

Hello and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Committee Chair of the Health Care Committee! The weather has been typical of January in Oklahoma - more cold than fair days. However, we can just start to look toward Spring and the renewal of plant life.

Work continues on the new hospital and we held the ribbon-cutting for the opening of the sick child facility last month. This facility will add so much to our preschool, day care and headstart programs. Now when a child needs to be isolated because of a slight temperature, sniffles, etc., we have a facility and staff to monitor the child without costing a lost work day for a parent. This should especially be a huge help for working single mothers. There is a long waiting list to get children enrolled into the Chickasaw programs and we continue to expand our facilities to meet the growth and needs of our citizens.

Health System Administrator Bill Lance has submitted the following statistics: for the month of December, 2008, there were 215 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 17,632. December Emergency Room visits were 1,040. December saw 212 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 2,984 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 1,747 patients in December. The Ardmore Clinic saw 2,580 patients and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 1,751. The Durant Clinic saw 2,597 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 1,839 in December.

Because our figures for the Health System run on the calendar year, we have the year end total figures also. For all of 2007, there were 2,640 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 197,028. 2007

Emergency Room visits were 12,478. 2007 saw 3,008 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 33,390 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 38,406 patients in 2007. The Ardmore Clinic saw 34,757 patients and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 24,831. The Durant Clinic saw 29,173 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 19,343 in 2007. All I can say about those figures is... WOW, that is a lot of health care!

I would love to hear from you! Please contact me through my email address [mary.green@chickasaw.net](mailto:mary.green@chickasaw.net) or through the address and telephone number listed elsewhere in this and every issue of the Chickasaw Times and on the Chickasaw Nation web site. My articles are also located on the web site. Until next month, thank you.