



2018 ANNUAL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT REPORT ON TRIBAL RELATIONS

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Submitted to the
Governor and the
Commission on
Indian Services

Oregon Department of Corrections activities under ORS 182.164 to 182.168

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I Executive Summary

This report, required by [ORS 182.166\(3\)](#) to be submitted to the Governor and Commission on Indian Services by December 15 of each year, highlights the activities, ceremonies, and events that took place in 2018 in our prisons throughout the state of Oregon. Because the frequency and types of activities offered to our Native American population varies by location throughout the state, they are grouped by institution. Also included is Information on newly added Native American religious programming resulting from our continuing efforts to expand services and exploring new and traditionally honoring ways to serve this population, such as a new and growing emphasis on outside family involvement and participation in Native American events.

2 ORS 182.166(3) Annual Reporting Requirements

2.1 The policy the state agency adopted under [ORS 182.164](#) [182.166(3)(a)]

Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) has adopted [Policy 10.1.6](#), "Government-to-Government Tribal Relations." It was last updated February 14, 2018.

2.2 The names of the individuals in the state agency who are responsible for developing and implementing programs of the state agency that affect tribes [182.166(3)(b)]

The Religious Services Administrator, Dennis Holmes, is directly responsible for developing and implementing programs of the state agency that affect tribes. Ms. Heidi Steward, Assistant Director of DOC's Correctional Services Division, provides oversight of these efforts.

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2.3 The process the state agency established to identify the programs of the state agency that affect tribes. [182.166(3)(c)]

Typically, DOC Native American programs and activities are provided through a volunteer and supervised by a Religious Services chaplain. Many of the volunteers are recruited and supervised by the chaplains, and any new programs must go through an approval process before they can occur in an institution. As a result of being involved in the development, recruitment, supervision, and approval process, Religious Services is aware of existing and upcoming programs affecting tribes.

Except for powwows and Lakota Club activities at Oregon State Penitentiary, all programs that affect tribes are coordinated through Religious Services. Powwows may be coordinated by institutions, but Religious Services chaplains are included in the planning and development. All religious programs and activities are tracked and specific information is available upon request.

The programs and activities affecting tribes that were provided by DOC in 2018 are listed in Section 3 of this report.

2.4 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. [182.166(3)(d)]

The Department of Corrections has been a long-standing member of the Government-to-Government Public Safety Cluster. Our participation provides DOC with current information on public safety activities and concerns among the various tribes, as well as those of other state agencies. It also provides an avenue for building ongoing relationships with tribal and state representatives. These relationships have been critical as we implement strategies and develop statewide procedures that may affect tribal members. We also believe DOC participation has helped tribes and other state agencies and stakeholders better understand our agency mission and operations, and our advice and participation in the cluster has been helpful and beneficial to Oregon's tribes.

DOC continues to work with Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes and tribal members toward identifying opportunities for partnership. Dennis Holmes, Religious Services Administrator, oversees all religious services, accommodations, and activities for Oregon's 14 prisons. All of the institutions maintain contact with tribal representatives and tribal volunteers to develop and present special cultural ceremonies, promote AIC participation in cultural events and affiliations, and recruit volunteers.

Native American Volunteers

DOC relies on Native American volunteers from around the state. Volunteers conduct Native American ceremonies in the prisons and provide spiritual guidance for hundreds of AICs. DOC, as well as the AICs who benefit and participate in these programs, are very grateful to have such dedicated volunteers. Many of the services and programs might not be available without their service. We cannot thank these volunteers enough for giving their time and energy.

August 2017 DOC and tribal representatives began meeting with the Oregon State Penitentiary (OSP) Lakota Club to work together toward developing a reentry program for releasing Native Americans. After developing a workgroup, tribal representatives and Nichole Brown, Administrator of Programs and Social Support Services, have continued meeting monthly with the Lakota Club. This year the workgroup has developed a Red Road to Transition model that will utilize volunteers and native healers for a Native American-specific Narcotics Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous-type reentry program. DOC is actively reaching out to the Native American tribes requesting their support through volunteers to strengthen Lakota Club members through native spiritualism and native-based treatment and cultural activities.

Native American Volunteer Liaison

Because of the great need for more Native American volunteers and volunteers for other minority faith groups, DOC recently hired a temporary employee, Anita Espino. In this role, Ms. Espino serves as DOC's Native American Volunteer Liaison. Ms. Espino is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians (CTSI). She has spent the few months she has been in the position meeting with institution chaplains to see how they provide services, and to meet with some of the Native American adults in custody (AICs). They were proud to show her their facilities, sweat lodges, and discuss how everything is accomplished. She can confirm that it takes a lot of coordinated effort from various communities to ensure that sweats, powwows, and other activities are special and memorable events.

At the powwow she attended at our Powder River Correctional Facility, the Native American AICs grilled venison burgers, bison steaks, and salmon. They even made fry bread. They also provided the drumming and songs for the event. The small gathering did not dampen the spirit, joy, and appreciation from all involved. As Ms. Espino states:

“It gave me insight on how much volunteers mean to the programs and how necessary they are.”

*Anita Espino
Native American
Volunteer Liaison*

“It also gave me insight on how much volunteers mean to the programs and how necessary they are. They bring a new meaning to the words ‘dedication’ and ‘giving’ to those who need it most. I am looking forward to continue working with the Tribes, tribal members and DOC Religious Services to help recruit volunteers for these programs and services.”

2.5 A description of the training required by subsection (1) of this section. [182.166(3)(e)]

This year's annual Tribal-State Government-to-Government Summit training, “Shaping the Third Decade of Government-to-Government: Some Things Change and Some Things will Never Change,” was held November 27 at the Spirit Mountain Convention Center in Grande Ronde, Oregon. Dennis Holmes, DOC's Religious Services Administrator, represented DOC, as did Ken Jeske, Oregon Corrections Enterprises (OCE) Administrator, and Colette S. Peters, DOC Director.

2.6 The method the state agency established for notifying employees of the state agency of the provisions of ORS 182.162 ...to 182.168...and the policy the state agency adopts under ORS 182.164... [182.166(3)(f)]

All DOC employees are notified by email when a new rule or policy is implemented or when a rule or policy is changed. DOC Policy 10.1.6 is the means by which DOC notifies employees of the state agency provisions under ORS 182.162 to 182.168. DOC Policy 10.1.6 was updated February 14, 2018, and an email notification to all DOC employees advising them of the revisions was sent February 28, 2018.

3 2018 Native American Programs and Activities

A wide range of Native American services and events were provided during the year at all of Oregon's prisons. DOC's Religious Services Unit continued to develop and deliver Native American spirituality and healing programs. Religious Services has developed healing ceremonies at multiple facilities and plans to expand the offering during the coming year.

Hundreds of male and female AICs attended Native American ceremonies and services: sweat lodges, drumming circles, powwows, talking circles, spirit runs, smudging, pipe ceremonies, and other cultural and spiritual development. In addition, an extensive series of educational videos and seminars are available to help people understand and heal from historical trauma and to further develop healthy self and tribal identities.

Religious Services staff works with the Eagle Repository in Colorado to facilitate acquisition of eagle feathers for AICs. Each prison provides regular care and maintenance of its Native American Sweat Lodge and outdoor worship areas.

Augmenting our Native American programs and activities, DOC has been seeking more avenues and opportunities of enhancing positive family involvement in AICs' lives. As a result, we have seen an increase in the family attendance at several Native American celebrations this year.

Individual Institution Programs and Activities

Coffee Creek Correctional Facility (CCCF), Wilsonville

Chaplain Emily Brault, Medium (503) 570-6785 Emily.R.Brault@doc.state.or.us
Chaplain Claudia Al-Amin, Minimum (503) 570-6604 Claudia.T.Al-Amin@doc.state.or.us
Chaplain Sue Matranga-Watson, Intake (503) 570-2211 Susan.M.Matranga-Watson@doc.state.or.us

The Native American community held a successful Roots Ceremony and Spring Celebration on April 28, 2018, in both the minimum and medium facilities. Fifteen tribal leaders and volunteers from the community came in to share the Food Blessing with over 100 women in custody. This is a time when specific prayers, songs, and rituals are performed to honor the sacredness of the food that nourishes both body and spirit.

Native American volunteers also provide regular sweat lodge ceremonies, talking circles in the minimum-security facility, and a Healing the Sacred Hoop class in the medium-security facility. This class is specifically geared for connecting participants to the ways in which their heritage and traditions can contribute to their healing. CCCF also has a Native American Flute class in the medium-security facility at this time, with hopes of expanding it to the minimum facility in the near future.

Intake for Incarcerated Men

Although no organized religious services are offered at the Intake Center, a Religious Services Orientation class is provided to the men in intake, (see description above). AICs can also speak with the chaplain of their choice upon request, and Native American religious books, non-fiction and fiction

books, and newspapers are provided, as well as any information regarding eagle feathers, medicine bags, powwows, and sweats.

Columbia River Correctional Institution (CRCI), Portland, and South Fork Forest Camp (SFFC), Tillamook

Chaplain Phil Holbrook (503) 971-673-3563 Phillip.E.Holbrook@doc.state.or.us

Due to their geographical proximity and AIC populations, CRCI and SFFC are both served by Chaplain Phil Holbrook. Both CRCI and SFFC provide a monthly volunteer-led Native American Sweat Lodge and Smudge Ceremony. An annual Native American Powwow the second Sunday of September is held at CRCI for Native American AICs from SFFC and CRCI. Families are invited along with other Native American elders, drummers, and dancers. CRCI additionally provides a Native American Group lead by a volunteer as well as a weekly Drumming Circle supervised by Chaplain Phil Holbrook. A weekly crafting circle is supervised by Chaplain Holbrook at SFFC.

Deer Ridge Correctional Institution (DRCI), Madras

Chaplain Ken Ball (541) 325-5617 Ken.W.Ball@doc.state.or.us

This year, DRCI continued to balance occasional special events with ongoing Native American religious services and activities. Special events meet a definite need for large groups to come together—friends and family, volunteers, and community members gather with AICs to reinforce values and traditions. Events such as DRCI’s annual Powwow and Spirit Run lend support and encouragement to participating AICs.

Talking Circle

Every other Tuesday, Native American volunteers facilitate an outdoor smudge for purification and engage in mutual encouragement toward pro-social attitudes and behaviors with guidance from leadership. This year DRCI added two new volunteers to the Talking Circle leadership.

Drum Circle

When weather permits, the Native Circle ventures outdoors each Thursday for drum circle under the supervision of DRCI’s chaplain. The circle practices powwow songs which will be performed at DRCI’s annual late summer Powwow.

Native American Culture Studies

A two-year-old volunteer-led program, Native American Culture Studies allows AICs the opportunity to grow in understanding of their cultural heritage and Native crafts. Guest speakers are occasionally invited to provide discussion on topics such as sobriety, Native languages, and craft work.

Native American Wellbriety

Due to an overwhelming positive response from AICs to sobriety-focused meetings of the Native American Culture Studies class, the Native American Wellbriety class was formed. This year, the weekly volunteer-led class focused on celebrating families in the context of sobriety.



DRCI 2018 Powwow



Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution (EOCI), Pendleton

Chaplain Lorinda Schwarz (541) 278-3641 Lorinda.L.Schwarz@doc.state.or.us
Chaplain David Betts (541) 278-3642 David.K.Betts@doc.state.or.us

An EOCI volunteer leads sweat ceremonies at least every other month, coordinates weekend movie showings, and provides one-on-one counseling for those in Special Housing upon request.

A second Native American volunteer conducts monthly talking circles as weather permits.

EOCI hosted another successful Powwow in 2018. There was a great response from families and the community in supporting and attending this event; local Native people from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) were scheduled to again come in to emcee the event.

- This event also allowed time for participants to have drumming practice in order to sing at the Powwow, especially to honor those coming in from the outside.

- Two talking circles were held for Powwow planning with a volunteer of the Native American faith leading those.
- There were approximately 50 AICs who invited 44 family guests to attend. EOCI also had numerous volunteers who came and participated in teaching the significance of Powwow, creating a fun day for everyone.

EOCI's recreation department holds a band slot open just for a Native band to participate. This is an incentive-level activity and the Native band uses the traditional Native drum to participate in this activity.



EOCI 2018 Powwow

Mill Creek Correctional Facility (MCCF), Salem

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Native American programs remain strong at MCCF. There is generally one sweat a month, and one smudge ceremony per week. The Native American AICs practice their drumming circle every Saturday in the music room.

The community also meets weekly in the chapel for the Indigenous Circle. One of MCCF's main goals moving forward is to recruit more Native American volunteers through advertising and outreach.

Oregon State Correctional Institution (OSCI), Salem

Chaplain Ron Borden

(503) 373-0147

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Current programming at OSCI includes a monthly sweat lodge, a monthly talking circle and drumming circle as well as the annual Powwow and Change of Seasons Meal. There is also a Native Club through the Activities Department, which supports the Powwow with resources.



Powwow 2018 OSCI



Drumming at OSCI 2018



Parading Colors at OSCI 2018

Oregon State Penitentiary (OSP), Salem

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Chaplain Dennis Stahlnecker

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Through OSP's activities section, the Native community has a club called Lakota Oyate-Ki. The club meets every fourth Thursday of the month. All Lakota Club activities are coordinated by the Activities Section staff. These activities include monthly meetings, banquets, and the annual Powwow. The Powwow is coordinated and run by the club members and Activities staff advisors. Club members do most of the fundraising for their annual Powwow.

There are also two cultural television channels in the institution that include Native American programming.

Religious services such as weekly sweat lodge, sweat lodge maintenance, pipe ceremony, and learning and talking circles are coordinated and facilitated by chaplains and volunteers from the community who are recognized as spiritual advisors. Religious Services are provided for men in the general population of the prison as well as in special housing units.

Powder River Correctional Facility (PRCF), Baker City

Chaplain Roger Haefer

(541) 523-9560

Roger.L.Haefer@doc.state.or.us

2018 Powwow

The attendance for the 2018 PRCF Powwow was 37, up from four the previous year. Volunteer Services Specialist, Anita Espino, attended the Powwow and brought a good supply of elk burger and salmon from the Grande Ronde Tribe. The Siletz Tribe gave PRCF a \$495 grant for Powwow expenses, which we utilized for buffalo steak and all other supplies. This was PRCF's eighth annual Powwow.



PRCF 2018 Powwow

Other Native American activities supervised by PRCF's chaplain include:

- Native Drum Circle every Friday afternoon
- Native Movie Night or Talking Circle every Friday evening
- The Native American Sweat and Sweat Preparation is held every first Saturday of every month. Prayer Ties for the Sweat are constructed by the AIC Native Circle the Friday before the Sweat.

Santiam Correctional Institution (SCI), Salem

Chaplain Larry Bowen

(503) 378-3188

[*Larry.D.Bowen@doc.state.or.us*](mailto:Larry.D.Bowen@doc.state.or.us)

Some of the activities offered within the Native American Religious Group are monthly Sweat Lodge Ceremonies, weekly drumming (learning various Powwow and prayer songs), weekly Talking Circle, annual Spirit Run, and annual Powwow.

SCI is dedicated to sustaining Native American culture and heritage, and is always looking for any opportunities to spread awareness.

Shutter Creek Correctional Institution (SCCI), North Bend

Chaplain Chris VonLobedan (541) 756-6666 Ext 264

[*Chrisopher.E.VonLobedan@doc.state.or.us*](mailto:Chrisopher.E.VonLobedan@doc.state.or.us)

SCCI holds monthly sweats and weekly programming that consists of Red Road to Wellbriety and Drum circle. An annual four-day Spirit Run and annual Powwow are also held. The sweat lodge is rebuilt and dedicated with a sweat annually.

Both the Coquille Indian Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians of Oregon have supported SCCI's Native American program with donations and with tribal

representatives that teach about local heritage. A Home for Good in Oregon (HGO)-trained Native volunteer deliberately networks throughout the region.

There are songs on CDs for practice of Inipi ceremony songs and Powwow songs. Smudge or Pipe are offered at times of specific need, and Talking Circle is also provided on an occasional basis.

Snake River Correctional Institution (SRCI), Ontario

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<i>Chaplain Trime Persinger</i>	<i>(541) 881-4686</i>	Trime.N.Persinger@doc.state.or.us
<i>Chaplain Steve Toth</i>	<i>(541) 881-4626</i>	Steven.M.Toth@doc.state.or.us
<i>Chaplain Samuel Suh</i>	<i>(541) 881-4625</i>	Samuel.S.Suh@doc.state.or.us

There are approximately 120 AICs involved in Native American activities in the minimum and medium facilities at SRCI. Activities offered at the institution include:

- Monthly sweats and Sundance sweats
- Annual Powwow
- Bereavement pipe ceremonies in general population and special housing
- Provision of medicine bags to verified AICs
- Initiated (with the winter solstice) Change-of-Season pipe ceremony
- Initiation of artwork toward nonprofit

The annual Powwow held this year allowed the AICs to invite two friends or family guests. Approximately 215 attended the five-hour event held on the sweat lodge grounds and enjoyed buffalo burgers and salmon. Tribal representatives from Red Lodge Services (Clackamas), Wisdom of the Elders (Tri-County area), and local ceremonial drummers from Idaho participated in the Powwow.

For Native American AICs who lost loved ones in 2018, Religious Services provided bereavement pipe ceremonies. The grieving individual was allowed to invite a few guests to support them in this spiritual ceremony. Pipe ceremonies were conducted on the sweat lodge grounds and in special housing.

The larger Native American Circle expanded outreach to other Native American organizations this year. Artists contributed artwork for Red Lodge's annual fundraising calendar. SRCI has initiated a relationship with the Chemawa Indian School. The SRCI men donated 360 sweet grass braids to the school for their ceremonies. Two patches of sweet grass were grown, dried, and braided by the men at the minimum facility, ultimately producing about 900 braids. The school also received a ceremonial water pour ladle for sweats and a hand drum.

The SRCI circle made medicine bags for other DOC circles. They have made over 50 medicine bags for the spiritual development of other incarcerated native men.

This year, Patricia Jordan, Executive Director of Red Lodge Transition Services, and William Ward, Recording Engineer for the Wisdom of the Elders organization, attended sweat lodge and also conducted a Talking Circle. Both SRCI and outside Native American representatives provided input to the religious activities, expanding the religious emphasis of caring for the sacred pipe, having a ceremony for the changing of the season, and deepening the powwow experience.

SRCI is working toward engaging more volunteers for ceremony and effective programming for Native men.



Activist Chauncey Peltier shares his life story encouraging the circle to endure hardship with strength and confidence



SRCI 2018 Powwow



Two Rivers Correctional Institution (TRCI), Umatilla

Chaplain Jaime Cardona (541) 922-2086 Jaime.A.Cardona@doc.state.or.us
Chaplain Don Hodney (541) 922-2087 Don.E.Hodney@doc.state.or.us

The TRCI chaplains provide supervision for monthly sweat ceremonies and drumming call-outs for General Population AICs and those in TRCI's Administrative Housing Unit (AHU).

The Change-of-Seasons provides quarterly gatherings for pipe, drum, and sweat ceremonies for Native Americans to celebrate the four seasons, and the Native Circle Spirit Run and Powwow are held annually.

TRCI Chaplains supervise pipe ceremonies when a member of the Native Circle experiences a death, hospitalization, or serious illness in his immediate family. This is done on an individual basis. The AIC is

given the opportunity to have up to four members of the Native Circle share in the pipe ceremony. Monthly pipe and smudge ceremonies are also made available for the AICs in TRCI's AHU.

Warner Creek Correctional Facility (WCCF), Lakeview

Chaplain Stan Friend (541) 947-8217 Stan.E.Friend@doc.state.or.us

At WCCF, smudge ceremonies, Talking Circle, Native flute, and Native American video opportunities are provided weekly. Drumming occurs biweekly, and Fire Starter ceremonial preparation and sweat lodge are conducted monthly. Pipe ceremonies are periodically provided.

2018 Powwow

This year's annual Powwow festival began with a smudge ceremony of the grounds and nearly 100 guests, family members, and AICs participated in the grand entry procession, in which Native American Veterans were honored with song and WCCF's own drum.

The AICs prepared traditional foods of bison, deer, elk, salmon, smoked eel, Indian tacos, and mixed berries. Beaded gifts hand crafted by the AICs were given away throughout the event. In attendance, two dancers in full grass dance regalia added to the camaraderie of the day and reinforced cultural values. Children were included in the activities with games and song. In addition, there was an opportunity for the young children to sit with the Elders and learn what it entails to beat the ceremonial drum.



WCCF 2018 Powwow



4 Data on DOC Native American Programs and Participation

The below DOC 2017 Native American programming information was previously provided to the Cluster.

Institution	2017 Native American Programming							
CCCF	Crafts	Flute	Flute Practice	Smudge	Spring Celebrate	Sweat Lodge	Talking Circle	
CRCI	Drumming	Fire Starters	Powwow	Sweat Lodge				
DRCI	Cultural Study	Drum Circle	Fire Starters	Powwow	Spirit Run	Sweat Lodge	Talking Circle	Wooden Flute
EOCI	NA Movie	Powwow	Sweat Lodge	Talking Circle				
MCCF	Powwow (SCI)	Sweat Lodge	Talking Circle					
OSCI	Drumming	Fire Starters	Powwow	Sweat Lodge	Talking Circle			
OSP	Beading	Drumming	Fire Starters	Powwow	Sweat Lodge	Sweat Lodge Main		
PRCF	Drumming	Fire Starters	NA Movie	Powwow	Prayer Ties	Sweat Lodge	Sweat Lodge Main	Talking Circle
SCCI	Change of Seasons	Drum/Welbriety	Sweat Lodge					
SCI	Powwow	Smudge/Drum	Song/Drum	Sweat Lodge				
SFFC	Powwow (CRCI)	Smudge	Sweat Lodge	Sweat Lodge Main				
SRCI	Drumming	Powwow	Sweat Lodge	Fire Starters				
TRCI	Fire Starters	Powwow	Sweat Lodge					
WCCF	Beading	Drumming	Native Planning	Powwow	Smudge	Sweat Lodge	Sweat Lodge Main	

Monthly Hours of Chaplain Supervision per Religion

Institution	Faith						
	Buddhist	Christian	Earth-Based	Jewish	Messianic	Muslim	Native American
CCCF						16	4.5
CRCI							8
DRCI		7	2.5			6	18
EOCI						4	1
MCCF			1			4	16
OSCI						4	
OSP	5	3		5	3	4	2.5
PRCF	9	11.75	4.5			10	22
SCI		6				4	39
SCCI						4	16
SFFC			8				8
SRCI	8	3.5	6	8	8	4	24
TRCI		5.5	17	8		6	25
WCCF	9	11.75	4.5			10	55
Monthly Hours	31	48.5	46.5	21	11	76	239
Percentage	6.55%	10.25%	9.83%	4.44%	2.33%	16.07%	50.53%

5 Conclusion

DOC is continuing its collaboration and work with tribal representatives throughout the state to maintain cooperative relationships. We will work to maintain and enhance those relationships in 2019. We look forward to more opportunities to involve the Native American community in our institutional programs and in the transition of AICs to communities. We also appreciate our Native American volunteers and look forward to working with them in the coming year.

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