

Building the Future of WYH

There are a lot of exciting things going on here at Whitney Young Health regarding the upcoming building and renovation projects.

Bishop Beaudry Construction has been selected as the Construction Manager for the **renovation project at our Albany Health Center at 920 Lark Drive.**



With the addition of a construction manager, we can now move forward with plans and preparation for a late spring/early summer start on renovations.

To keep staff informed of the progress on this project, Facilities will soon be setting up displays in the lobby at 920 to show the new design and renovation that will transform the space and carry the Albany Health Center into the future. These plans will also be displayed on SharePoint and in future issues of the Whitney Wire

Additionally, plans are in motion for a major addition to our Addiction Services/OTP space at 10 DeWitt Drive in Albany. This expansion will allow for a fresh, new space for our patients and staff. Stay tuned for updates as we move through the process of approval, designs and planning mode.

We know that there will be a lot of changes coming up, but please be assured that Facilities will continue to provide the best service we can to all our locations, even in midst of all this exciting change and growth happening all around us.

It is our pleasure to be part of the Whitney team during these exciting times!

Thank you,
Scott Bryson
EOC Facilities Director

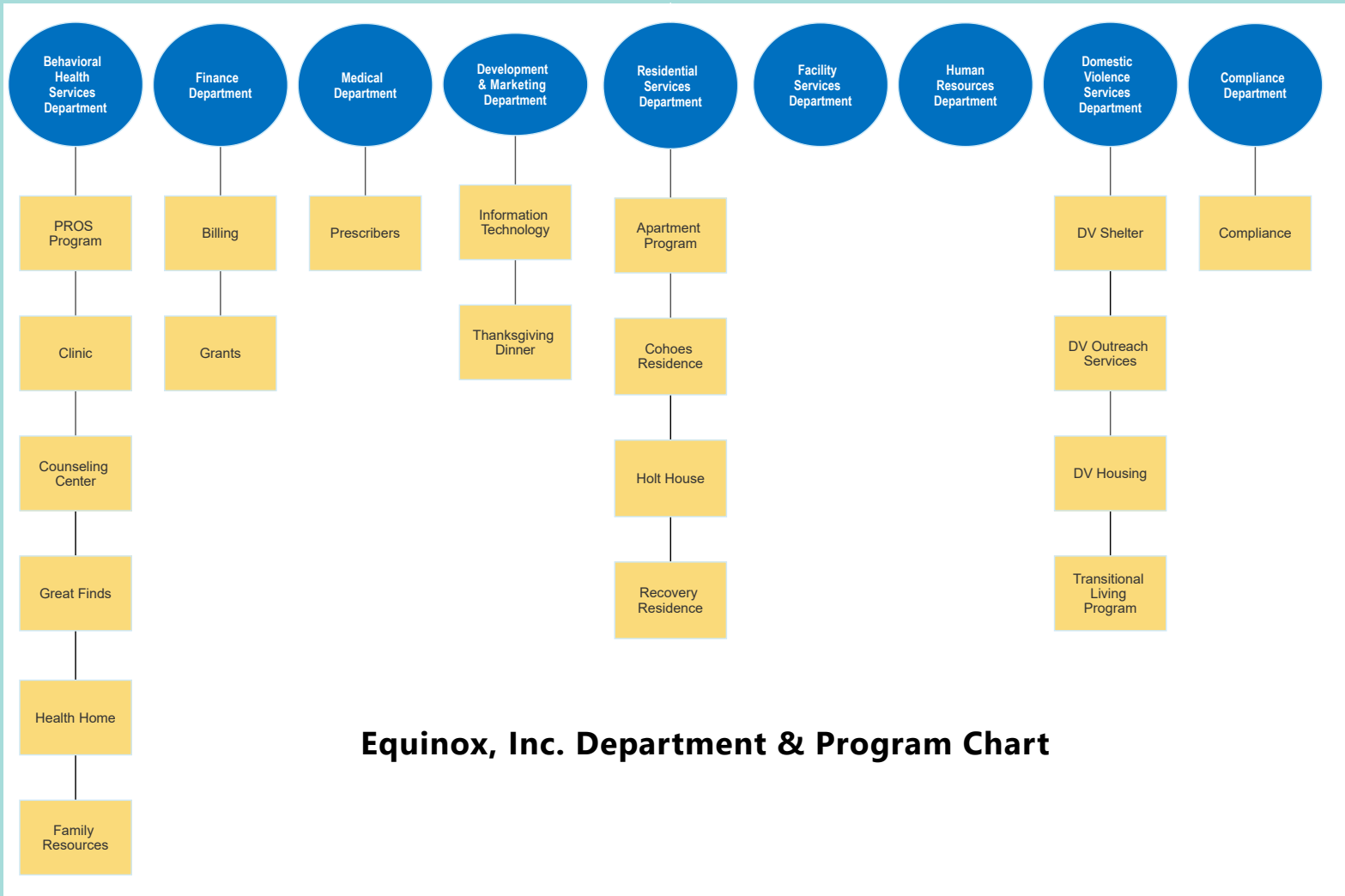
EQX Affiliation Update: WYH and EQX Sign Affiliation Paperwork

At last, we have liftoff!!!

The Affiliation Agreement (AA) and Administrative Services Agreement (ASA) have been approved by the Whitney Young Health (WYH) and Equinox (EQX) Boards. So what does that mean?

The specific responsibilities vary, but some of our WYH directors will supervise selected functions at EQX starting in mid-March. This includes, but is not limited to: Program Areas (ex., EQX Counseling Center & Health Home); IT; Facilities; and eventually Human Resources and Finance. On the next page is an illustration/chart that lays out the current structure of EQX departments and programs, (this structure will change as things develop.)

Continued on page 2



What are the next steps?

There are many parallel tracks moving behind the scenes. We are in discussion with State regulators to finalize our applications for licensure requirements.

- The WYH IT team is in the process of evaluating and ordering equipment and software to upgrade the IT infrastructure at EQX.
- **10e11**, the newly-minted electronic health record (EHR) system used at Dewitt Street for our Addiction Treatment Services program, is in the pre-implementation stage for Equinox.
- Our Operations Department is finalizing the priority list for improving of EQX facilities.

These projects are illustrative of only a portion of the work going on now and in the near future.

What happens when WYH starts managing the EQX services?

We don't anticipate many disruptions or noticeable changes for most WYH team members. If you haven't had a dialogue with your supervisor about your role with EQX programs, then most likely this affiliation will not be affecting your daily routine in the coming months.

As the affiliation process continues to develop over the next six months, things are subject to change, and we will continue to keep you up to date.

Will Backes
Chief of Staff

March 2023

Diversity, Equity & Awareness

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|---------------------|--|---|----------|---|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 Purim (Jewish) | 7 | 8 International Women's Day Holi (Hindu) | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 St. Patrick's Day (Christian) | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 Norwuz (Persian/Zoroastrian) Naw-Ruz (Baha'i) Ostara/Spring Equinox (Neopagan) | 22 Ramadan (Muslim)* * Fasting may be required for some observers | 23 | 24 | 25 International Day of Remembrance for Victims of Slavery & the Transatlantic Slave Trade |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 International Transgender Day of Visibility | |

Monthly Observances:

- WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
- NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
- NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES MONTH
- MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AWARENESS MONTH



In this video, Whitney Young Health President and CEO, Dave Shippee, discusses the rollout of the 2023 Strategic Scorecard and 2023 Strategic Objectives.

February 2023 New Hires



Welcome, New Staff!

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Kimberly Dooley | Dental Assistant |
| Dr. JP Gonzalez Torres | Dental Residency Coordinator |
| Su-Jane Lin | Director of Accounting |
| Asher Miller | CPTS Care Coordinator |
| Lindsey Santangelo | BH Clinician 1 |



WYH to participate in St. Patrick's Day parade



This year, WYH will be joining the [Albany St. Patrick's Day Parade](#), to be held on **Saturday, March 11th**.

If you would like to volunteer to march in the parade alongside the Whitney on Wheels (WOW), please contact Vanessa Gonzalez at ext. 4479 or vgonzalez@wmyhealth.org.

The parade starts at 2 pm and will march down Central Avenue. Details on exactly where and when to meet up will be provided to volunteers by Tuesday 3/7.

We hope you can join us!



Children's Dental Health Month

February is **National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM)**, and this year Whitney Young Health celebrated and observed this event through a number of initiatives and programs.

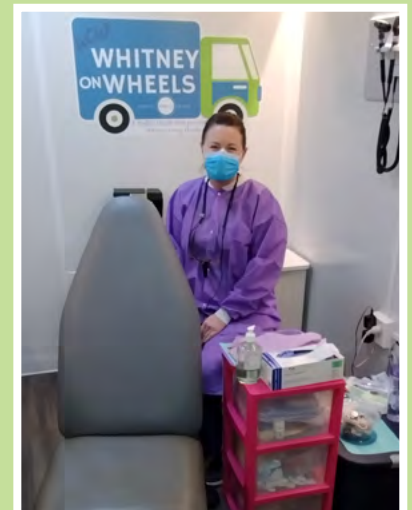
The the 2023 theme for NCDHM, spearheaded by the American Dental Association (ADA), was "**Brush, Floss, Smile**". The ADA provided flyers and posters on this theme, in English and Spanish, which were distributed to all health center locations.



On Friday, February 10, Spectrum News taped a news segment at WYH Dental about NCDHM and preventative dental care for children in general. [Click the image to the left to view the news segment.](#)

During the week of February 20-24, **Whitney on Wheels (WOW)** and **Seal a Smile** collaborated on providing dental appointments at **Marillac Family Shelter** (a program of St. Catherine's Center for Children) and at the **Swinburne Health Center**.

Seal a Smile (SAS), a joint venture of **Healthy Capital District (HCD)** and Whitney Young Health, was established to provide preventative dental care to elementary school-aged children in local schools where over 35% of the children are eligible for the federal free lunch program. SAS provides preventive dental services such as screenings, cleanings, fluoride, and sealants, delivered with the medical and administrative oversight of WYH at schools, and also at Head Start and other child-centered programs.



Summary Visit Report:

- Patients Seen at Marillac: 10
- Patients Seen on WOW at Swinburne: 21
- Total Patients Seen: 31*

Other Statistics

- Total Kids with untreated decay: 25/31 (80%)
- Total Kids with Urgent dental needs: 5/31 (16%)
- Total Kids Medicaid insured: 27/31 (87%)
- Total Kids CHP/Private Ins: 2/31 (6%)
- Total Kids uninsured, referred to HCD Navigator: 2/31 (6%)



Above Right: Dana Stewart, Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) with SAS getting ready for the next child to be seen on WOW,

Above Left: SAS RDH Paula Hoffay and SAS Dental Outreach Assistant Deidra King tabling outside the Swinburne HC,

Above right: SAS Statistics from the week of Feb. 20 -24.

All Around Whitney

Do you have something for the next issue of Whitney Wire?

The Marketing & Development Team is always looking for:

- stories
- photos
- info about programs
- upcoming events
- new developments and more...

If you have something to contribute to an upcoming issue of Whitney Wire, please contact Susan Lovelock at ext. 4472 or slovelock@wmyhealth.org or Jeff Watson At ext. 4471 or jwatson@wmyhealth.org



Staff at 920 Lark celebrate Valentine's Day

WYH Behavioral Health at UAlbany Social Work Event



On February 15, 2023, Whitney Young Health's Behavioral Health staff took part in the UAlbany School of Social Welfare's **34th Annual Field & Career Fair**.

The event gives local organizations such as WYH the chance to showcase their programs to students who are seeking 2nd-year Masters of Social Work (MSW) field placements.

The BH team enjoyed meeting with students who will be entering the field.