

Yurok Tribal Council appoints public health officer

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The Yurok Tribal Council recently appointed Angie Brown as the COVID-19 Incident Command Team's Public Health Officer.

Brown brings more than 25 years of local public health experience to the Incident Command Team. She will oversee the Yurok Public Health Task Force, which is responsible for developing and implementing plans to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on the Yurok Reservation. The veteran healthcare professional also will provide medical oversight on the enforcement of the Tribe's Public Health Ordinance and other related regulations.

"We are very grateful to have Ms. Brown on our team," said Joseph L. James, the chairman of the Yurok Tribe. "She is going to play a pivotal role during the next phase of this ever-evolving emergency."

"Ms. Brown has the perfect background for this position. She is incredibly informed about infectious disease control and is equally knowledgeable regarding public health in our community," added Serene Hayden, the

Yurok Tribe's Incident Commander.

Brown is the credentialed school nurse for the Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified School District and leads the organization's response to the COVID-19 emergency. She has a comprehensive understanding of what local tribal entities, counties and the state are doing to confront this unprecedented crisis. She also has served as a public health nurse for the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services. Since becoming a certified public health nurse in 1995, she has worked for both state and tribal agencies in Humboldt County.

"I have spent my entire career cultivating a professional skillset to address complex health issues in our community," Brown said. "I am excited to help the community in this new capacity and am looking forward to building upon all of the great work that has been accomplished to date and continuing in an effort to create community wellness and prevention through a culturally sensitive, holistic and trauma informed/resiliency approach."