3 – NPAIHB E.D.	NPAIHB Executive Director	This member is nominated by the NPAIHB Executive Director and serves as a liaison between NPAIHB and the PACCB.
4 – BHA/P Association	BHA/P Association	This member is nominated by the BHA/P Association of BHA/Ps working within a TCHP program for the Portland Area Tribes. This position serves as a liaison between the BHA/P Association and the PACCB.
5 – CHA/P Association	CHA/P Association	This member is nominated by the CHA/P Association of CHA/Ps working within a TCHP program for the Portland Area Tribes. This position serves as a liaison between the CHA/P Association and the PACCB. (This nomination is delayed until the CHA/P Association is operational).
6 – DHA/T Association	DHA/T Association	This member is nominated by the DHA/T Association of DHA/Ts working within a TCHP program for the Portland Area Tribes. This position serves as a liaison between the DHA/T Association and the PACCB.
7 - BHARC	BHARC Association	This member is nominated by the BHARC who is a LCSW or Licensed MSW working within CHAP for the Portland Area Tribes or IHS.
8 - CHARC	CHARC Association	This member is nominated by the CHARC who is a Licensed Physician (preferred) or could be a licensed Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant working within CHAP for the Portland Area Tribes or IHS. (nomination delayed until CHARC is operational).
9 - DHARC	DHARC Association	This member is nominated by the DHARC who is a DMD or DDS working within CHAP for the Portland Area Tribes or IHS.
10 – ID DOH	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Medicaid	This member nominated by Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Medicaid (DOH) and serves as a liaison between the DOH and PACCB.
11 – OR OHA	Oregon Health Authority	This member is nominated by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and serves as a liaison between the OHA and PACCB.
12 – WA HCA	Washington Healthcare Authority	This member is nominated by the Washington State Healthcare Authority (HCA) and serves as a liaison between the HCA and PACCB.
13 – CHAP Education Program	PA CHAP Education Programs	This member is nominated by the Portland Area CHAP education programs.

PACCB Update

- April 2021 Quarterly Board Meeting, delegates approved the resolution establishing the recommended 13-member seating chart and roles for the PACCB.
- On April 14, 2021, Area Director Seyler initiated tribal consultation by releasing the CHAP Dear Tribal Leader Letter to all Portland Area Tribes seeking input on the establishment of the PACCB, recommendations accepted by IHS area office
- NPAIHB CHAP Advisory Workgroup recruited 13 individuals that are qualified to sit on the PACCB, forwarded nominations to Portland Area IHS for final approval
- First PACCB meeting will be held August 3 and 5



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First PACCB Meeting Agenda at-a-glance

- Understanding roles and responsibilities as board members
- Reviewing and approving the PACCB Standards and Procedures
- Reviewing and approving the PACCB By-laws
- Nominations and voting for the PACCB Chair, Vice chair and Secretary positions



Upcoming Events



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NW Elders, Knowledge Holders & Culture Keepers

Next Gathering
coming in
September!



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SAVE THE DATE - VIRTUAL EVENT

REGISTRATION TO FOLLOW - JUNE 29 & 30, 2021

GATHERING OF NW ELDERS, KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS & CULTURE KEEPERS

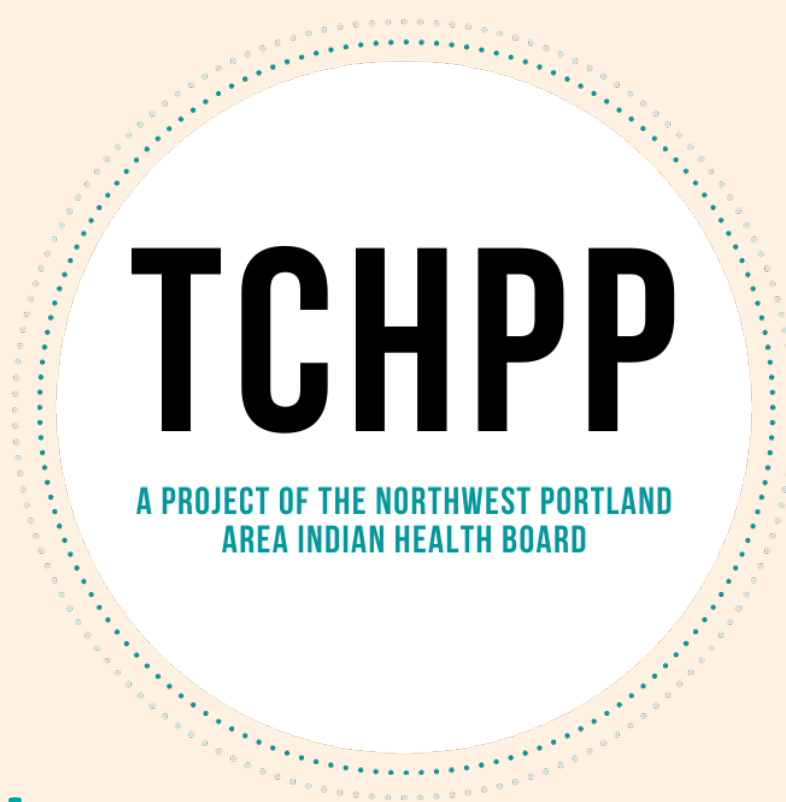
The Behavioral Health Aide Program (BHAP) at the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) would like to invite and welcome you to join us in our second gathering.

An opportunity to create a community of support for our Behavioral Health Aide students, providers, and community as we develop a new education program for our tribal communities in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

Save the Date - June 29-30, 2021
For more information:
Please e-mail tfiremoon@npaihb.org
www.tchpp.org // www.npaihb.org

Tanya Firemoon, (Nakoda) Tribal Community Health Provider Program Specialist
Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board





TCHPP Website

To learn more about the Tribal Community Health Provider Project, visit www.TCHPP.org. Here you can learn more about the team, the Providers, policy work, and the BHA Education Program.



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Funders

Thank you to all our funders!



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Questions?

- Carrie Sampson-Samuels:
csampsonsamuels@npaihb.org
- Danica Brown: dbrown@npaihb.org
- Katie Hunsberger: khunsberger@npaihb.org
- Tanya Firemoon: tfiremoon@npaihb.org

Visit our website at www.TCHPP.org



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