

CRIHB Awards

In September CRIHB hosted their annual awards ceremony with several community members and TRIHCl employees were nominated and received awards.

Barbara Baga: Ms. Barbara Baga received the Honored Elders Award. Ms. Baga has been a consistent Health Board Director for 26 years. She has championed crucial projects to enhance health care infrastructure, helping relocate the clinic from trailers to a larger permanent facility. Barbara takes immense pride in her heritage and her community. Her leadership has been instrumental in advancing health care access and quality. Her unwavering support and proactive vision continue to inspire those around her making a lasting impact on the Reservation.

Francine Gibson: Ms. Francine Gibson received the Lifetime Achievement Award in honor of her extraordinary 43 year service at TRIHCl. Francine's unwavering presence has shaped the very foundation of the clinic, as she has skillfully contributed to nearly every department over the course of her distinguished career. Her dedication, leadership, and boundless energy have left an incredible mark on both the clinic and the greater community. Francine remains an inspiration, a living testament to lifelong service.

Paula LaMotte: Ms. Paula LaMotte received the Special Recognition Award in celebration of 25 years of unwavering dedication to the clinic. Throughout her career Paula has embodied compassion and commitment. Her reliability, gentle spirit, devotion, and willingness to go above and beyond have uplifted those around her leaving a mark on countless lives. Paula's kindness and tireless work inspire all who have the privilege to work alongside her.



Wenonia Plunk: Ms. Wenonia Plunk received the Luna Wessel Award. Wenonia has shown a steadfast commitment to women's health over the last 25 years. While her expertise is rooted in the laboratory, Wenonia's dedication has transcended her primary responsibilities, arranging vital services for the well being of the women in our community. Her influence has been pivotal in cultivating a more compassionate and accessible landscape for women's health. Her tireless efforts, caring spirit, and leadership show that she is more than deserving of this honor.

Jan Trigleth: Ms. Jan Trigleth received the Special Recognition Award for her steadfast dedication and remarkable service to the clinic and its patients. Over her 19 years with the clinic Jan has served as a pillar of strength and reliability, exemplifying compassion and an unwavering commitment to enriching the health and wellbeing of the community. Jan is the embodiment of the values this award celebrates. Her enduring record of service continues to inspire those around her and her legacy will resonate through the future of Tribal Health.

Darlene “Apple” Yazzie: Ms. Apple Yazzie received the Lifetime Achievement Award for her three decades of devoted service to the clinic. Apple has stood as a steadfast cornerstone within the clinic, guiding with determination, compassion, and remarkable precision. Time and time again Apple extends herself to make sure each patient feels genuinely listened to, valued, and supported. Her enduring passion for both the clinic and the community is evident in every action she takes.

Shealuhn Hunter: Ms. Shealuhn Hunter was awarded the Youth Leadership Award for her remarkable dedication to her community. Her dedication to cultural preservation shines through her coloring books celebrating Yowlumne language. Through her efforts, she not only breathes new life into language revitalization, but also creates an accessible bridge for youth to reconnect with the rich heritage of their ancestors.

We are extremely proud of all our nominees and thank them for their dedication to not only the clinic and its patients, but the entire community. Your passion and dedication is evident in all the work you do, with these awards being a testament to the difference each of you make.