

## New childcare center aims to expand health care services to the Wind River Reservation; Additional clinic looks to expand services



A new, round-the-clock childcare center in Riverton aims to open in late 2019.

According to the Northern Arapaho Tribal Housing, The Arapaho Childcare Center is currently being constructed behind the Wind River Hotel & Casino. Its completion date is set for December 2019.

The facility is expected to be 13,000 square feet and provide space for over 300 children ranging from infants up to 10 years old. It will be open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

“It took a lot of hard work from local folks here on the ground, and support from our funding partners, to make these two important projects a reality,” said Patrick Goggles, President of Northern Arapaho Tribal Housing. “We couldn’t have done it without the dedication and efforts of so many. All the parties contributed throughout the due diligence period to make this NMTC project a reality. We are all excited about the outcome. The legacy of the late (Northern Arapaho Business Council Member) Norman Willow Sr. lives on; we will complete his work and his vision.”

Across town, the Wind River Cares Clinic is undergoing a remodel and expansion to support an integrated, whole-patient model of care. New and expanded services will include a part-time endocrinologist to support diabetic patients, increased behavioral health service, an OB-GYN, a psychologist, a full-time physical therapist, a full-time pediatrician, full-service dental, optometry services, lab, radiology, and X-Ray services. An OB-GYN, Dr. Yvonne Treace, has already begun offering services as part of the expansion and the other services are set to be available at Wind River Cares Clinic on 12th Street in December 2018.

Wind River Cares also has a clinic location in Arapahoe and this newest expansion comes after opening a clinic in Ethete over the summer to service healthcare needs there and in the surrounding area.

Reports from the Northern Arapaho Tribal Housing office says that the projects will create 80 new permanent full-time jobs, as well as 30 construction jobs.

