

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

2014

GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT
REPORT

DECEMBER 2014



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) is pleased to share this 2014 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.

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
- 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.

BURNS PAIUTE TRIBE



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.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF COOS, LOWER UMPQUA AND SIUSLAW INDIANS



The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians are made up of 3 tribes (4 Bands): 2 bands of Coos Tribes: 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

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE



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.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF SILETZ



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, we were the first tribe in the state of Oregon and second in the United States to be fully restored to federal recognition. In 1992, our tribe achieved self governance, which allows us to compact directly with the US Government. This gives us control and accountability over our tribal programs and funding. We occupy and manage a 3,666 acre reservation located in Lincoln County, Oregon. We manage several resources, including water, timber and fish.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION



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.

COQUILLE INDIAN TRIBE



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, those 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.

COW CREEK BAND OF UMPQUA INDIANS



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.

KLAMATH TRIBES



We are the Klamath Tribes, the Klamaths, the Modocs and the Yahooskin. We have lived here (see map), 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.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF WARM SPRINGS



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

INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities program strives to support choices of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities 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 assure that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have the opportunity to have fulfilling and meaningful lives, allowing them to contribute to and enjoy their communities.

We currently help over 21,650 children, adults and their families have the best quality of life possible at all stages of their lifespan. Many individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are eligible for a Medicaid waiver which allows them to obtain community-based services instead of residing in an institutional setting.

We seek to achieve the following outcomes and goals:

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

Key Contact for I/DD (General): Lilia Teninty (503) 945-6918

AGING AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Department of Human Services Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) program assists seniors 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. Employees also determine eligibility of aging and people with disabilities for medical programs provided through the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Programs administered include:

- Older Americans Act:
- Direct financial support (Medicare Premium assistance, Oregon Health Plan, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs)
- Disability Determination Services

- Long term services and supports, including in-home services, community-based facilities and nursing facilities.

Key Contact for APD (General): Mike McCormick (503) 945-6229

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. Nearly 400,000 Oregonians accessed these services in 2013. 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: Sarah Hout (503) 947-5104

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 nearly 120,000 clients in these two programs over one year. These programs help low-income beneficiaries with their cost sharing requirements. Securing this coverage also ensures

Medicare remains in a “first payor” status, ultimately saving the State’s Medicaid program significant money.

Key Contact for Direct Financial Support: Dale Marande (503) 945-6476

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: Mary Gabriel (503)986-4809

Long Term Services and Supports

Oregon assists low-income seniors and people with disabilities who qualify for assistance with 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 much 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.

Key Contact for Long Term Services and Supports: Jane-ellen Weidanz (503) 945-5977

Oregon Tribes

The Aging and People with Disabilities Program does not have formal contracts with Oregon's tribes to administer these services. However, many local Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) are recipients of federal funding and have sub-contracts with Tribes for services.

Oregon consults with Oregon's tribes on contemplated changes to its Medicaid-funded long term services and supports system.

2014 Challenges

APD is contemplating significant changes to its system in 2014. Most notable, programmatic changes are being contemplated in light of:

- New federal regulations around the Fair Labor Standards Act and
- Home and Community Based Services standards.

Oregon will be engaging with tribes and other stakeholder groups on implementation options for these changes.

CHILD WELFARE

Funding

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 so that children under the jurisdiction of the Tribal Court and their families can receive effective child welfare services that reduce the risk of abuse and neglect and that serve tribal families in need of preventive and/or intervention services.

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.

All nine federally recognized tribes of Oregon receive Social Service Block Grant funds.

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.

Title IV-E Agreements

Title IV-E provides federal reimbursement for the costs of eligible children in foster care. 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.

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

- The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde;
- The Confederated Tribes of Siletz;
- The Confederated Tribes of Umatilla;
- The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs;
- The Coquille Indian Tribe; and
- The Klamath Tribes.

Effective October 1, 2009, tribes have the option to directly access and administer IV-E funds by submitting a plan to the federal government after the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008, (P.L. 110-351, Foster Connections Act) was signed into law.

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz is the only Oregon Tribe moving forward with developing a Title IV-E Plan and Child Welfare practice that will allow them to have direct access to Title IV-E funds. DHS continues to provide support as they are completing all the federal requirements. The Office of Child Welfare Program, Federal Compliance Unit (FCU) met with the tribe five times (either in person or a conference call) to provide technical assistance and continuous support to develop the tribe's Title IV-E State Plan. Parts of these meetings were also used to discuss and change the current Title IV-E Intergovernmental Agreement with the Confederated Tribes of Siletz to ensure the complexity of supporting a Tribe who is claiming Title IV-E directly is met.

Title IV-E Training

The Department provides ongoing Title IV-E training either on-site with individual tribes, or group training for tribes (the non-Title IV-E tribes are also encouraged to participate, if they choose). The trainings are primarily focused on providing technical assistance to tribes with Title IV-E agreements, but they can be 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 2014, 28 individual trainings and technical assistance visits were conducted with the tribes by the Office of Child Welfare Program, Federal Compliance Unit. These included trainings for new staff, assistance for reporting and documentation especially around administrative claiming, and coordination of Title IV-E eligibility needs.

Federal Compliance Unit completed internal Title IV-E Compliance Reviews for The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, The Confederated Tribes of Siletz, The Confederated Tribes of Umatilla and The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The summary of findings includes:

- Evidence of fingerprint based CRCs of the NCID were found in most files, but not always in a timely manner.
- Foster home certificates were being issued and open as fully certified in OR-Kids prior to fingerprint based criminal history checks being approved. This appears to be a training issue which is being addressed in current trainings.
- Evidence of Child abuse and Neglect Registry checks on foster parents were not completed on most homes prior to certification and re-certification.
- Some Programs showed evidence of excellent documentation to verify face to face contacts are being made with the child on a monthly basis, but contacts are not being documented on a regular basis in OR-Kids as per the IV-E Agreement.
- There was good documentation of health and education records located in most children's files. Documentation of a case plan was lacking in some cases, while documentation in other was substantial.
- Home studies were completed on some foster homes, but not consistently. Documentation of training records was found in most of the certification files.

State/Federal Funding to Oregon's Nine Federally Recognized Tribes

Following is an outline for each Oregon tribe and the federal funding they received, the number of clients served with that funding:

Burns Paiute Tribe	Funding Received
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	\$2,624
System of Care (SOC) (11-13 Biennium)	\$8,920
Clients Served	30
<i>Note: SSBG and SOC number of clients served are not unduplicated</i>	

Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians	Funding Received
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	\$5,825
System of Care (SOC) (11-13 Biennium)	\$15,774
Clients Served	439
<i>Note: SSBG and SOC number of clients served are not unduplicated</i>	

Coquille Indian Tribe	Funding Received
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	\$6,521
System of Care (SOC) (11-13 Biennium)	\$15,418
Clients Served	371
<i>Note: SSBG and SOC number of clients served are not unduplicated.</i>	
<i>Note: Coquille Indian Tribe has a Title IV-E Agreement however they do not receive any IV-E reimbursement because they don't have children in Tribal custody.</i>	

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians	Funding Received
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	\$10,712
System of Care (SOC) (11-13 Biennium)	\$24,575
Clients Served	645
<i>Note: SSBG and SOC number of clients served are not unduplicated</i>	

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde	Funding Received
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	\$35,410
System of Care (SOC) (11-13 Biennium)	\$53,883
Title IV-E Administrative Payments	\$249,652.18
Clients Served	120
<i>Note: SSBB, SOC and Title IV-E number of clients served are not unduplicated</i>	

The Klamath Tribes	Funding Received
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	\$24,611
System of Care (SOC) (11-13 Biennium)	\$23,615
Title IV-E Administrative Payments	\$170,877.78
Clients Served	421
<i>Note: SSBB, SOC and Title IV-E number of clients served are not unduplicated</i>	

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians	Funding Received
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	\$33,007
System of Care (SOC) (11-13 Biennium)	\$54,129
Title IV-E Administrative Payments	\$0
Clients Served	93
<i>Note: SSBG and SOC number of clients served are not unduplicated</i>	
<i>Note: No Title IV-E administrative payments have been provided to Siletz due to Tribal staff turnover. Due to vacancy of the Siletz Tribal Child Welfare Supervisor no claims were submitted. The Federal Compliance Unit is diligently working with the new Supervisor to help the Siletz Tribe get caught up. They should receive two Federal Fiscal Year administrative reimbursements in 2015.</i>	

Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation	Funding Received
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	\$19,556
System of Care (SOC) (11-13 Biennium)	\$31,868
Title IV-E Administrative Payments	\$0
Clients Served	300
<i>Note: SSBG, SOC and Title IV-E Waiver number of clients served are not unduplicated</i>	
<i>Note: No Title IV-E administrative payments have been provided to The Umatilla Tribe due to Tribal staff turnover. The Federal Compliance Unit is diligently working with the new Supervisor to help the Siletz Tribe get caught up. They should receive two Federal Fiscal Year administrative reimbursements in 2015.</i>	

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation	Funding Received
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	\$24,604
System of Care (SOC) (11-13 Biennium)	\$63,999
Title IV-E Administrative Payments	\$110,697
Clients Served	250
<i>Note: SSBG, SOC and Title IV-E number of clients served are not unduplicated</i>	

Independent Living Services Program (ILP)

Oregon's ILP provided services for current foster youth between the ages of 14 to 20. Former foster youth may be eligible to receive services between the ages of 16 to 20; or up to age 23 for Chafee Education and Training Vouchers. Services are available statewide. ILP services are available to Native American youth on the same basis as all other youth in the state.

For details regarding Oregon's Independent Living Program (ILP) services and eligibility criteria, please see the DHS Procedure Manual, Chapter 4, Sections 29 and 33 at the website listed below. http://www.dhs.state.or.us/caf/safety_model/procedure_manual/index.html

Race	Total Served	% of ILP Population Served	All Foster Care
Native American Youth	97	6.6%	3.8%
Total Youth Served	1480		

The service array available for Native American youth;

- Life Skills Training – The ILP currently contracts with the Native American Youth and Family Services (serving urban Native American youth in the Multnomah County area/Portland). All other Native American youth are able to be referred to the ILP Contractor serving the county in which they reside. The exception is foster youth in the custody of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation. Warm Springs has opted to receive direct Chafee ILP funding from the federal government. Therefore, Warm Springs serves all youth on the reservation and any youth in their care and custody. Former foster youth may access services from the ILP Provider serving the county in which they reside.
- ILP Discretionary Funds – Each Tribe, with the exception of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs because they already receive the federal funding, has access to \$1,400 in ILP Discretionary Funds. The funds are to be used to assist a youth with achieving their goals as listed on their transition plan.
- Chafee Education and Training Voucher (or Grants) – Native American youth access services as any other eligible youth via the electronic application process. Each College or University will determine a youth's financial need.

- Chafee Housing – Youth must return to the tribe or DHS to request voluntary ILP services, including Chafee Housing (provides eligible youth with up to \$600 per month based on need to assist with room and board expenses).
- Independent Living Housing Subsidy – per Oregon Policy (based on Oregon Revised Statute 418.475), a youth must be in the care and custody of DHS in order to be eligible for Independent Living Housing Subsidy services. This service is primarily funded with State General funds – no Chafee funds are expended on Subsidy housing stipends.
- Driver's Education funds are available to any youth eligible for ILP services.
- Summer ILP Events – All tribes are notified of the various summer events sponsored by the ILP (Teen Conference, DREAM Conference). Tribes are notified via email and each event is discussed at the Quarterly ICWA meeting prior to the event date.
- Foster Youth Tuition and Fee Waiver – The Tuition and Fee Waiver was originally passed by the Oregon Legislature in 2012. While the intent was to include tribal foster youth, the language did not specifically indicate such. House Bill 2095 passed in June 2013, adding language clarifying both DHS and Tribal foster youth are eligible for the tuition and fee waiver. The Tribes work directly with the Oregon Student Access Commission to determine which youth qualify.

A notable event that is unique in Oregon and is supported by the ILP service program is the annual Native Teen Gathering. This annual event now in its 10th year is a primary event the tribes and DHS collaborate on to host. The Native Teen Gathering continues to be an excellent tool for building and strengthening relationships with the tribes. This event brings together Native American youth from across the state from both DHS and Tribal foster care. The event includes cultural activities (specific to each host tribe), relationship building, post-secondary options and fun. Activities have included archery, beading, drumming, various types of dance, swimming, canoeing, tracking and more. The host tribe also invites elders to present and share their knowledge. DHS makes a concerted effort to ensure DHS ICWA Liaisons are able to attend the Gathering with their youth to further their knowledge. Skills and abilities for their day to day work.

Safe and Equitable Foster Care Reduction

■ OSM Refresh ■ Strengthening, Preserving and Reunifying Families ■ Differential Response

Oregonians agree children have the best opportunities when they remain safely at home and can be raised with their own families. Children are also safer and families are stronger when communities, families and DHS work in partnership to identify and address issues early. Differential Response (DR) is a family-centered approach which supports protecting children to ensure a successful future. DR is a redesign of the child welfare system's front end that allows more than one path for intervention with families with a screened in report of abuse or neglect.

There are three parts to Oregon's approach to implementation of Differential Response:

- 1) Refresher on the Oregon Safety Model;
- 2) Implementation of Strengthening, Preserving and Reunifying Families contracts; and
- 3) Staged implementation of Oregon's DR model, beginning in Lane, Lake and Klamath Counties.

1. Oregon Safety Model: Most families child welfare encounters are or can safely care for their children at home. When a child cannot remain safely at home, the state intervenes to ensure child safety which may include placing a child into foster care. Our Oregon Safety Model refresh

is meant to improve upon and strengthen safety decision making throughout the life of the case. The OSM provides a systematic safety intervention approach and is the responsibility of all staff at every level.

The Oregon Safety Model refresh is:

- Improving staff competency by ensuring line supervisors fully understand the OSM concepts and coach their casework staff to practice the model with fidelity;
- Providing consistency in practice and decision making across stages of service beginning at intake;
- Furthering the agency's work to reduce disproportionality in foster care and emphasize family centered practice;
- Distinctly defining safety threats and families with moderate to high needs;
- Clarifying the specific information needed to make safety decisions;
- Clearly outlining factors to consider when making decisions involving safety and risk; and
- Identifying skills and tools to support this practice.

2. Essential Services: Another step is to identify and create an array of services for families through collaboration between DHS and local community partners. These services envisioned as part of the Strengthening, Preserving and Reunifying Families law (aka SB 964) will specifically address needs of children and families who come to the attention of child welfare through a report of abuse or neglect. These services are designed to address gaps in the service array in local communities --specifically, these services aimed at maintaining children safely in the home, reducing the lengths of stay in foster care and addressing re-abuse of children.

3. Staged Implementation of Oregon's DR model: This step is to provide the route for families to connect to their community and needed services. The families involved with child welfare will receive a comprehensive child safety assessment by child welfare staff. However, just as every family is unique, the department's approach needs to be flexible enough to serve the family's needs. Oregon's DR design will include the specific screening criteria to determine the best response to assess families and increase our success in keeping children safely parented at home while the family receives services. Families can more successfully resolve issues when they are viewed as part of the solution and where they partner with child welfare and their community in problem solving and the identification of services and supports needed.

We need all three parts to make the enhanced system work the way we want in order to get the results we want. Here's the vision when all three parts of the initiative are in place and working together:

- More children will be kept safely at home and in their communities using the Oregon Safety Model and its core concepts and tools to guide decision making;
- The community and Oregon DHS will work in partnership with a shared responsibility for keeping children safely at home and in their communities;
- Families will partner with Oregon DHS to realize their full potential and develop solutions for their challenges;
- Fewer children will re-enter the child welfare system through improved services for families;
- Disproportionality will be reduced among children of color, and;
- Private agencies and community organizations will experience stronger partnerships with Oregon DHS on behalf of children and families.

Here is a list of activities related to tribal involvement in Differential Response; Strengthening, Preserving and Reunifying Families Services; and the Oregon Safety Model work.

During exploration/visioning phase of implementation:

- September 2011, Tribal focus group held to obtain input on DR. Questions asked were:
What are the possible benefits of implementing DR in your area in Oregon?
What aspects of program design do you think are critical to the success of DR?
What is the preferred way to decide whether a family receives an investigation or assessment?
What is the preferred way to ensure additional community input into the DR development process?
What are your greatest concerns about implementing DR in your area in Oregon?
On a scale from 1-10 with 1 being "much worse" and 10 being "much better" rate the likely impact of DR on services to children and families?
The focus group information was utilized in the implementation process of DR.
- In December 2011, DR Design team assembled of community members, stakeholders and DHS staff to include: Oregon Commission on Children and Families Tribal Coordinator; Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation; Burns Paiute tribe. A Core Team was also assembled with a representative of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. These teams developed the DR Vision Statement, determined OR would have an alternative and traditional track and what kinds of abuse or neglect would be assessed in each track.
- In 2012, Child Safety Manager, visited with each tribe to discuss DR.

During installation phase of implementation:

- From May - October of 2013, the Differential Response manager, visited with each tribe to discuss DR. In both years, we listened to information about the tribe's philosophies and practices, shared information about where OR was heading with DR and where we were, and solicited input. Developed a document called "Notes and Other Considerations", from the tribal visits, staff visits and other community visits that was used to inform the subcommittee, implementation and steering committee work.
- Developed a DR Installation/Early Implementation Team with representatives from Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation participating.
- Continued the Core team, renamed DR Steering Committee, with representative of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.
- Developed 10 subcommittees with representatives on 3 from Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Burns Paiute Tribe, and Nadja Jones (before she obtained her current position, to bring the Minnesota tribal experience).
- In January 2014, had a call with Minnesota titled "DR Implementation with Tribal Communities: Lessons Learned in MN" Invited all 9 federally recognized tribes in Oregon to participate (many did).
- Tribes were invited to attend the Oregon Safety Model Refresh training in 2014.
- 1 of the 3 early implementation counties chosen, Klamath, has a tribe within. Several meetings/presentations have been held with the tribe to include training on Chronic Neglect that many in the Klamath and Lake county communities were invited to attend. A representative of the Klamath tribes is also on the Local District 11 DR Advisory Team. Klamath Tribal staff are also invited to attend the DR training the Klamath child welfare staff are receiving.

Over the last year and half:

- Many if not all, tribes have been involved in determining community gaps and needs to enhance the service array with Strengthening, Preserving and Reunifying Families funding, which is a vital component of successful DR implementation.
- DR manager, has attended most ICWA Advisory Team meetings to provide updates on DR and solicit input, training on the Oregon Safety Model, and to report on how we used the tribal focus group findings and how we've used their input thus far.
- DR manager, Dana Ainman (Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde) and a staff member of the Klamath Tribes presented a workshop at the ICWA conference titled, *Differential Response – Tribal and State Perspective*.
- Dana Ainman, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, participated in a group presentation at the national DR conference in November, with a team from Oregon to talk about our early DR implementation experiences.
- Next DR sites chosen include Lincoln County where Siletz tribal offices are located. Several presentations have occurred at the tribe's request related to Differential Response. A tribal representative has been invited to participate on the District 4 DR Advisory Team.

Safe & Equitable Foster Care Reduction (SEFCR) is a collaborative between Casey Family Program, Department of Human Services and the Oregon Judicial Department. SEFCR is designed to support a local collaboration of partners to coordinate a systemic approach to safe and equitable foster care reduction.

SEFCR teams are located in Coos, Deschutes, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Malheur Marion, Multnomah, Tillamook, Umatilla and Washington counties. The plan is to transition to an SEFCR State by the end of 2015.

Oregon Tribes are included in all messaging regarding SEFCR efforts, planning efforts (Permanency Roundtables, Knowing Who You Are, Differential Response, etc.) and invited to all training opportunities and SEFCR Convening's.

The input from the Tribes has been very helpful at both the local and state level in planning, implementing and tracking SEFCR efforts.

Key Contact information: Melissa Sampson (503) 947-5076

Adoption and Guardianship Assistance

Children in the custody of a federally recognized Indian Tribe in Oregon may be eligible for adoption or guardianship assistance if the Tribe has a current Title IV-E agreement with the Department of Human Services which includes participation in the adoption and guardianship assistance program. The Adoption and Guardianship Assistance Program provides assistance on behalf of eligible children to help offset the costs related to meeting the needs of the child and costs associated with establishing the adoption or guardianship. Adoption and Guardianship Assistance may include a monthly financial payment paid on behalf of an eligible child and/or medical assistance for the eligible child.

Adoption and Guardianship assistance for Title IV-E children or young adults is funded by a combination of federal and state funds. Children who are Title IV-E eligible are also categorically eligible for Medicaid benefits.

The Department of Human Services, Adoption and Guardianship Assistance Program works closely with Tribes beginning with the submission of an application for assistance to the finalization of the adoption or guardianship. The Adoption and Guardianship Assistance program staff have traveled to meet with several Tribes to develop and foster relationships as well as provide information and answers to questions as requested.

Permanency Program

The Child Permanency Program implemented Permanency Roundtables in 2014 which are structured professional case consultations designed to develop an aggressive, innovative and realistic action plan for a child who is a long stayer in Oregon's foster care system. PRT's also provide case centered learning labs for workers and identify recurring systemic barriers to achieving permanency. It was important that the Department have Tribal representation on the PRT implementation team which began meeting in 2013 and continued into 2014. Because Tribal communities often define extended family and permanency differently than the Department, Tribal participation was needed for planning and implementation in order for the process to be culturally sensitive to Indian children. It was equally important that the Tribes had an understanding of the goals and objectives of the PRT's and why it was an important initiative for the Department. Additionally, the PRT leadership has made sure that a Tribal participant is on every PRT team for an Indian child in order to help caseworkers and the team members understand how cultural issues affect family engagement, how Tribal laws and customs impact permanency decisions, and to help look at the case through the lens of Indian culture and identity

Training

In the last calendar year, an OR-Kids assigned trainer has met with staff from the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Siletz, Klamath, and the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla. Upon request, the OR-Kids trainer has assisted staff with downloading Citrix on computers, logging into the OR-Kids system, and getting familiar with the navigation of OR-Kids. A quick reference guide was also prepared and shared with tribal members regarding how to create a Learning Center user log in for Community Partner's to access the following OR-Kids Web Based Trainings: Desktop, Search, Worker Assignments and Certification. Our designated trainer has also conducted in-person training for system functions: Search, Case Assignment, Certification, entry of face to face Contact Notes and data review. Quick reference guides were provided and continue to assist tribal staff as questions or issues with the OR-Kids system arise.

Indian Child Welfare Active Efforts Positions

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) requires attainment of active efforts for children receiving services from Child Welfare. Currently all cases are required by the federal government to receive reasonable efforts to qualify for federal funds, however both state and federal law requires active efforts of Native American children due to historical experience of Native American children in Child Welfare systems across the Country. Active efforts are distinguished from reasonable efforts by additional efforts necessary to ensure compliance, understanding and culturally specific experiences through increased:

- Face to face contact
- Coordination of services so it doesn't fall solely on the parent
- Hands on service provision; efforts to provide services which are culturally specific
- Efforts to ensure children in care receive cultural experience opportunities to remain connected with their culture

- Efforts to remove barriers for parents to fully access services

During the hiring process for these positions Tribal involvement and participation occurred. These positions currently work extremely close with the social service departments of all the tribes. These positions serve as a bridge to the local branches and they have developed positive working relationships with the nine Oregon Tribes.

ICWA Regional Quarterlies

Over the past year DHS reinstated the ICWA regional quarterlies. The reasoning and rationale was to collaboratively and continue our partnerships with the nine Oregon Tribes. These gatherings are an opportunity for joint education and training for both the DHS branches and Oregon Tribes.

The trainings include practice related trainings as well as specific case staffing to support ICWA policy when applicable and requested. DHS is also currently developing a training around “Active Efforts Supervision” which will be provided in coordination at the ICWA regional quarterlies.

1270 Trainings to Protective Service Workers

Training has been developed around the Department's 1270 form “Verification of ICWA Eligibility”. A need has been identified from the practice field that the form needs to be completed at the time of assessment for both parents.

This training is in coordination with a Tribal representative, the representative talks about the tribal perspective and why the 1270 forms are important and what work gets prompted on the tribal side to determine ICWA eligibility. A major goal of this training is to provide information to supervisors and case workers on how the 1270 can be used as a tool of engagement when working with our families.

Key Contact for ICWA Regional Quarterlies – Michael Stickler, (503) 947-5413,

Indian Child Welfare

DHS collaborates with the Oregon tribes to prevent and reduce the number of Native American children placed into state custody. The Oregon tribes participate with DHS through the Tribal/State Advisory Committee, which meets quarterly and holds an annual conference. Oregon DHS has an established Tribal Affairs unit including a full-time staff person assigned as its Tribal Affairs Director/Senior ICW Manager, two ICWA Consultants and an executive assistant. The Tribal Affairs Unit and the Oregon Tribes work collaboratively on ongoing initiatives that are described in detail below.

The Oregon Indian Child Welfare Advisory Committee

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 Oregon tribal representatives of the ICWA advisory recommend goals and objectives for Oregon's five-year plan; which are actively worked on throughout the year. This work is done through specific quarterly meetings scheduled in addition to monthly consultation conference calls and onsite tribal visits. 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.

Projects and goals submitted as part of the work of the committee include the Title IV-B Plan, Title IV-E agreements, tribal engagement in policy and procedure for ICWA compliance. The charter sets the progress and key considerations for the implementation and assessment of the CSFP and the monitoring of compliance with ICWA. 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.

Key Contact for the ICWA advisory – Nadja Jones (971) 301-1668

ICWA Conference

Every year, one of the nine Oregon Tribes co-hosts 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.

In 2014, The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians co-hosted the ICWA Conference that was held on October 14, 15, and 16 in Florence, OR. The theme of the conference was "Pulling Together for Our Children" with a focus of ongoing collaboration between the Oregon Tribes and DHS. The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians presented a cultural night that included dancing, storytelling, and games. The cultural night was well received and was one of the highlights of the conference.

Regional Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Case Specialist

The Regional Indian Child Welfare Specialist provides leadership and direction in ensuring that DHS adheres to the intent to the federal law regulating services to Indian children and families, the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 and diversity matters related to Native Americans. The major goals of this position are: Safe and equitable reduction of the number of Native American children in foster care, focused work on ensuring the agency provides active efforts on sub-care and in-home cases, and the prevention of children entering care. The primary duties of these positions are to ensure regional goals as established with management are met and data is collected and documented timely; oversee and ensure that the Native American children and

families are recognized and provided with culturally competent services from assessment forward; collaborate with families and Native American Tribes to identify relative placements and strengthen DHS' and partners understanding of the Native American culture and identify resources to retain children's connection with their family and culture. The Regional ICWA Case specialists are found throughout the state in Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 10, 15 and 16. The Oregon Tribes meet regularly with these positions for ongoing staffing and case collaboration.

Key Contact for Regional ICWA Case Specialist – Christine Kamps, (503) 508-1351

Resources

The Department was awarded a Diligent Recruitment cooperative agreement (GRACE: Growing Resources and Alliances through Collaborative Efforts) with a focus on six identified Districts in Oregon to recruit, certify, train and support additional foster families and to use the demonstration grant as a statewide model for a customer-service driven recruitment and retention model.

Through the Federal Cooperative Agreement (GRACE) with the Children's Bureau DHS is contracting with Dr. Susan Quash-Mah who will develop a curriculum for Tribal cultural competency that will initially be used in 6 GRACE Districts identified in the agreement, but eventually rolled out statewide over the next 4 years.

Training and the adoption of a customer service approach to diligent recruitment are expected to both retain current resource families and increase the diversity of resource families, including an increase in the number of American Indian resource families to address the disproportionate numbers of children in care. The Department will measure the changes in the fostering population during the 2015-2019 period.

Oregon is unable to provide data that specifically identifies the race of the foster parent population compared to the race of the children entering care, in part, because of the nature of data capture and the inability to capture multiple race families and multiracial children in a way that could demonstrate appropriate matching. This information will more appropriately be capture in the CSFR review tool.

SELF SUFFICIENCY

Self Sufficiency - The Department of Human Services Self Sufficiency program provides assistance for low-income families to promote family stability and help them become self-supporting.

The major program areas within Self Sufficiency are:

- 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

Self Sufficiency employees provide direct services through a network of local offices in every county across Oregon. A list of offices can be found at this site <http://oregon.gov/dhs/Pages/localoffices/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 extreme poverty pay for basic needs such as shelter, utilities and daily necessities. TANF also provides services to help participants find jobs and stay employed 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 such as help to apply 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 37 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to qualify. A family of three qualifies for up to \$506 per month in cash assistance which equates to 31 percent of the FPL.

The Confederated Tribe of Siletz and the Klamath Tribe are the two Oregon tribes that operate their own Tribal TANF program. The funds for the Tribal TANF program do not pass through DHS, but are sent directly from the federal U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The tribes administer the program and use their own system and methodology for tracking data on families receiving services.

Oregon's DHS has an agreement with each of the two tribes to provide additional services to members who are receiving Tribal TANF assistance. These services include employment and training, work experience, and additional family supports. The tribe submits invoices on a quarterly basis to the State and they are paid with state funds and counted toward the TANF maintenance of effort requirement. The agreement requires tribal submission of data related to the number of clients served through this agreement.

Klamath Tribe – support services, access up to \$205,256.00 annually.

Siletz Tribe – support services, access up to \$244,752.00 annually.

This year the Tribal Affairs Director in collaboration with the TANF program consulted with all Oregon Tribes on the definition of Indian Country as used in the TANF program rules and in response to a Secretary of State audit finding which challenged Oregon's current definition. The Tribal Affairs Director and the TANF program continue to work with the Oregon Tribes, through the Government-to-Government consultation process on resolution of the audit finding. There is strength in working with tribes on resolving this audit finding. The goal is that the outcome is relevant to Oregon's historical context and inclusive of the issues brought forth by the Oregon Tribes.

The TANF program in collaboration with the Tribal Affairs Director also consulted with the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, the Coquille Indian Tribe, and the Confederated Tribe of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians after the Smith River Rancheria (with a base in Northern California) proposed to set-up a Tribal TANF program in Southern Oregon. Consulting with the Oregon Tribes in the proposed service area helped DHS provide information to the

Administration for Children and Families so that the administration can make a funding decision with the best possible information.

Key Contact information: Self-Sufficiency Programs: Kim Fredlund (503) 945-6071

TANF and Employment Training: Xochitl Esparza (503) 945-6122

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) partners with Oregon's federally funded tribal vocational rehabilitation programs. The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indians, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz, and Klamath Tribes all have Tribal VR 121 programs. This year's primary focus has been upon the development of a youth transition curriculum for native youth between the ages of 14-20 years old, entitled "Passages". Activities for families, tribal/public schools, and tribal programs have been created to engage native youth in job or career exploration beginning at a much younger age and throughout their teenage years. Additionally, local branch offices partner with the tribal programs and frequently co-serve tribal clients. VR provides trainings for tribal counselors on rehabilitation and assistive technology. Intergovernmental agreements are mutually crafted to individualize the delivery of consumer services to each tribe. A representative of the Tribal VR Programs serves on the State Rehabilitation Council and the State Independent Living Council.

The tribal representative on the State Rehabilitation Council meets with State VR for quarterly meetings. The Tribal VR 121 Programs collectively meet once or twice per year with representatives from the State VR Program attending and the tribes mutually identify the date(s) and the host tribe for these gatherings. The State VR Program works individually with each tribe throughout the year to support all of the tribal grants.

Key Contact for Vocational Rehabilitation: Joe Miller (503) 508-0533

SUMMARY

DHS is committed to meaningful collaboration and partnership with Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes. We stand ready to respond to the tribes' priorities for their people and their communities.

Our government-to-government relationship depends on open, honest communication about our celebrations and our challenges. This report is part of that communication process and, while much work is being done – there is more work to do.

Erinn Kelley-Siel
Director
Oregon Department of Human Services

December, 2014

PARTICIPATING DHS STAFF

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Safe & Equitable Foster Care Reduction.....Melissa Sampson-Grier
Child Welfare Programs Jason Wahling
Self-SufficiencyKim Fredlund
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Vocational Rehabilitation.....Joe Miller
ICWA Christine Kamps and Michael Stickler
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.....Patricia Baxter and Lilia Teninty