

# Mini Mskiki Gumik Pharmacy

The LTBB Health Department hired Chief Pharmacist Tom Sandison in May 2017. Tom came to us with over 10 years of experience operating an FQHC (federally funded health center) pharmacy, which is similar to the LTBB Pharmacy. He was looking for a new career challenge and this was a great opportunity for him and good fit for LTBB.

The summer and fall of 2017 was spent finalizing the layout and remodeling of the space for the pharmacy, obtaining the required permits, and all the things that are needed to operate a pharmacy.

This was also when the data was analyzed to determine approximately how many prescriptions we should expect to be filling per day. It soon became apparent that the pharmacy would need to hire an additional pharmacist and pharmacy technician.

On November 27<sup>th</sup> we hired pharmacist Mark Dawson and pharmacy technician Maria Sargent. Mark comes to us with over 25 years as the pharmacy manager at the Petoskey Walgreens. Mark was born and raised in Petoskey. He brings his decades of experience in serving the Petoskey community to our pharmacy.

Maria worked in Purchased and Referred Care and knows most of the patients from her experience there. She is enjoying her new position and we are very happy she has joined the pharmacy staff.

The LTBB Pharmacy officially opened on December 4, 2017! Things were hectic those first few weeks. Every prescription that had been filled at other pharmacies had to be transferred to our pharmacy. This was a time-consuming process but everyone was very understanding. It was also a very exciting time for both tribal citizens and the pharmacy staff. After several years of discussion and planning the pharmacy was now a reality.

