



# Healing Transformed

**Thunderbird  
Treatment Center**

**OPENING 2025**





Facility renderings created by BCRA.  
All people featured in photos are models and don't have  
any relationship to Thunderbird Treatment Center.



# A Transformation Story

**IN SOME COASTAL INDIGENOUS CULTURES**, transformation can happen between animals and humans, representing a dramatic change in one's journey. These stories are told at ceremonies where it is considered an honor for a person to wear a transformation mask, as well as viewers to bear witness to the physical and spiritual change itself.



## Meeting Today's Needs

Seattle Indian Health Board (SIHB) is always evolving to meet the needs of the community. SIHB has been providing community-focused healthcare and programming for more than 50 years throughout King County.

Today, the organization operates clinics in the International District, Pioneer Square, and Lake City, as well as a mobile clinic. SIHB also operated a residential treatment program—Thunderbird Treatment Center—out of South Seattle for more than 30 years before pausing the program in order to find a new location that could accommodate more services and beds for residents healing from substance use disorder.

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*There is a tremendous need to expand access to residential treatment services locally in King County.*

**Brad Finegood, Strategic Advisor,  
Public Health – Seattle & King County**



# A New Home

In 2025, SIHB will reopen Thunderbird Treatment Center on Vashon Island as a \$36 million state-of-the-art facility.

Thunderbird will offer 92 beds and high-end amenities, including luxury rooms, a cultural healing space, an outdoor traditional garden, and customized community and counseling spaces. Residents will be surrounded by and have access to the natural environment and medicines that Vashon Island has to offer.



# Community-Centered Care

At Thunderbird, SIHB will offer a 45-day intensive inpatient treatment program (ASAM 3.1 and 3.5) that blends innovative therapies with personalized treatment plans, tailored to each individual's unique needs and goals.

Residents will have access to behavioral health professionals, individual and group counseling, Traditional Indian Medicine experts, and outdoor activities, as well as access to ancillary comprehensive services, including psychiatry, Medication-Assisted Treatment, dental, pharmacy, primary care, and an array of human services.

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*To be with people who could relate to my experience as a Native person changed everything for me.*

**Derrick Belgarde (Siletz), Executive Director, Chief Seattle Club, and former Thunderbird graduate**











92  
beds

Number of beds for people  
healing from substance use  
disorder

15  
beds

Number of beds reserved for  
private insurance and self pay



30+  
years

Number of years of intensive  
inpatient treatment experience





15  
beds

Number of beds dedicated to pregnant and parenting people

45  
day program

Number of days for intensive inpatient treatment (ASAM 3.1 and 3.5)



62%  
increase

Percentage increase of inpatient beds in King County, from 148 to 240





# Keeping Families Together

Thunderbird will be offering a very unique and important addition to its programming. Fifteen beds will be allocated in a wing of the facility for pregnant or parenting adults, where they will have the opportunity to still be with their children as they complete the program.

This groundbreaking component is modeled after the Women's Lodge in Oakland, California. Operated by the Friendship House, this program has seen tremendous success for decades by keeping families together throughout their healing.

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*Thunderbird saved my life and reconnected me to my culture, community, and family.*

**Kimberly Brown (Coeur'd Alene), Substance Use Disorder Director, SIHB, and former Thunderbird graduate**











# Addressing a Crisis

The fentanyl and opioid crisis has destroyed lives, families, and communities throughout the country, including King County. It has overwhelmed hospitals, health programs, and government officials who are doing all they can to find solutions.

Thunderbird Treatment Center will increase the number of inpatient beds by 62% in King County, while providing the services and treatment that people struggling with substance use disorder need today.

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*The opening of Thunderbird is essential to the health and wellbeing of all of Washington.*

**Esther Lucero (Diné), President and CEO, SIHB**





## Residential Treatment Reimagined

Thunderbird Treatment Center will serve as a hub for community healing, hope, and transformation. It will redefine treatment and recovery, and what these look like in King County and Washington. *We hope you will join us as we enter into a new chapter of healing.*

# For the Love of Native People

## **Thunderbird Treatment Center**

OPENING 2025

Visit [thunderbird.center](https://thunderbird.center)

to learn more

## **Seattle Indian Health Board**

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[sihb.org](https://sihb.org)

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