



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL

# HEALTH SYSTEM

*Prevention. Progress. Pride.*

SHAWNEE CLINIC  
LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER  
PLUS CARE

07 May 2020

## **AST HEALTH SYSTEM PRESS RELEASE:**

Subject: Shawnee Clinic Closure.

We apologize for the inconvenience, but due to the unprecedented COVID19 Pandemic resulting in a National, State, and Tribal States of Emergency, the Shawnee Clinic was closed (temporarily suspended operations except for the pharmacy drive thru, limited Behavioral Health, and Title 6 Meals) on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 until further notice. The reason was due to the amount of staff that had to be placed on FMLA and Short-Term Disability as being in the identified “high-risk” group by the CDC and ensure the staff’s protection as best possible; additionally, the new CDC guidelines of temperature checks and personal protective equipment (PPE) further strained resources and manpower to continue operations at multiple sites. To assure ongoing services for all of our patients, the health system is still functioning, however, only by absorbing remaining staff into three care teams, PlusCare (combined with Shawnee Walk-In Clinic Staff remaining) and Little Axe Health Center (combined with Shawnee Clinic Staff remaining). Please rest assured that we will reopen the clinic once it is safe to do so and as our employees are able to return to full status as they were impacted as well as our patients and their families by the pandemic. It is extremely important to note that all services have continued, on an urgent and emergency basis only, and normal routine appointments were prohibited until the re-opening phases, which are underway now. It is hoped by early June we will be phasing in the stand-up of the Shawnee Clinic and Walk-In Clinic. Thank you for your support and understanding as we all press through this unprecedented event in all of our lives.

For any inquiries please contact Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System at 405.447.0300. To stay informed of changes and access the most current information, please bookmark the COVID-19 on the following website: <https://www.asthealth.org/covid-19>. Additionally our AST Health System now is providing a 24/7 AST Health System Corona Virus (COVID-19) Information Number: (405) 695-1787 to help tribal members. Ne-yi-wa!