

June 21, 1963

*Int
Indians*

Mrs. Juanita Myers
210 West Market
Anadarko, Oklahoma

Dear Mrs. Myers:

This has further reference to your letter regarding your inability to obtain medical services at the Anadarko Indian Clinic.

I am enclosing a letter from the Public Health Service which explains that since you are married to a non-Indian, you have other resources available to you. In the event you should be divorced, and can present documentary evidence to that effect, you would be in a high enough priority to receive medical services through the Indian health program.

Assuring you that it was a pleasure to check into this for you, and with best regards and good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Public Health Service
Washington 25, D. C.

JUN 20 1963

Dear Senator Monroney:

This is in further reply to your referral on May 7, 1963 of a letter from Mrs. Juanita Myers Williams of Anadarko, Oklahoma regarding medical services at the Anadarko clinic.

The Oklahoma Indian Health Area Director has advised us that Mrs. Williams' husband is a non-Indian from whom she stated in 1962 she was being divorced. Mrs. Williams was advised that in the event she was divorced from her husband she would become the head of her family and would then be in a high enough priority to receive medical services through the Indian health program.

Through her failure to provide the Public Health Service with documentary proof of her divorce, Mrs. Williams was denied medical care services, since she has other resources available to her as the wife of a non-Indian citizen.

Please let us know if we can be of further assistance in providing information regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Carruth J. Wagner

Carruth J. Wagner, M. D.
Assistant Surgeon General
Chief, Division of Indian Health

Honorable A. S. Mike Monroney
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Public Health Service
Washington 25, D. C.

MAY 16 1963

Dear Senator Monroney:

This will acknowledge your letter of May 7, 1963 enclosing a communication from Mrs. Juanita Myers of Anadarko, Oklahoma, regarding medical care for Indians in the Oklahoma Area.

The Indian Health Area Directors are in Washington for their annual conference with headquarters staff. We will consult with the Area Medical Director from Oklahoma regarding Mrs. Myers situation, and obtain information for forwarding to you for your reply to her letter.

Sincerely yours,

Carruth J. Wagner, M. D.
Assistant Surgeon General
Chief, Division of Indian Health

Honorable A. S. Mike Monroney
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

May 7, 1963

Mrs. Juanita Myers
210 West Market
Anadarko, Oklahoma

Dear Mrs. Myers:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter regarding refusal of the Indian Clinic at Anadarko to provide further treatment of your child.

Similar complaints have been received since the Indian Hospitals were taken over by the Public Health Service, and I am having them investigated.

I will also be pleased to check into the reason why you have been told that your child would receive no further treatment at the Anadarko Indian Clinic.

With best regards and good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Anadarko, Oklahoma,
May 3, 1963

Honorable Mike Monroney,

I am writing to you concerning the Indian Clinic, here in Anadarko, Oklahoma. I have been going to this Clinic until recently one of the employees, a Mrs. Ballard, R.N., told me not to come back. She told me "not to come crying on my shoulders if your kid gets sick, because we won't treat him". Dr. Saylor, the Medical officer in charge of the Lawton PHS Indian Hospital, told me it was alright if I used the services both here and at Lawton, since my husband deserted me, and I didn't have a job or any money. Mrs. Ballard told me that if I got a divorce and could prove it, they would then accept me, and my child.

Since the Indian Bureau transferred the Medical care for Indians to Public Health, a lot of Indians have suffered and some do not receive any medical care at all.

We hope our Senators and Representatives will look into the matter. In the meantime I will try to write to some of our Oklahoma Representatives in Washington.

Thank You,

Juanita Myers.

Juanita Myers
210 W. Mkt. St.
Anadarko, Okla.