



Puyallup Tribal Health Authority

Puyallup Tribal Health Authority **RESIDENCY PROGRAM & RESIDENT DOCTORS**



What is a residency program and what does it mean for you and your family?

A residency program is an educational setting where doctors come for additional training after graduating from medical school. These doctors come here specifically to learn family medicine in a culturally sensitive manner so that they can take better care of patients throughout their careers. The Puyallup Tribal Health Authority has hosted a family medicine residency program since 2012 with the desire to train and create healers to serve in Native Communities around the country.

What are the benefits?

There are some significant benefits to being served by the residency and resident doctors. One of the greatest is having the opportunity to be a teacher and educator to these young doctors. What you will teach these young healers will serve as the foundation for their entire careers, the lessons that you give will shape the future of the many people they will take care of for the next 40 years. Through your guidance they will learn aspects of medicine that aren't in any books and create bonds and connections that will carry them through a lifetime.

An additional benefit is every resident doctor will be discussing your care with an established PTHA doctor. This means that every visit is discussed by at least two doctors, increasing the amount of knowledge focused on your concern. It doesn't end there either, these graduated doctors come with the newest education from medical schools, exposing our clinic doctors to the most up to date information and enhancing the care throughout the entire clinic. The resident team also includes a large group of experienced medical assistants who have been here for many years and help guide our doctors and work with the community to get you the health care you deserve.

The diversity of our resident doctors is a highlight as they bring many different cultural experiences and knowledge to every encounter. Some of these doctors are osteopathic, meaning that they have additional training with bones, muscles, ligaments and creating balance of the body through hands on techniques.

All our resident doctors are specifically selected through a rigorous interview process for those qualities that will make a caring healer. While our resident doctors are only here for three years, they come filled with hope and desire to care for you, your families, and the community. They are excited to serve you and we know that with time they will become amazing healers for future generations.

We hope to see you and your family in the residency in the future!

Dr. Rhyner

PTHA Family Medicine Residency
Associate Program Director

Dr. Rhyner was one of PTHA's first residents in 2012

