

YAKIMA NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH SERVICES / PNWU SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE COLLABORATION

Yakima Neighborhood Health Services (YNHS) is collaborating with the Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences (PNWU) School of Dental Medicine to train second, third, and fourth year dental students recruited from rural and underserved communities. To accomplish this, YNHS is seeking \$5.9 million to build and equip a training facility adjacent to its Terrace Heights medical clinic, located 1.5 miles from the PNWU campus.

- YNHS owns the property, purchased for \$2.1 million, where the new dental facility will be located.
- The 2 story 12,505 sq. ft. dental clinic building will house 22 dental operatories on the first floor with classrooms and offices on the second floor.
- Construction costs are estimated at \$4,379,431 and equipment costs at \$1,513,453.
- The proximity to the medical clinic allows for the students to learn in a multidisciplinary integrated practice setting, coordinating patient care with medical, behavioral health and pharmacy providers.
- 2 Full-time PNWU Dental Faculty will be located on-site at the YNHS clinic to oversee and train the dental students.
- An estimated 18,210 dental visits will be provided annually to an estimated 6,000 patients by the students and faculty, increasing access to general dentistry in this Dental Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA).
- 36 Dentists will be added to the workforce each year starting in 2028, the majority of whom will practice in rural and underserved areas, helping to address the shortage of Dentists working in these communities. In addition, 7.5 FTE dental assistants and 11.2 FTE support staff will be hired to staff the new clinic.

Increase in Access with Addition of Dental School at YNHS

	2022	2026
Patients	7,347	13,031 (94% increase)
Visits	18,475	35,506 (100% increase)
Agricultural Patients	3,026 (42%)	5,212 (40%)
Homeless Patients	726 (10%)	1,564 (40%)
Patients below 200% FPL	5,142 (70%)	7,688 (59%)

YNHS is a federally qualified health center serving the low income residents of Yakima County, in the agricultural heart of Central Washington. Founded in 1975, our mission is to provide affordable, accessible quality health care, promote learning opportunities for students of health professions, end homelessness and improve quality of life in our communities. With 11 locations throughout the county, YNHS provides integrated primary medical, behavioral health, dental, optometry, pharmacy, and nutrition services for women, infants, and children (WIC). YNHS is also the largest service provider in the county for those experiencing homelessness. In 2022, YNHS served 29,941 patients/clients, providing 145,363 visits for services.

