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Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health Unveils San Manuel Indian Health Clinic

Clinic's health care services for Native Americans expands with \$2 million grant from San Manuel tribe

Grand Terrace, CA. (January 30, 2015) - With support from a \$2 million grant from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians combined with contributions from other sources, Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc. (RSBCIHI) unveiled today the San Manuel Indian Health Clinic.

Tribal and organization officials and staff gathered for a traditional blessing and tours of the clinic including expanded space in the laboratory, pharmacy, dental and optometry clinics. The clinic, which was relocated from San Bernardino to Grand Terrace, will offer expanded health care services for the growing Native American Community of Riverside and San Bernardino counties beginning Feb. 2.

"This is part of an overall five-year Capital Projects Plan approved by our Board of Directors to improve our facilities across the system. The San Manuel leadership supported our vision and helped us fulfill one of the goals of our plan," said Jess Montoya, CEO of RSBCIHI. "This generous contribution along with our consortium's investment made this project possible. We are thankful for the ongoing partnership with San Manuel, including the support they have provided over the years to support Indian health care."

Contracted through U.S. Indian Health Service to provide health care services to citizens of federally recognized Indian tribes and their dependents, RSBCIHI operates seven ambulatory and behavioral health clinics throughout its two county service area, including the San Manuel Indian Health clinic.

"The San Manuel community applauds the good work of the health care consortium," said Chairwoman Lynn Valbuena of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. "Access to quality health care is too often a challenge for Native Americans across the country and it is reassuring to have this clinic with easy access for those who most need health care services."

Housed on a five-acre property, the clinic will provide comprehensive and coordinated attention for patients during their visits in multiple areas, including family practice and behavioral health, preventative care, podiatry as well as endocrinology, and internal medicine through a telemedicine program. RSBCIHI now has the capacity to add future radiology services for a patient population expected to increase to 8,500 individuals.

"Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health is proud of the relationship it has established with our consortium tribes of Riverside and San Bernardino," said RSBCIHI Board President Annette Chihuahua of the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians stated that. "Since 1968, Indian Health has met the health care needs of

our tribal members. We are honored by this award and with this, we will continue to improve and provide the most comprehensive health care services available. "

The mission of RSBCIHI is to provide culturally-sensitive healthcare, respect and abide by traditional customs of our Indian communities, and promote wellness and provide early intervention to achieve healthy lifestyles.

"The new location in the city of Grand Terrace offers us an opportunity to expand more comprehensive health care in the future such as radiology, ultrasound, and mammograms onsite to our Native American patients and their families," stated Montoya. "This clinic was constructed to provide a patient centered medical home environment where our patients will receive a more comprehensive and coordinated visit."

Established in 1968 and incorporated in 1974, RSBCIHI is the largest Indian Health care system in the state of California and provides an extensive array of services: Medical, Dental, Lab, Optical, Pharmacy, Behavioral Health and Chemical Dependency counseling, WIC, Public Health, Environmental Health, X-Ray and Diabetes care to the eligible Native American who reside in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Through the support of its Board of Director's and all nine of its consortium tribes, RSBCIHI will continue to provide the quality of care expected by its patients and demanded by its employees.

About the Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc and San Manuel Indian Health Clinic

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