

## Forest County Potawatomi Spotlight: What Technology Is Helping Us Achieve

The Forest County Potawatomi have lived in Forest County, Wisconsin, since the late 1800s. Having started out with little, the Potawatomi now have the ability to invest in their health, education, and future welfare with revenues



from various tribal enterprises. The tribe is also the largest employer in Forest County. The Forest County Potawatomi Health and Wellness Center (HWC) in rural Crandon is one of two Native American organizations to receive the Targeted Capacity Expansion Technology-Assisted Care grant. As a people proud of its past and ready for the future, the Potawatomi emphasize culture, spiritual beliefs, and respect for elders in various aspects of life, as well as in recovery and treatment.

Although the Native American population is the second largest ethnic group in the area, the HWC serves individuals from both within and outside the tribe. The HWC addresses a multitude of health-related needs, including behavioral health, dental health, community health, optometry, radiology, and rehabilitation. Behavioral health services include assessments, psychotherapy, art therapy, and outpatient services, with community-based substance use disorder recovery coaches at the center of care delivery. The availability of such a wide range of providers allows the health center to treat the patient as a whole. The tribe is also technologically progressive; telehealth services are currently available in Carter, about 25 miles from the HWC, and in Milwaukee.

Tina Garcia, the Technology Grant Specialist, will present on—

- How the HWC incorporates culture into treatment
- The process of client treatment
- The impact of technology on the work of the recovery coaches and clients' access to care
- The use of telehealth to address expansion of care and overcome barriers rural areas often experience
- Employing AthenaHealth for a more efficient, interoperable process of care management

Join the grantee call February 13, 2014, at 1 p.m. (ET) to hear the Forest County Potawatomi present how culture and technology help foster recovery in the community!

To find out more about the Forest County Potawatomi, check out their [Web site](#).