

Yurok Tribe to Receive Funding for Regional Wellness Center

May 28, 2025



The California Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) announced the Yurok Tribe was selected to receive a \$26.4 million grant to build the urgently needed Yurok Tribal Health and Wellness Center. The Tribe originally received an initial grant of \$15 million which allowed the project to begin the infrastructure project.

Yurok Chairman Joseph L. James praised the grant. “The Yurok Health and Wellness Center will significantly strengthen tribal and non-tribal communities in our rural region. More importantly , it will lives.”

Gov. Gavin Newsom and State Department of Health and Human Services staff announced the distribution of \$3.3 billion for 124 behavioral health-related projects which included the Yurok Tribal Health and Wellness Center. The funding will increase access to mental healthcare. The funds will create 5,000 in-patient beds and 21,800 out-patient slots.

The long-planned Yurok Health and Wellness Center comprises a 24,000 sq.ft building with 53 beds, including 23 for men and 20 for women.

Services offered include primary care, behavioral health services to Yurok Tribal members and the surrounding community. Services will range from infants to elderly.

On the West Coast, the national opioid epidemic started in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, ranked 1 and 4, respectively in per capita, in drug-involved overdose deaths.

In March, 2024 voters approved Proposition 1, an initiative aimed at transforming the State's behavioral health system.