

# PRESS RELEASE



**Yakima Valley  
Farm Workers Clinic**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic Statement on the Toppenish Pool**

“Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic is deeply committed to all the communities we serve, and we hold a special connection to Toppenish, Washington; the community where we were founded,” stated Christy Trotter, CEO of Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic.

The Toppenish Pool is a cherished resource for the children and families living in and around Toppenish. It is a vital community asset that many individuals, families, and organizations care deeply about, as do we. However, it has also been a large and complex project with significant challenges.

Several critical issues needed to be addressed before the pool could be safely and legally reopened. For example, a water heater was damaged over the winter and had to be replaced to meet legal requirements for reopening. In a decision made at the end of June, our lease was not scheduled to begin until July 1 which was much later than we had hoped when first embarking on this project. This later repair timeline that included ordering, receiving, and installing key parts and safety mechanism would significantly delay opening leaving only a couple of weeks of potential pool operation this summer. Faced with this difficult timeline, we couldn't balance the significant costs for rush orders with the limited access this season.

Despite these challenges, we want to emphasize our unwavering commitment to the Toppenish Pool. Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic has been actively fundraising and had already begun hiring and training lifeguards in anticipation of the season. We remain hopeful that, by working collaboratively with all involved parties, we can ensure a full season of summer activities for the 2026 pool season.

Trotter continues, “I would be remiss to not express our deep gratitude for the tireless efforts of the volunteers that make up The Friends of Toppenish Pool who have been our partners throughout this project.”

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*Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic is one of the Pacific Northwest's largest community health centers, providing medical, dental, behavioral health and social services to more than 200,000 people a year. With 49 unique service locations across Oregon and Washington, we deliver affordable, comprehensive primary care for underserved populations in our communities. We also extend our network of care through our mobile health units and virtual visit technology, bringing essential care to our more remote patients. Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic employs over 2,000 staff in addition to our medical and dental residents, administrative fellows, students, and volunteers, all of whom are dedicated to bringing quality care to those in our communities who need it most. Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization recognized by HRSA, The Joint Commission, and The National Committee for Quality Assurance for our accomplishments in community health care. For more information, please visit [yvfwc.com/press](http://yvfwc.com/press). Newsletter sign up at [yvfwc.com/newsletter](http://yvfwc.com/newsletter).*