

A multi-strand necklace is displayed against a dark background. The necklace features several strands of white, cylindrical beads, interspersed with smaller black beads. Larger, oval-shaped brown beads and various green beads, including some with iridescent or translucent qualities, are also part of the design. The strands are arranged in a way that creates a textured, layered appearance.

# Legislative Commission on Indian Services

Department of Human Services  
Government to Government  
2017 Report

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## INTRODUCTION

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The Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) is pleased to share this 2015 Government-to-Government Report with the Legislative Commission on Indian Services, as required by Senate Bill 770. SB 770 institutionalized the May 22, 1996 Executive Order EO-96-30. The executive order established a process to "assist in resolving potential conflicts, maximize key inter-governmental relations, and enhance an exchange of ideas and resources for the greater good of all of Oregon's citizens."

The description and inclusion of all 5 program areas of DHS.

- How a program area in service delivery is driven by key concerns of tribes and how the remedy of potential conflicts in the fields of health and child welfare can be resolved with active consultation and formal agreements with tribal governments.
- How the program area works in a collaborative framework to share information that effect tribal citizens in the health and child welfare fields.
- How DHS leadership creates and supports a process that leverages strong relationships to engage stakeholders.
- How DHS strives to identify resources and partnerships that could benefit the tribal citizens of Oregon.
- In 2017 the 5 program areas convened with the Oregon tribes specific to building relationship and adhering to the intention of SB770. On May 25th, and November 29th, the tribes and the program areas convened on identified priority areas in serving the aged and accessing additional federal funding through targeted case management. These areas will be a continuing activity for DHS for improvement in equity of services to tribal communities.

All Native Americans residing in Oregon, regardless of tribal enrollment also are Oregon citizens and are entitled to receive the services provided by DHS to Oregonians. The relationship with tribes and their governments is of key importance at the level of state leadership, management and administrative practices, and in the providing of direct services and resources.

Key Program Areas described in this report include:

- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- Aging and People with Disabilities
- Child welfare
  - Tribal Affairs
- Self Sufficiency
- Vocational Rehabilitation

Oregon's Native American population is estimated at between 45,000 and 50,000 individuals. Tribes in Oregon are located in each corner of the state with a diverse and rich heritage. The purposefulness of this report is to describe with clarity and detail how tribes are consulted; what resources are dedicated to tribal communities, and how strategy evolves to consistently include stakeholder input

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## DIRECTORS MESSAGE

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Our partnership with Oregon's federally recognized Tribes is an important part of our work to help our tribal members achieve safety, health and independence. The Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) and our Tribes have a shared goal for supporting people in realizing their full potential and assure equity of services for all Oregonians.

DHS provides services in five program areas:

- Aging and People with Disabilities;
- Child Welfare;
- Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities;
- Self-Sufficiency Programs; and,
- Vocational Rehabilitation.

Each year we celebrate the positive results of our work together and look to the future to identify the next steps to take to ensure our delivery of services meets the needs of our tribal partners. Maintaining a strong government-to-government relationship and consistently spending time together throughout the year to listen, learn and take policy and practice actions to meet needs are foundational to our success.

We appreciate the partnership of our Tribes and look forward to continuing the meaningful collaboration to improve equity in the services we provide to Oregon's Tribes. We realize that we have some work to do to meet the full expectations of our tribal partners particularly as it relates to Indian Child Welfare Act. We will commit to work in active consultation and partnership to fulfill their expectations and achieve the best possible outcomes for our tribal members.

Respectfully,

Fariborz Pakseresht, Director  
Oregon Department of Human Services

Enrolled

## Senate Bill 770

Sponsored by Senators BROWN, CLARNO; Senators CASTILLO, CORCORAN, DECKERT, FERRIOLI, GORDLY, MESSERLE, METSGER, NELSON, SHIELDS, STARR, TROW, Representatives GARDNER, KNOPP, KRIEGER, MONNES ANDERSON, NOLAN, ROSENBAUM, G SMITH, VERGER, V WALKER, WESTLUND (at the request of Commission on Indian Services)

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to government-to-government relations between the State of Oregon and American Indian tribes in Oregon.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1. As used in sections 1 to 4 of this 2001 Act:**

- (1) "State agency" has the meaning given that term in ORS 358.635.
- (2) "Tribe" means a federally recognized Indian tribe in Oregon.

**SECTION 2. (1) A state agency shall develop and implement a policy that:**

- (a) Identifies individuals in the state agency who are responsible for developing and implementing programs of the state agency that affect tribes.
  - (b) Establishes a process to identify the programs of the state agency that affect tribes.
  - (c) Promotes communication between the state agency and tribes.
  - (d) Promotes positive government-to-government relations between the state and tribes.
  - (e) Establishes a method for notifying employees of the state agency of the provisions of sections 1 to 4 of this 2001 Act and the policy the state agency adopts under this section.
- (2) In the process of identifying and developing the programs of the state agency that affect tribes, a state agency shall include representatives designated by the tribes.
- (3) A state agency shall make a reasonable effort to cooperate with tribes in the development and implementation of programs of the state agency that affect tribes, including the use of agreements authorized by ORS 190.110.

**SECTION 3. (1) At least once a year, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, in consultation with the Commission on Indian Services, shall provide training to state agency managers and employees who have regular communication with tribes on the legal status of tribes, the legal rights of members of tribes and issues of concern to tribes.**

(2) Once a year, the Governor shall convene a meeting at which representatives of state agencies and tribes may work together to achieve mutual goals.

(3) No later than December 15 of every year, a state agency shall submit a report to the Governor and to the Commission on Indian Services on the activities of the state agency under sections 1 to 4 of this 2001 Act. The report shall include:

- (a) The policy the state agency adopted under section 2 of this 2001 Act.
- (b) The names of the individuals in the state agency who are responsible for developing and implementing programs of the state agency that affect tribes.

(c) The process the state agency established to identify the programs of the state agency that affect tribes.

(d) The efforts of the state agency to promote communication between the state agency and tribes and government-to-government relations between the state and tribes.

(e) A description of the training required by subsection (1) of this section.

(f) The method the state agency established for notifying employees of the state agency of the provisions of sections 1 to 4 of this 2001 Act and the policy the state agency adopts under section 2 of this 2001 Act.

**SECTION 4.** Nothing in sections 1 to 4 of this 2001 Act creates a right of action against a state agency or a right of review of an action of a state agency.

**Passed by Senate April 2, 2001**

**Received by Governor:**

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Secretary of Senate

.....M.,.....

**Approved:**

.....  
President of Senate

.....M.,....., 2001  
..... Governor

**Passed by House May 11, 2001**

**Filed in Office of Secretary of State:**

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Speaker of House

.....M.,....., 2001

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Secretary of State



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## BURNS PAIUTE TRIBE

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The Burns Paiute Reservation is located north of Burns, Oregon in Harney County. The current tribal members are primarily the descendants of the "Wadatika" band of Paiute Indians that roamed in Central and Southern Oregon.

The Burns Paiute Tribe descended from the Wadatika band, named after the wada seeds they collected near the shores of Malheur Lake to use as food. Bands were usually named after an important food source in their area. The Wadatika's territory included approximately 52,500 square miles between the Cascade Mountain Range in Central Oregon and the Payette Valley north of Boise, Idaho, and from southern parts of the Blue Mountains near the headwaters of the Powder River north of John Day, to the desert south of Steens Mountain.

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## CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF COOS, LOWER UMPQUA AND SIUSLAW INDIANS

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The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians are made up of 3 tribes (4 Bands): Hanis Coos (Coos Proper), Miluk Coos, Lower Umpqua Tribe; and Siuslaw Tribe.

The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians trace their ancestry back to the aboriginal inhabitants of the South-Central coast of Oregon. Their historic homelands extended from the richly forested slopes of the Coastal Range in the East to the rocky shoreline of the Pacific Ocean in the West, a vast region of some 1.6 million acres. They lived peacefully in an area characterized by moderate temperatures and abundant natural resources, including fish, shellfish, wildlife, and a rich variety of edible plants.

Today we strive to perpetuate our unique identity as Indians and as members of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, and to promote and protect that identity. It is our goal to preserve and promote our cultural, religious and historical beliefs while continuing to learn and grow as a part of the community we live in. We also work to promote the social and economic welfare of our members both inside and outside of our five-county service area here in Oregon. Our five-county service area is made up of Coos, Curry, Lincoln, Douglas and Lane counties



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## CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE

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The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde were restored to federal recognition on November 22, 1983, having been terminated in 1954. Ancestors of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde lived in the Willamette Valley, the surrounding mountains, and the northern portion of the Oregon Coast. They maintained a culture similar to the coastal cultures of whom they are a part.

Beginning in 1856, the US government removed over 20 Indian bands from their homelands and relocated them on the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation. This reservation was established pursuant to treaty arrangements in 1855 and an Executive Order of June 30, 1857. The reservation contained approximately 60,000 acres and was located on the eastern side of the Coast Range of Mountains on the headwaters of the Yamhill River in the Willamette Valley, about 60 miles southwest of Portland and about 25 miles from the ocean. In early 1989 the Tribes successfully acquired a 10,300 acre reservation, mostly timber lands, near the town of Grand Ronde in Polk County. The Tribe's territories include Washington, Marion, Yamhill, Polk, Tillamook, and Multnomah counties.

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## CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF SILETZ INDIANS

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The Confederated Tribes of Siletz is a federally recognized confederation of 27 bands, originating from northern California to southern Washington. Termination was imposed upon the Siletz by the United States government in 1955. In November of 1977, they were the first tribe in the state of Oregon and second in the United States to be fully restored to federal recognition. In 1992, the tribe achieved self governance, which allows us to compact directly with the US Government. This gave control and accountability over our tribal programs and funding. We occupy and manage a 3,666 acre reservation located in Lincoln County, Oregon. They manage several resources, including water, timber and fish.



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## CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION

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Three Tribes make up the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation: Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla. The people of the three Tribes once had a homeland of 6.4 million acres in northeastern Oregon and southeastern Washington. In 1855, the Tribes and the United States Government negotiated a Treaty in which the Tribes "ceded," or surrendered possession of, much of the 6.4 million acres in exchange for a Reservation homeland of 250,000 acres.

The three Tribes also reserved rights in the Treaty, which include the right to fish at "usual and accustomed" sites, and to hunt and gather traditional foods and medicines on public lands within the ceded areas. These rights are generally referred to as "Treaty reserved rights."

As a result of federal legislation in the late 1800s that reduced its size, the Umatilla Reservation now is 172,000 acres -- 158,000 acres just east of Pendleton, Oregon plus 14,000 acres in the McKay, Johnson, and McCoy Creek areas southeast of Pilot Rock, Oregon.

The day-to-day work of the tribal government is carried out by a staff of roughly 520 employees and includes departments such as administration, health and human services, natural resources, economic and community development, tribal services, education, fire protection, and police. An additional 800 employees are employed at the Wildhorse Casino and Resort and another 300 at Cayuse Technologies. The CTUIR is one of the largest employers in northeastern Oregon.



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## COQUILLE INDIAN TRIBE

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The Coquille Indian Tribe was terminated in 1954. On June 28, 1989, the Coquilles regained their status as a federally recognized Indian tribe. After 35 years of "termination" and federal policy that denied their status as Indian people, Public Law 101-42 restored the Coquilles eligibility to participate in federal Indian programs and to receive federal funds for tribal education, health, and law enforcement programs. The Coquille Restoration Act recognizes the sovereignty of the tribe and its authority as tribal government to manage and administer political and legal jurisdiction over its lands, businesses, and community members. Its members are descended from people who inhabited the watersheds of the Coquille River system, a small portion of Coos Bay at the South Slough, and areas north and south of the Coquille River mouth where it enters the ocean at present day Bandon. Coquille ancestral territory encompassed more than 700,000 acres, ceded to the US Government. Coquille headmen signed the treaties in 1851 and 1855. Because neither treaty was ever ratified by Congress, these Coquille people and their descendants were denied a permanent homeland until the modern Coquille Tribe negotiated several land purchases, which constitute today's 6,400 acre tribal land base.

The tribe is the second largest employer in Coos County, Oregon with successful business ventures in forestry, arts and exhibits, gaming and hospitality, assisted living and memory care, high speed telecommunications and renewable energy.



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## COW CREEK BAND OF UMPQUA INDIANS

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The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians is one of nine federally recognized Indian Tribal Governments in the State of Oregon. The Cow Creek Tribal Nation, located in Southwestern Oregon, has nearly 1,594 members who are governed by an elected eleven member council known as the Tribal Board of Directors. The Cow Creek Tribe has a rich history in southern Oregon that reflects hard work, perseverance and the desire to be self-reliant.

The Cow Creek Tribe lived between the Cascade and Coast Ranges in Southwestern Oregon, along the South Umpqua River and its primary feeder stream, Cow Creek. This territory included the entire Umpqua watershed; however, the Tribe was very mobile. A vast area surrounding this watershed was known as their trade, hunting and gathering area. This area extended north into the Willamette Valley and to the east to Crater Lake and the Klamath Marsh area, as well as reaching as far west as the Coast Range and south through the Rogue River Watershed into the Siskiyou.

The Tribal leadership maintains a long standing commitment to doing what is right for the tribe and the community. Considerable efforts have been made to balance and provide economic development for the tribe as well as with partners throughout the area.

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## KLAMATH TRIBES

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We are the Klamath Tribes, the Klamaths, the Modocs and the Yahooskin. We have lived in the Klamath Basin of Oregon, from time beyond memory. Our legends and oral history tell about when the world and the animals were created, when the animals and gmok'am'c - the Creator – sat together and discussed the creation of man. If stability defines success, our presence here has been, and always will be, essential to the economic well-being of our homeland and those who abide here.

In 1974 the Federal Court ruled that we had retained our Treaty Rights to hunt, fish and gather, and to be consulted in land management decisions when those decisions affected our Treaty Rights. In 1986, we were successful in regaining Restoration of Federal Recognition for our Tribes. Although our land base was not returned to us, we were directed to compose a plan to regain economic self-sufficiency. Our Economic Self-sufficiency Plan reflects the Klamath Tribes' continued commitment to playing a pivotal role in the local economy.

During the Economic Self-sufficiency Plan (ESSP) development process, the Planning Department and other committees reviewed hundreds of ideas and concept combinations that would help attain our much-desired goal of long term economic self-sufficiency. After a lengthy analysis process the recommendation was made and accepted by the Tribal Council and the General Council, that the Tribes construct a casino. With our usual energy and determination the Tribes efforts became reality. In 1997, we opened the doors to our first enterprise in 45 years since termination... Kla-Mo-Ya Casino.



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## CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF WARM SPRINGS

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Home of the Warm Springs, Wasco, and Paiute tribes, the Warm Springs Reservation is inhabited by nearly 4,000 tribal members, most of whom live in or around the town of Warm Springs. Within the community, the Tribal government provides a variety of services, including education, public safety, utilities, health, resource management, business development and recreation. Many services not offered by the Tribal government are provided by locally-owned private businesses. The tribal economy is based primarily on natural resources, including hydropower, forest products and ranching. Tourism and recreation also make important contributions.

Since 1938, tribal members have conducted their affairs through their constituted government the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon. The Confederated Tribes is governed by a Tribal Council which has a combination of legislative, executive and judicial responsibilities which include setting policy and appointing key personnel in the Tribal government and Tribal enterprises.

Regardless of our success in the present, the people of Warm Springs realize that we must hold on to our past and bring it into the future lest the spiritual and cultural values that sustained our people for centuries be lost.

# Department of Human Services Program Areas

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## INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) program strives to support choices of individuals with I/DD and their families within communities by promoting and providing services that are person-centered, self-directed, flexible, community inclusive, and supportive of the discovery and development of each individual's unique gifts, talents and abilities.

We are committed to work toward service options to ensure that people with I/DD have the opportunity to have fulfilling and meaningful lives, allowing them to contribute to and enjoy their communities.

We currently help more than 26,700 children, adults and their families have the best quality of life possible at all stages of their lifespan. Many individuals with I/DD are eligible for Medicaid-funded, home- and community-based services which provides access to services in their homes and local communities, instead of in institutional settings.

We seek to achieve the following outcomes and goals:

- Provide an array of services that are equitable and culturally competent.
- Be responsive to emerging demands for individualized, self-directed services and provide sufficient service choices.
- Ensure the health and safety of individuals served.
- Promote maximum independence and engagement in homes and communities.
- Leverage use of available federal funding options.

An individual's eligibility for I/DD services is determined by a Community Developmental Disabilities Program (CDDP), typically run by a county. Adults who receive services in-home may be served by either a CDDP or a Support Services Brokerage. Individuals receiving services in a residential setting are served through the CDDP.

The state also operates the Stabilization and Crisis Unit, providing 24-hour residential care and supervision to adults and children with I/DD who have complex support needs.

**Key Contact** for I/DD (General): Lilia Teninty, Director

**Phone:** (503) 945-6918

**Email:** [LILIA.TENINTY@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:LILIA.TENINTY@dhsosha.state.or.us)

## AGING AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM

The Department of Human Services Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) program assists older adults and people with disabilities of all ages to achieve well-being through opportunities for community living, employment, family support and services that promote independence, choice and dignity. APD and Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) employees throughout Oregon are responsible for providing direct client services through a network of local offices and the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC). Employees also determine eligibility for certain medical programs (aged & disability) provided through the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Programs administered include:

- Older Americans Act;
- Oregon Project Independence;
- Direct financial support (Medicare Premium assistance, Oregon Health Plan, General Assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs);
- Disability Determination Services; and
- Long-term services and supports, including in-home services, community-based facilities and nursing facilities.

### 2017 Challenges

In 2017 Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) committed to undergoing a series of self-assessment discussions to understand our role in systemic inequities in working with Oregon's Tribes, in addition to historically underserved communities across Oregon. Through these discussions we learned one of the greatest challenges we face when working with Tribes is trust. By nature of being a government entity, trust is not given easy by Tribes who have faced eradication, removal of lands, the breakup of families, and the loss of traditions and languages by Government agencies. It has been in these discussions and acknowledgements of our role that we have learned to listen and offer the collaboration necessary to increase access to services for our Native American Oregonians. APD has visited with 6 of the 9 Oregon Tribes in the last year, at least once throughout the state. Knowing the challenges and the histories of the Tribes our work is barely beginning. We have seen some growth in service access since we started having these discussions and will continue, as the Tribes see fit.

### American Indian/Alaskan Natives Served Through Older Americans Act Services

2016	315
2017	542

### 2016 APD Consumers

Population	Total Receiving Long Term Services	Number Receiving Long Term Services by Race/Ethnicity	Percent Receiving Long Term Services by Race/Ethnicity
Non-Hispanic Native American/Alaskan Native	31,711	474	1.5%

<b>2017 APD Consumers</b>			
<b>Population</b>	<b>Total Receiving Long Term Services</b>	<b>Number Receiving Long Term Services by Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Percent Receiving Long Term Services by Race/Ethnicity</b>
<b>Non-Hispanic Native American/Alaskan Native</b>	33,985	531	1.6%

**Key Contact for APD (General):** Ashley Carson Cottingham

**Phone:** (503) 947-1100

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### **Older Americans Act**

This is a federal program administered through APD. It provides federal funding for locally developed support programs for individuals ages 60 and older. APD distributes funds to local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA's) for service delivery through subcontractors. More than 450,000 Oregonians are expected to access these services in 2017. AAA's develop services that meet the needs and preferences unique to individuals in their local area. Program mandates require services target those with the most significant economic and social need, to minorities and those residing in rural areas. There are no income or asset requirements to receive services except those related to the Older Worker Employment Program.

APD distributes federal funds to the AAA's using a federally approved intra-state funding formula based on the demographics and square mileage of each area. Programs might include; family caregiver supports, medication management, nutrition via congregate and home-delivered meal programs, senior employment, legal services or elder abuse prevention services. They may also provide assistance to senior centers and sponsor and promote evidence-based wellness and chronic health condition management activities.

**Key Contact for Older Americans Act:** Kristi Murphy

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### **Oregon Project Independence**

Oregon Project Independence (OPI) is a purely state-funded program offering in-home services and related supports to individuals 60 years of age and older or people under 60 years of age who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia disorder. OPI consumers must not be eligible for Medicaid and must meet the requirements of the long term care Service Priority Rule. In-home services available through OPI include personal care, homemaker and chore assistance, transportation, adult day care, respite care, case management, registered nursing services and home-delivered meals. Case management is provided for free, while other services are provided on a sliding scale and are free to families below the federal poverty level. Services are provided through Area Agencies on Aging.

**Key Contact for OPI:** Kristi Murphy

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## Aging and Disability Resource Connection — of OREGON —

### Aging and Disability Resource Connection

The ADRC is the first contact to make to find information and services to address aging or disability needs. The Aging and Disability Resource Connection of Oregon can help you learn about public and privately paid services in your local community. The ADRC has professionally trained staff who can help you and your family with immediate needs, or help you plan for the future.

The ADRC of Oregon is a statewide resource for everyone, regardless of income level, and can be reached by calling a toll free number, visiting a website or by contacting a local ADRC office. [www.ADRCofofOregon.org](http://www.ADRCofofOregon.org) 1-855-673-2372 1-855-ORE-ADRC

**Key Contact for ADRC:** Kristi Murphy

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### Direct Financial Support

Programs are designed to meet a variety of special circumstances for certain low-income populations.

**Cash Payments – special needs** APD is required to meet maintenance of effort (MOE) payment for low-income aged and disabled Oregonians who receive federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. These benefits are focused on payments that allow clients to retain independence and mobility in a safe environment. Examples of Special Needs Payments include; help for non-medical transportation, repairs of broken appliances such as a furnace, or for such things as adapting a home's stairs into a ramp.

**Employed Persons with Disabilities Program (EPD)** this program allows people with a disability to work to their full extent and not lose Medicaid coverage. To be eligible, a person must be deemed disabled by Social Security Administration (SSA) criteria, be employed and have adjusted income of less than 250% Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Eligible individuals pay a monthly participation fee and are eligible for the full range of Medicaid benefits and services.

**Other Benefits** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requires DHS to coordinate with Medicare in many areas and clients need help accessing other programs for which they are eligible. The federal Medicare program is the most common program clients need assistance with. APD determines client eligibility and submits client data to CMS for two Medicare-related programs: Medicare buy-in and Medicare Part D low-income subsidy. APD served more than 140,000 clients in these two programs over one year. These programs help low-income beneficiaries with their cost sharing requirements. Securing this coverage also Medicare remains in a "first payor" status, ultimately saving the State's Medicaid program significant money.

**Key Contact for Direct Financial Support:** Trevor Waskin

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### **General Assistance**

The General Assistance program serves Oregonians with severe disabilities who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness who do not have children living with them, and who are not yet receiving Social Security disability benefits. GA consumers are provided with free assistance with their Social Security applications and appeals, along with a small amount of cash and some support for housing and utilities.

This current version of the GA program became operational on July 1, 2016. The manager worked with the DHS Tribal Affairs Director to present information on GA to the Tribes prior to the launch of the program.

**Key contact for General Assistance:** Erika Miller

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### **Disability Determination Services**

People with disabilities may be able to qualify for one of two federal disability programs: Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). These programs are governed by the federal Social Security Administration (SSA) and are administered by the Department of Human Services under contract. While these two programs are different in many ways, both are administered by the Social Security Administration and only individuals who have a disability and meet medical criteria may qualify for benefits under either program.

Social Security Disability Insurance pays benefits to you and certain members of your family if you are "insured," meaning that you worked long enough and paid Social Security taxes. Supplemental Security Income pays benefits based on financial need.

**Key Contact for Disability Determination Services:** Jay Minten

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### **Long Term Services and Supports**

Oregon assists qualifying low-income older adults, people with disabilities and other adults covered under the Affordable Care Act expansion population with long-term services and supports. Assistance is to assist individuals with the activities of daily living (ADLs) and instrumental activities of daily living.

ADLs are those personal functional activities required by all of us for continued well-being, which are essential for health and safety. Activities include tasks such as:

- Bathing
- Personal Hygiene
- Cognition
- Behavior
- Dressing

- Grooming
- Eating
- Elimination (Toileting including bowel and bladder)
- Mobility
- Transfers

IADLs include tasks such as:

- Housekeeping
- Laundry
- Meal Preparation
- Medication Management
- Shopping
- Transportation

### **In-Home Services**

In-home services are the cornerstone of Oregon's community-based care system. For seniors and people with physical disabilities, the ability to live in their own homes is compromised by the need for support in regular daily living activities. For more than 25 years, Oregon has created options to meet people's needs in their own homes. All options are funded with support of the Medicaid program through home and community-based waivers. Oregon has been able to create cost-effective programs that meet people's needs in their homes and other community settings using these waivers and spared Oregonians from the unnecessary use of higher cost services, primarily offered in nursing facilities. Services include in-home support through individual Home Care Workers, In-Home Agencies and Home Delivered Meal providers.

### **Community-Based Care**

These include a variety of 24-hour care settings and services to provide an alternative to nursing facilities. Services include assistance with activities of daily living, medication oversight and social activities. Services can include nursing and behavioral supports to meet complex needs. State and federal guidelines related to health and safety of these facilities have to be met. Services include adult foster homes, assisted living facilities, residential care facilities and memory care facilities.

### **Nursing Facilities**

Institutional services for seniors and people with physical disabilities are provided in nursing facilities licensed and regulated by DHS. Nursing facilities provide individuals with skilled nursing services, housing, related services and ongoing assistance with activities of daily living.

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### **Agreements**

The Aging and People with Disabilities Program has two formal agreements in place. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is currently under review to reissue a new related to Adult Foster Homes. A second MOU with the Confederate Tribes of Warm Springs regarding Adult Protective Services is also under review and seeking renewal.



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## **CHILD WELFARE**

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### **Federal Policy, Planning and Resources**

Child Welfare has increased collaboration and engagement of the tribes in program planning and implementation which includes federal Program Improvement Plan workgroups, child welfare training redesign and the Child Abuse Hotline steering committee.

The Department provides ongoing training for SSBG, SOC, Title IV-E and Title IV-B part 2 funding sources on-site with individual tribes, group training for tribes. The trainings are primarily focused on providing technical assistance to tribes with Title IV-E agreements, but have been expanded to all Oregon Tribes depending on the topic. The trainings are intended to shorten the response time for questions from the tribes and allow more frequent discussion between the State and the tribes, while providing an opportunity to follow-up on training related to federal funds.

In 2017, 15 individual trainings and technical assistance visits were conducted with the tribes by the Office of Child Welfare Program, Federal Policy, Planning and Resources (FPPR). These included trainings for new staff, assistance for reporting and documentation focusing on administrative claiming, safety requirements, certification standards and coordination of Title IV-E eligibility needs.

Training is also provided to all Oregon Tribes as requested on reporting and documentation requirements for SSBG, SOC and Title IV-B Part 2. Daily technical assistance is available by phone or email to all Oregon Tribes on OR-Kids and federal and state funding sources with each tribe. Child Welfare has established the Racial Equity Advisory Committee Tillicum (R.E.A.C.T.) to lead our racial equity efforts statewide. The committee is comprised of representatives from DHS, Child Welfare (central office & field), Tribes and community partners, including the Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest, Inc. (NARA). R.E.A.C.T. will focus their efforts on workforce development, data-based decision making, policy & practice and community capacity building.

### **SSBG, Title XX Agreements**

Through the Social Service Block Grant (SSBG) Agreement, funds are authorized to the tribes to support their work to provide effective, culturally relevant child welfare services to Indian children and their families.

The objective of this Agreement is to provide SSBG funding to the tribe directly to meet the needs of individuals residing within the tribe. Services may include, but are not restricted to: daycare for children, protective services for children, special services to persons with disabilities, adoption, case management, health-related services, transportation, foster care for children or adults, substance abuse, housing, home-delivered meals, independent/transitional living, employment services or any other social services found necessary by the Tribe for its population.

All nine of the federally recognized tribes of Oregon receive SSBG funds. The source of these funds is Title XX of the Social Security Act and must therefore meet program requirements for Title XX and stay within the parameters outlined in Oregon's Title XX state plan.

<b>Tribe</b>	<b>SSBG Funding Received</b>	<b>Clients Served</b>
<b>The Burns Paiute Tribe</b>	\$3,719.37	44
<b>Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua &amp; Siuslaw Indians</b>	\$7,934.65	27
<b>Coquille Indian Tribe</b>	\$7,633.56	7
<b>Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians</b>	\$13,566.83	220
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde</b>	\$29,329.86	250
<b>The Klamath Tribes</b>	\$21,855.70	248
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Siletz</b>	\$30,587.36	95
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Umatilla</b>	\$24,813.48	291
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs</b>	\$34,891.20	211

### **System of Care**

Oregon's System of Care (SOC) child welfare model is the result of a collaborative agreement between the Department of Human Services, the Juvenile Rights Project (JRP), and the National Center for Youth Law. That agreement was in response to the concern that child welfare agencies were failing to address individual needs of children in the foster care system. The agreement included provisions for the use of flexible funds to meet the individual needs of children and their families in order to promote safety, permanency and well-being, and to employ a strength/needs-based philosophy and practice relative to child welfare.

All nine of the federally recognized tribes of Oregon receive SOC funds. These funds are state General Fund dollars, with no federal requirements. There is an agreement between the state and the tribes that outlines the requirements of how SOC funds are to be used and how the expenditures are to be reported.

<b>Tribe</b>	<b>SOC Funding Received</b>	<b>Clients Served</b>
<b>The Burns Paiute Tribe</b>	\$10,106.30	17
<b>Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua &amp; Siuslaw Indians</b>	\$18,616.80	26
<b>Coquille Indian Tribe</b>	\$18,166.88	28
<b>Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians</b>	\$29,247.46	784
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde</b>	\$59,228.30	17
<b>The Klamath Tribes</b>	\$30,298.96	34
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Siletz</b>	\$19,251.91	10
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Umatilla</b>	\$37,519.06	24
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs</b>	\$70,575.63	178

### **Title IV-E Agreements**

Title IV-E provides federal reimbursement for the costs of eligible children in foster care, adoption assistance and guardianship assistance. It covers food, clothing, shelter, daily supervision, school supplies, reasonable travel for visitation, and related administrative costs, but does not cover the costs of treatment services. All Title IV-E eligible children are to receive medical coverage under Title

XIX (Medicaid). DHS pays the non-federal share of the Title IV-E payment, e.g., the match payment from the state's General Fund at approximately 37% of the child's monthly cost of care.

Title IV-E is an open-ended federal entitlement program, governed by the Social Security Act and monitored by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Region X office.

DHS currently has agreements with seven Oregon tribes for Title IV-E funding:

<b>Tribe</b>	<b>Title IV-E Funding Received</b>	<b>Clients Served</b>
<b>The Burns Paiute Tribe</b>		
<b>Coquille Indian Tribe</b>		
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde</b>	\$375,199.90	30
<b>The Klamath Tribes</b>		
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Siletz</b>	\$316,086.75	44
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Umatilla</b>	\$441,053.27	25
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs</b>		

DHS has established a standard procedure for obtaining and maintaining documentation of each Tribe's certification procedure, including safety check requirements.

### **Title IV-B Part 2**

The primary goals of Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) are to prevent the unnecessary separation of children from their families, improve the quality of care and services to children and their families, and ensure permanency for children by reuniting them with their parents, by adoption or by another permanent living arrangement. States are to spend most of the funding for services that address: family support, family preservation, time-limited family reunification and adoption promotion and support.

The services are designed to help State child welfare agencies and eligible Indian tribes establish and operate combined, preventive family preservation services and community-based family support services for families at risk. Funds go directly to child welfare agencies and eligible Indian tribes to be used in accordance with their 5-year plans.

All nine of the federally recognized tribes of Oregon receive Title IV-B Part 2 funds.

<b>Tribe</b>	<b>Title IV-B Part 2 Funding Received</b>	<b>Clients Served</b>
<b>The Burns Paiute Tribe</b>	\$8,600.00	
<b>Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua &amp; Siuslaw Indians</b>	\$8,600.00	15
<b>Coquille Indian Tribe</b>	\$8,600.00	38
<b>Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians</b>	\$8,600.00	180
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde</b>	\$8,600.00	19
<b>The Klamath Tribes</b>	\$8,600.00	
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Siletz</b>	\$8,600.00	
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Umatilla</b>	\$8,600.00	7
<b>The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs</b>	\$8,600.00	

## **Training**

Intentionally left blank.

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## **TRIBAL AFFAIRS UNIT – DIRECTORS OFFICE**

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The Tribal Affairs Unit in the DHS Directors office is driven by the key concerns of tribes, and how to remedy potential conflicts. The unit is staffed by:

Nadja Jones Tribal Affairs Director/Senior ICWA Manager

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### **2017 Goals**

The goals were established in collaboration and engagement by the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Advisory Council. The shift toward understanding and remedying system gaps in providing for children in state care was a priority for 2017.

**Identified Goal:** ICWA compliance training system – revamping CORE, Supervisor training, New and Advanced training, incorporate training improvements into tribal/state conference; BIA ICWA implementation rules and procedures.

**Goal Progress:** DHS began with a filing of Emergency Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) ICWA on February 7, 2017 and final rule on August 6, 2017. The training compliance system was both in data collection design improvements, and in the reflection of ICWA rule in the CORE Academy trainings for new child welfare workers. The ICWA OAR trainings were provided state wide in collaboration and support of the tribes and district offices. The ICWA OAR online tutorial course was developed by the professional training unit and the tribal affairs staff. Practice changes are intended to be supported by the clarity of ICWA rule and procedural manual updates.

The DHS ICWA chapter on procedure is outdated and not in alignment with 2016 BIA ICWA guidance or 2017 OAR rules. There is tribal involvement and intense effort to strengthen practice and ICWA compliance. The procedural manual is projected to be completed in 2018. DHS and the Oregon tribes

work in active partnership to develop a sustainable process for recruiting, engaging, and retaining ICWA qualified expert witness testimony. A formal process has been developed and is guided by the work of a ICWA QEW Subcommittee of the ICWA Advisory.

Efforts are underway to reduce the amount of out of state children in Oregon DHS care through successful Local Indian Child Welfare Advisory Committee models used in other states. Districts in Portland and in Pendleton volunteered to pilot the improved engagement of out of state tribes. The work of this project will be communicated to the ICWA advisory on a quarterly basis.

**Identified Goal:** Data Work Plan - Active efforts, disparity and disproportionality

**Goal Progress:** DHS reports for tribal children in DHS custody as of September 30, 2017 was 401 ICWA eligible children in care. Available data analysis of the ICWA eligible children, in DHS custody both in home and or in foster placement, found that (33%) are Oregon tribal children; (67%) are ICWA eligible with an Out of State Tribe. We also find these children are remaining in care longer than non ICWA eligible children. Additional data analysis will be provided using a relative rate index that will guide practice improvement changes. The ICWA Data Committee was formed and will be working in collaboration with the tribes and DHS expertise.

Though we've seen some improvements since the Governor's Task Force on Disproportionality in Child Welfare in 2010, in which American Indian/Alaskan Native children were nearly 5.5 times overrepresented, the Task Force's recommendations were not fully followed or funded. There remains a critical need to identify how much more work that needs to be done.

The department is conducting additional analysis to better understand why a disproportionate number of American Indian/Alaskan Native Children are in Oregon's foster care system. Information is shared with the 9 tribes on QUICWA data and the need remains to keep the dependency courts engaged and be an active partner in building a sustainability model for data collection. Data collection is drawn from ROM and OR Kids. Oregon tribes were invited to formalize the secure email processes for the transferring of ICWA detail on case worker and supervisor.

DHS collects ICWA data monthly and this information is shared on monthly basis with Oregon tribes specific to their children in DHS care. Oregon is one of the only states to be have an organized ICWA compliance design being built into the DHS information system that will reflect the data points for practice improvement with the goal of reducing disproportionality of tribal children in the child welfare system.

Design improvement requests for the tracking of ICWA data in 2017 include:

- The number of active efforts findings in court
- How often the tribe is in agreement with those findings
- The number of times a child is placed with a relative compliant with ICWA
- The number of times a QEW is used at specific hearings for ICWA
- The number of tribes DHS contacts to verify ICWA eligibility
- The number of times DHS provides ICWA notice to tribes of ICWA children entering our system
- The length of time the ICWA children spend in our system
- The number of ICWA children exiting our system

Final approval and priority setting for these design improvements was completed in 2017.

The Oregon tribes and DHS collaborated actively to identify data collection points for the purposes of measuring ICWA compliance. Remaining work for this goal is to include technological improvements and the ability to build data queries specific to tribal request.

**Identified Goal:** Tribal engagement at branch – education and training/ICWA agreements

**Goal Progress:** The state has supported individualized relationship with Oregon tribes. This kind of productivity in individual case staffing requires year round travel to the tribes and districts. The Tribal Affairs unit staff ICWA cases in person to each of the 9 Oregon tribes at a minimum of 4 times a year.

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Training and technical assistance provided in 2017 specific to ICWA advisory guidance and request

Training/Technical Assistance Topic	Number of Trainings Provided
Oregon Tribal ICWA Consultations	49
Regional ICWA Quarterlies with State ICWA Liaisons	6
DHS Consults at the branch on ICWA	49
Child Welfare Policy Council on ICWA Materials	2
District OAR ICWA Trainings	30
ICWA Active Effort Position Meetings	5
Tribal on site Trainings – Various Tribal Child Welfare	14
9 Tribes Prevention Coordinators Meeting	4
Academy ICWA CORE Trainings	11
Senate Bill 770 Tribal Consultations with tribes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-Sufficiency</li> <li>• Medicaid</li> <li>• Child Welfare Safety</li> </ul>	6

### Services to Celilo Village

The providing of outreach and eligibility to the in-lieu site tribal families continues. The DHS partnership with the Oregon Food Bank, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Columbia River Inter Tribal Fish Commission resulted in 108 families receiving food, heating supports, services to the aged, and housing resource assistance in 2017. The project has gained local sustainability with key DHS program staff attending regularly and with consistency.

### **Tribal/State ICWA Conference**

Since 1996 the Oregon ICWA conference is convened, one of the nine Oregon Tribes offers to co-host the Tribal/State ICWA Conference with DHS. The ICWA conferences provide essential on-going training on the importance of the Indian Child Welfare Act, the best interests of Indian children, the stability and security of those children, their tribes, families and communities. The ICWA conferences focus on the importance of traditions and the continued collaboration between DHS and the Tribes. The ICWA conference is the training highlight for the field, for leadership and the tribes to share ideas, build relationship, and improve knowledge and skills.

In 2017, The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians co-hosted the ICWA Conference held on October 17, 18, and 19 at Chinook Winds Casino Resort. The theme of the conference was "Caring for our Children, Catching the Dream" with a focus of ongoing collaboration between the Oregon Tribes and DHS. This year 247 participants attended of which 203 were state workers and 44 were tribal workers and employees.

### **The Oregon Indian Child Welfare Advisory Council**

The 9 federally recognized tribes in Oregon are consulted with on specific child welfare topics throughout the year. The development of relationships between the state and the tribes is an ongoing process that is derived from the identification of mutual values, respect for the government to government relationship, and the concern for child welfare.

There are 9 federally recognized tribes in Oregon. The formalization and active engagement of the Indian Child Welfare Advisory committee is key to promoting a collaborative and coordinated approach to addressing child welfare along the service continuum of policy to practice improvement. The ICWA advisory membership is comprised of tribal child welfare directors, and DHS program management.

The purpose of the Indian Child Welfare Advisory Committee (ICWA) is to advise, consult with, and make recommendations to the leadership of the Oregon Department of Human Services on policy, programs, practice, and data that impact Indian children who are members of eligible for membership in one or more of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon and Indian children who are placed in Oregon who are members of or eligible for membership in tribes outside of Oregon and who are involved or at risk of involvement in the child welfare system in the State.

The Oregon Tribal/State ICWA Advisory Committee meets quarterly and serves two main functions:

1. To identify barriers in department policy and rules in providing services to Indian children in both state and tribal custody, and
2. To work on direct communications between DHS and the Tribes.

The Child Welfare Programs (CWP) and ICWA Advisory Committee continue to work on outstanding issues and develop stronger consultation and collaboration between the State and the Oregon tribes.

## 2017 ICWA Advisory Council Tribal Members

### **Burns Paiute Tribe**

Michelle Bradach  
P: 541-573-8043 / F: 541-573-4217  
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### **Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians**

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### **Coquille Tribes**

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### **Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw**

Shayne Platz  
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### **Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians**

Anita Bailor, ICWA Advisory Council Co-Chair  
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### **Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde**

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### **Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs**

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### **Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation**

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### **Klamath Tribes**

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## SELF SUFFICIENCY

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The Self Sufficiency program offers assistance for low-income families promoting family stability and supporting families' progress out of poverty.

The principle program areas within Self Sufficiency include:

- Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Family Support and Connections (FS&C)
- Employment Related Day Care (ERDC)
- Job Opportunity and Basic Skills (JOBS)
- Temporary Assistance for Domestic Violence Survivors (TA-DVS)
- Refugee Program
- Youth Services Program
- Program Delivery and Design

The State of Oregon has agreements with each of these tribes to provide additional services to members receiving Tribal TANF assistance. The additional supports provided by these agreements include employment and training, work experience and additional family supports. The tribe submits quarterly invoices for these services which are then paid with state funds and count toward Oregon's TANF maintenance of effort requirements. Included in this agreement is a requirement for the tribes to submit data related to the number of folks served through this agreement.

The Klamath Tribes: support services, may access up to \$205,256.00.

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians: support services, may access up to \$244,752.00.

Historically, DHS has attended various tribal meetings and gatherings to facilitate program updates and solicit feedback. These meetings include the previous iteration of the 770 Government to Government joint OHA/DHS meetings, Tribal Prevention Quarterly meetings and the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) conferences.

Most recently, DHS has begun a separate 770 – Government to Government meeting to address DHS program specifics with tribal attendees. DHS hosts additional meetings as needed specific to a specific topic area as the relationship moves forward with tribes.

When DHS makes decisions on policy that directly affect tribes and their members this is communicated to the tribes and an offer to have formal consultation or meetings when requested or there is a need for additional shared communication.

**Key Contact for Self Sufficiency:** Kim Fredlund, Director, Self Sufficiency Programs

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Self Sufficiency programs provide direct services through a network of local offices in every county across Oregon. The list of local offices and contact information can be found at this web site:

<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/Offices/Pages/index.aspx>

## **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)**

TANF is a federally funded cash assistance and employment program. Its purpose is to help families with children living in poverty pay for basic needs such as shelter, utilities and daily necessities. TANF also provides services to help participants find and maintain employment through the Job Opportunity and Basic Skills (JOBS) program. The JOBS program also includes support services such as help paying for child care and transportation while individuals participate in job preparation programs or search for employment. TANF offers a variety of other services that include providing help with applying for Supplemental Security Income or grants to escape domestic violence, in an effort to help families stabilize their lives so they can find and sustain employment, and end their need for assistance.

Eligibility and income requirements must be met to receive TANF services. Applicants must generally have incomes below 31 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to qualify. A family of three qualifies for up to \$506.00 per month in cash assistance which is approximately 25 percent of FPL.

During this time, the Self-Sufficiency TANF Program was working with Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes to implement policy changes regarding how TANF time limits and the Indian Country exclusion was applied. This was an opportunity look at program policies through a different lens and to gain vital feedback from the tribes. One lesson learned was the importance of ongoing relationships and open communication pathways at the program level rather than waiting to collaborate only during vital program intersections. During the consultations, it was also evident that there is significant interest in better serving families through the employment programs offered by both the tribes and the department.

## **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps, is a national program that offers nutrition assistance to eligible, low-income individuals and families and provides economic benefits to communities. SNAP is the largest program in the domestic hunger safety net and helps bridge the gap for people who are unemployed or earn too little to meet their basic nutrition needs.

*The SNAP program has main components which include the following:*

- Food benefits
- Employment and training program to help participants quickly enter the workforce
- Outreach through local community organizations to improve participation
- Nutrition education in every county through classes, demonstrations and informational materials

*Fast Facts about SNAP:*

- 1 in 5 Oregonians participate in SNAP
- 28% of participants are working
- 30% of participants are children
- 51% of households include a child or elderly person
- More than 50% of participants are between the ages of 18 and 59
- Seniors are the fastest growing category of participants
- SNAP-Ed impacted 45,000 individuals directly and had over 1 million visits to its social marketing campaign [www.Foodhero.org](http://www.Foodhero.org) in 2016
- 42,282 participated in the employment and training program in 2017

## **TANF Program JOBS**

The Job Opportunity and Basic Skills (JOBS) program for TANF individuals offers an array of services that includes job search preparation, supported and regular work experience and subsidized employment through JOBS Plus worksites to help participants build employment-related skills and to look for work. Oregon is expanding continuum of services so that TANF-leavers more easily transition to STEP program and other community resources for continued wrap-around services and support. JOBS includes support services to pay for child care, transportation and other payments needed to participate in services.

## **Temporary Assistance to Domestic Violence Survivors (TA-DVS)**

TA-DVS program is a TANF-funded program intended to provide temporary financial assistance and support to families affected by domestic violence during crisis or emergent situations when other resources are not available. TA-DVS is used to help the domestic violence survivor and the children address their safety concerns and stabilize their living situation, thus reducing the likelihood of the survivor returning to the abuser. The most common need for TA-DVS is when the domestic violence survivor flees the abuser. The TA-DVS program is enhanced by contracts with local Domestic Violence organizations for Co-Located Advocacy in DHS Self-Sufficiency and Child Welfare Offices. The advocacy services give enhanced supports to survivors working with DHS. The advocates provide services in DHS offices to survivors either by referral or by self-referral.

## **Employment Related Day Care program (ERDC)**

ERDC helps low-income, working families arrange and pay for quality child care. The program provides low-income families with the same opportunity for reliable, quality child care as other families with higher incomes. ERDC helps parents gain self-sufficiency by assisting with the consistent, stable child care parents need to maintain employment. It also contributes to the school readiness of children and supports children with special needs, as well as offering resources to support providers who come from diverse cultural backgrounds. Child care providers are required to meet a set of health and safety standards, provider requirements, and pass required background checks before they can become DHS providers and receive payment.

## **Family Support and Connections (FS&C)**

FS&C programs provided through DHS Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) are intended to prevent the need for future child welfare services and to assist participants in moving towards holistic family stabilization using a comprehensive array of life skills, parenting training and support services. The primary service delivery utilizes a “home visiting” model, however if families prefer they can meet at a mutually agreed location. Oregon contracts with local providers in all 16 Self-Sufficiency Districts across the state to provide services to families through the Family Support and Connections program. While the CBCAP funds are one of the funding sources for these services, the purpose for the program is determined by these federal criteria.

## **The Refugee Program (REF)**

The Refugee Program is a time limited, front-loaded program of refugee employment services, acculturation services and cash assistance that is designed to meet the goal of early self-sufficiency through employment. Funded by both the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) and TANF dollars, the program provides services through a Public-Private network of services in the tri-county area of Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties (where the majority of the refugees resettle) and public administration through the state’s branch offices in the remainder of the state. Cash assistance is vital for refugees to be self-sufficient. This program is for eight months after arriving in the U.S.

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## VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

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The Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program is working in conjunction with the federally funded Tribal VR Programs to deliver vocational rehabilitation services to tribal members with disabilities who reside on reservation or within the tribal service area boundaries. These services are delivered consistent with tribal members' interests, strengths, abilities, concerns, and informed choice, so that tribal members may prepare for and engage in gainful employment, including self-employment or business ownership.

### **Funding**

Federal funding is made available to the governing bodies of tribes located on reservations or in federally recognized service areas to pay 90 percent of the costs of vocational rehabilitation services for American Indians who are individuals with disabilities residing on or near such reservations (referred to as "eligible individuals"). The non-federal share of 10% may be an in-kind or cash contribution written into the grant submission. Federal funding is provided as a 5-year block grant.

### **Cooperative Agreements**

The Oregon VR has updated the cooperative agreements with each of the Tribal VR programs of which there are five in Oregon: Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of the Siletz, and the Klamath Tribe. The Oregon VR program in conjunction with the Tribes have begun a collaborative training process of the cooperative agreements.

**Collaborative Activities:** The Oregon VR Program in consultation with all nine federally recognized tribes, developed the mandatory memorandum of agreement with the Department of Education and Vocational Rehabilitation. This agreement outlines collaborative efforts between the entities to deliver culturally relevant services to tribal members within the Oregon's public school system.

The Oregon VR Program continues to distribute The PASSAGES Curriculum. The curriculum enhances culturally-relevant youth school-to-work transition activities for tribal members between the 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades. PASSAGES emphasizes the importance of family and the tribal community.

The Oregon VR Program has been collaborating with Northwest Indian College and Western Washington University to develop a specialized university program dedicated to develop tribal vocational rehabilitation counselors (Tribal VR Institute). The program consists of 7 courses focused on rehabilitation in the tribal cultural setting. The first year of a tribal cohort was successfully completed in September 2017. A strong partnership between the Confederated Tribe of Warm Springs and Oregon VR has resulted in a tribal rehabilitation program dedicated to providing services to any federally-recognized tribal member in conjunction with Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest (NARA) in Portland. This allows access to Tribal VR as part of an outpatient recovery program.

The tribal representative on the State Rehabilitation Council is Ms. Susie Calhoun, Tribal Director of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla. This council meets quarterly to provide overarching program guidance to the state VR program.

The tribal representative on the State Independent Living Council is Angie Butler, Member of the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz. This council meets quarterly to provide guidance on the State Plan for the Independent Living Programs.

## Partnership

Tribal VR and State VR programs can concurrently provide vocational rehabilitation services necessary to achieve a successful employment outcome. The Tribal VR program provides culturally relevant services and State VR program typically provides additional rehabilitation and job development services. Additionally, the Tribal VR Programs add cultural awareness to improve the professional skills among state VR staff.

During the coming year, State VR will be meeting with the Burns Paiute Tribe since a new satellite office has been opened in Burns. Additionally, State VR plans to focus upon pre-employment services to tribal youth (ages 14-16) who are attending public or charter schools on reservations.

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