



ADULT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TASK FORCE
SEPTEMBER 19, 2014

PRESENTED BY
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THE SAUK-SUIATTLE INDIAN TRIBE IS LOCATED JUST NORTH OF DARRINGTON WASHINGTON. THE TRIBE HAS ABOUT 230 ENROLLED MEMBERS AND ABOUT 180 TRIBAL MEMBERS AND OTHER NATIVE'S RESIDING ON OR NEAR RESERVATION.

THE TRIBE HAS A MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM, CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROGRAM, AND A HEALTH CLINIC. OUR PROGRAMS ALSO REACH AS FAR AS SNOHOMISH AND SKAGIT COUNTIES. ON AVERAGE THE TRIBE SEES ABOUT 70 CLIENTS(CHILDREN, YOUTH, ADULTS, AND FAMILIES) PER WEEK.

THE TRIBE IS NOT A GAMING TRIBE. OUR FUNDING COMES FROM 638 CONTRACTING AND REVENUE FROM OUR VERY TINY BUSINESS.

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Between 2005-2009 the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe had 3 youth who were in need of Psychiatric Residential care.

Problems with RSN for all three were as follows:

- ❖ RSN would not accept our diagnosis from qualified Licensed Mental Health Professionals
- ❖ Two of our clients had to wait 3 hours for the County Mental Health Professional to arrive and complete an hour assessment.
- ❖ One client after waiting two hours for the Mental Health Professional to arrive, we were called and told to take the client to the Emergency Room at Providence Hospital in Everett Washington a hour and half drive.
- ❖ The tribe went through the required process to receive the PIN for the residential care just for the RSN and Hospital to lose all documentation, the tribe had to pay the bill.

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The Sauk Suiattle Indian Tribe through the same years has had numerous interactions with the North Sound RSN previous Director Chuck where we were told “You people have IHS”, “My Commissioners tell me who to serve.” “You all have Casinos”

The Tribe knows that the North Sound RSN has a new Director, however, with the history we have experienced with just the Mental Health Services for our Tribal Members this is not workable. We believe that the RSN’s do not have a clear understanding of “Crisis Intervention”. With the idea of adding the Chemical Dependency to the RSN’s it will no doubt leave many individuals mainly from Tribal Communities with out services. Although we are Tribal entities each of our tribal members are citizens of the state of Washington and have a right to any services offered to other citizens of the state!