



Indian Health Council, Inc.

Firestorm 2007

GOLSH RD

HOMESTEAD
LAW
EXEMPT
303-8333

Indian Health
Council, Inc.
Health Center
749-1410 →



Community Survival

- Tuesday, October 23, 2007 – The Poomacha fire roars through the La Jolla Reservation and the surrounding reservations.
- Community members evacuate from:
La Jolla, Pauma, Mesa Grande, Rincon, Pala, Santa Ysabel and San Pasqual Reservations
- Many evacuees arrive at Harrah's Casino, Pechanga Casino and other areas or family member homes in Riverside County.









Poomacha Fire Damage

- 92% of the La Jolla Reservation burned
- 3,585 acres of the Rincon Reservation burned
- 5,360 acres on the Pauma Reservation burned
- 2,118 acres on the Pala Reservation burned

First Responders

- Riverside/San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc. arrives at the Pechanga Casino and assesses the situation. Makes contact with IHC
- Working together RSBCIHI & IHC set up a small clinic at the casino
- IHC sets up another clinic at Harrah's Casino
- IHC employees (evacuees and non-evacuees) staff both clinics as RSBCIHI staff begin to return back to their own clinics
- Pharmacy provides medications/refills from the main clinic site for both Pechanga & Harrah's clinic sites

Firestorm Team

- IHC core team: CEO, COO, CMO, Community Health Director, Ambulatory Services Director, and Human Resources Director begin to implement disaster plan, make contact for assistance, and keep tribal leaders updated about the clinic.
- Other Team members that provided assistance:
 1. Indian Health Service
 2. The California Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT)
 3. Bureau of Indian Affairs
 4. Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians
 5. Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians
 6. FEMA
- Triage clinics set up by RSBCIHI at Soboba & Palm Springs

Services

- The team provided care during the firestorm and 2 weeks after the last blaze had been put out. Number of services provided during and after the fire were:
 1. 369 Pechanga clinic visits
 2. 150 Harrah's clinic visits
 3. 616 Home visits
 4. 35 Mobil Unit visits
 5. 211 Flu Vaccines
 6. 714 BIA Assistance checks distributed
 7. 3,161 Prescriptions dispensed



The Next Step

- IHC Management reviewed with the Board of Directors on what worked and what didn't work during the disaster.
- Board of Directors approved to have a meeting with the consortia tribal leaders to get input about our process and for IHC to have available to them the consortia tribal emergency plans and contacts.