



## **2024 Annual Government-to-Government Report Mental Health Regulatory Agency**

*December 6, 2024*

This annual report is submitted in accordance with Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 182.166(3), which requires state agencies to report on agency activities under ORS 182.162-.168. The Mental Health Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is committed to meaningful partnership, transparency, and cooperation to improve our collective ability to protect the public from harm through the licensing and regulation of behavioral and mental health professions in Oregon.

### **Policy on Tribal Relations – ORS 182.166(3)(a)**

MHRA adopted its Tribal Relations Policy on December 6, 2024.

### **Agency Contacts – ORS 182.166(3)(b)**

The following individuals are primarily responsible for developing and implementing MHRA programs that affect tribes:

- Todd Younkin, MHRA Executive Director  
(503) 373-1155 | [todd.younkin@mhra.oregon.gov](mailto:todd.younkin@mhra.oregon.gov)
- LaRee Stashek, MHRA Policy Advisor  
(503) 373-1196 | [laree.stashek@mhra.oregon.gov](mailto:laree.stashek@mhra.oregon.gov)

### **Process to Identify MHRA Programs that Affect Tribes – ORS 182.166(3)(c)**

The MHRA Tribal Relations Policy promotes government to government relations between MHRA and Oregon's federally recognized Tribes. The policy directs MHRA to include consideration of Tribal Government interests in the development and implementation of agency programs that may affect Oregon's nine federally recognized Tribal Governments. MHRA recognizes and respects the sovereign status of Oregon's federally recognized Tribal Governments and their respective authorities on Tribal lands.

### **Promotion Efforts – ORS 182.166(3)(d)**

The MHRA Tribal Liaison has added contacts for each of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon to the list of interested parties to receive notice of proposed rulemakings (which includes methods to provide feedback) and temporary rule adoption, amendment, or suspension for the Board of Psychology and the Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists (the regulated boards). In advance of each round of executive appointments, the MHRA Tribal Liaison notifies the tribes of any vacant public member board positions on the regulated boards.

### **Required Training – ORS 182.166(3)(e)**

The MHRA Executive Director and Policy Advisor watched the Heart and Spirit of Tribal Consultation video.

MHRA staff and board members do not have regular communication with tribes on the legal status of tribes, the legal rights of members of tribes, or issues of concern to tribes.

**Employee Notification – ORS 182.166(3)(f)**

The MHRA Tribal Liaison provides MHRA staff and regulated board members with the Tribal Relations Policy at creation or revision, and provides the current policy to new staff and board members upon hire or confirmation. Reference and hyperlink to [ORS 182.162-.168](#) is provided within the policy.