

The didg<sup>w</sup>álič (deed-gwah-leech) Wellness Center - owned and operated by the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community – is a multi-specialty community health organization that provides counseling, medication, primary care, and social services to both Native and non-Native patients with substance use and behavioral health disorders.

## A Community Effort

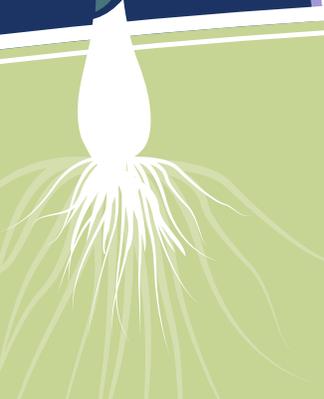
Our unique opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment model was developed with input from Swinomish leaders, individuals with OUD and their families, tribal service departments, and health care providers, as well as through the implementation of evidence-based and community-tested practices.

## Our Services

The didg<sup>w</sup>álič Wellness Center delivers a comprehensive, individualized treatment plan for each patient to address their unique medical, psychological, and social needs.

We are the only substance use treatment center in the nation that offers the following fully integrated services all under one roof:

- ✓ Personalized, intensive OUD counseling by certified professionals
- ✓ Full-service medication-assisted treatment (MAT)
- ✓ Primary medical care
- ✓ Hepatitis C screening and treatment
- ✓ Behavioral and mental health services
- ✓ Psychiatric diagnosis and medication management
- ✓ Acupuncture
- ✓ Social worker case management
- ✓ Group counseling and classes
- ✓ Tribal cultural activities
- ✓ Medication lock-box training
- ✓ Intra-nasal Naloxone training and distribution
- ✓ Dental care (beginning Jan 1, 2021)



didg<sup>w</sup>álič Wellness Center's ground-breaking treatment model for opioid use disorder has won several awards for innovation. Through combining evidence-based medicine, Tribal community knowledge, and patient-centered strategies, we are saving lives and reuniting families.

## Removing Barriers to Care

For many individuals with OUD, there are significant barriers to receiving adequate health care. These barriers include lack of insurance, stable housing, transportation, and childcare, as well as stigmatization and culturally incompetent care.

At didg<sup>w</sup>álič we provide the following- not as “wrap-around” or ancillary services- but as essential core elements of our treatment model:

- ✓ Free on-site childcare during visits
- ✓ Free transportation to/from visits
- ✓ Free assistance with insurance enrollment
- ✓ Transitional housing
- ✓ Case management
- ✓ Private medication appointment rooms
- ✓ Thoughtfully designed physical spaces to ensure patient comfort and safety
- ✓ Culturally competent care
- ✓ Free clothing bank

The didg<sup>w</sup>álič Treatment Model for OUD stems from the philosophy that unless barriers to care are addressed, patients will remain excluded from accessing the care they need.

## Integrated Multi-specialty Care Teams

The didg<sup>w</sup>álič Treatment Model embraces a team approach where each patient receives care from nursing staff, a medical provider, a substance use disorder professional, a mental health counselor, and a social worker. Patients meet monthly with their full care team to discuss challenges to recovery.

Additionally, twice per week all care team staff meet to discuss new enrollees and devise solutions to patients' treatment issues.

## Services for Incarcerated Individuals

didg<sup>w</sup>álič Wellness Center serves as an alternative treatment option for community members charged with drug-related offenses. Our assistance to patients involved in the criminal justice system prevents community members from being placed in facilities where they may not receive adequate OUD treatment.

## The Impact

Through removing barriers to care, responding to the needs of our community, and offering responsive, fully integrated services under one roof, our patients are better able to regularly keep appointments at the clinic, meet the goals of their treatment plan, and successfully walk the path to recovery.

## Join Us

We are committed to sharing information about the didg<sup>w</sup>álič Wellness Center Treatment Model for Opioid Use Disorder with the hope that it will help others, both Native and non-Native, in growing their own successful programs.

To view our educational print materials and videos please visit: [didgwalic.com](http://didgwalic.com)