

*Oregon Housing and Community Services*  
**GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**  
**2006 SUMMARY REPORT**

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Oregon Housing & Community Services (“the Department”) serves tribal nations and Native Americans in Oregon by providing technical assistance, training, and program assistance, and through cooperation with tribal and other partner organizations.

**Technical Assistance**

The Department provides technical assistance on housing and emergency supportive services delivery to tribal organizations to help assure effective utilization of program allocations available to tribes. Historically, tribal organizations may not have fully utilized program resources available to them from the Department. During 2006, the Department continued to reach out to tribal organizations and assist tribal staff.

The Department assists in emergency food assistance program delivery through training on inventory control, helping to reconcile physical and book inventories with tribal subcontractors. In the past, the Department has also provided technical assistance to improve program eligibility determinations, by contacting tribes and developing a specific intake and assessment form for eligibility determination.

With the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) implementation of the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act, tribal communities have greater responsibility and opportunity for providing housing assistance, related services, housing planning and reporting than in the past. The Department continues to assist tribes with these new responsibilities, providing technical expertise where invited. Also, tribal representatives are regularly invited to participate in the Department's regional Consolidated Funding Cycle (CFC) trainings, to learn how to access the state's affordable housing resources and also to other Department activities across the state.

Much of the Department's relationship building with partners and technical assistance is accomplished through the Department's Regional Advisors to the Director (RADs). Since our Department delivers virtually all programs through partners at the local level, the RADs serve as the Department's main outreach staff to local organizations and initiatives, connecting

providers with the State office. The RADs reported limited contact with tribal housing and service providers during 2006.

The RADs also serve as Department representatives on the regional teams of the Governor's Economic Revitalization Team (GERT), a key economic development initiative of Governor Kulongoski. These teams replaced the previous administration's Community Solutions Team (CST) initiative. These regional efforts are a key opportunity for tribal representatives to work with all state community development agencies, including the Department, and tribal representatives are now regularly involved in regional processes across Oregon.

In addition to the work of the RADs, Department staff has also assisted with several initiatives to develop Internet web-based resources to assist tribes along with other Oregonians:

- ❑ *OregonHelps.org*, a web-based tool that anyone with computer Internet access may use to preliminarily estimate their eligibility for two dozen key social support programs. Began operating statewide during 2002. <http://www.oregonhelps.org> is now fully operational across Oregon, receiving thousands of visits per month from Oregonians in need.
- ❑ *Housing Connections*, a web-based tool similar to a multiple listing service for affordable housing that has been operating successfully in the Portland Metro area at <http://www.housingconnections.org/>.
- ❑ *Oregon 2-1-1*, an initiative that the Department helped to facilitate and fund is now moving beyond the planning phases. This is like the 9-1-1 telephone-based emergency service, but is provided for health and social service information and referral. The 2-1-1 system is now operating in the Portland Metro area, handling more than 10,000 calls a month. Development of the 2-1-1 system is also progressing in several other parts of the state, including areas served by the nine tribes.

As web-based and other technology tools become generally more accessible to the public, tools such as these can often be provided at no cost to citizens in need generally, including tribal members, as well as all partners who assist and work with Native Americans.

### **Training for Tribal Representatives**

The Department regularly invites and includes tribal representatives in training opportunities sponsored by the Department. Generally, the Department helps tribes to utilize Department programs and improve efficiency and effectiveness of programs operated by tribes that contract directly with the federal government to provide affordable housing and emergency assistance. The goal is to help tribes maintain efficient and effective internal program and administrative capabilities. An example is the on-going training that the Department provides for establishing and maintaining effective contract procedures with the Klamath Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla, and the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians focused on intake and information systems to enhance program operations.

The Department has also supported training for tribes wishing to administer the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) payments. For several years now, Department staff has provided support (principally to the Klamath Tribes) by providing dial-up support to allocate money into the system and helping to fix client records. Department staff also provided

trouble-shooting services of dial-up software and provided phone support for program related questions.

In recent years, tribes have become interested in directly contracting with the Federal government for administration of energy assistance programs. During 2003, additional Oregon tribes chose to directly contract with the Federal government to provide LIEAP assistance. Department staff has continued to provide assistance since that time to help staff at the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs, and Confederated Tribes of the Siletz, and the Klamath Tribes to comply with Federal application requirements.

Tribal representatives were also invited to the Energy Assistance Fall meeting, a gathering of all Department partners involved with energy assistance programs. Reported by attendees to be the best Fall meeting ever, several tribal program representatives attended.

As in previous years, the Department's Information Services staff provided technical advice on use of the OPUS computer database system for the Klamath tribe's LIEAP program. Partnering programs may not use the Department's computer information systems directly, but tribal staff still benefit from technical assistance on Department Information Services issues and have been included in several trainings. As additional tribes assumed responsibility for directly contracting with the Federal government to administer LIEAP during the 2003 year, the Department offered access to the OPUS system and partner trainings to staff of other tribes. Most have not wished to use the system, however, because the database system designed in Oracle may be more robust than needed for small tribal LIEAP programs. Also, the OPUS system necessitates storage of client information on Department servers. Department staff learned in conversations with tribal staff that some tribes may not wish private client information to be housed outside tribal systems. Still, staff from the Department's Information Services have helped tribal representatives currently operating LIEAP programs, and have provided advice and counsel on several occasions in discussions with tribes establishing new direct contracts with the Federal government to administer LIEAP.

Tribal housing representatives are also invited to and regularly attend trainings on the Consolidated Funding Cycle (CFC), periodic meetings on Oregon's Individual Development Account (IDA) Initiative, and other meetings related to Department programs and initiatives.

### **Program Assistance**

Almost all programs administered by the Department are available to all Oregonians who meet income eligibility requirements, including those who live in tribal communities and Native Americans who live on non-tribal lands in Oregon. Some major programs are described below.

### **Low Income Weatherization Assistance**

Funds from the U.S. Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Grant are used in conjunction with other funds from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, utility companies, the Bonneville Power Administration and Low-Income Energy Assistance Block

Grant funds to perform cost effective weatherization measures on houses occupied by low-income families. Weatherization services include energy saving modifications of heating systems; anti-infiltration measures; water heater traps; insulation for attics, ducts, floors, walls; and/or storm windows to eligible low-income families, for both owners and renters. Through weatherization, fuel consumption is reduced, resulting in lower heating bills. The Department directly contracts for weatherization services with the Klamath Tribe and maintains a 3% set-aside for Native Americans through its other service partners across the state.

The Department is also exploring how to focus existing Department related weatherization program efforts of local community action agencies to better address tribal weatherization needs. During the coming year, the Department intends to continue discussions with local agencies and two tribes to explore opportunities for improvement. Department staff is also exploring how tribal weatherization staff might be better engaged in training offered by the Department. While tribal staff has always been invited, participation has not been slight.

During 2005, the Department of Energy State Plan included a new idea that has proved very successful to encourage weatherization services for eligible low-income Native American Oregonians. Instead of using the old formula to allocate the smaller amounts of funds to individual Community Action Agencies (CAAs) to serve Native American clients, DOE Native American energy weatherization funds were combined into one statewide pool of about \$75,000. CAAs were invited to submit proposals that showed partnerships with tribes in their service area and apply for projects to be done by the CAAs. Under the old allocation formula, some CAAs were only eligible for enough funds to weatherize a couple of homes. Two tribes, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, through partnerships with CAPCO in Pendleton and YCAP in McMinnville respectively, implemented this strategy in 2005. The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde and the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs, through YCAP in McMinnville and NeighborImpact (formerly called COCAAN) in Redmond, utilized the strategy in 2006. The Department is currently preparing to implement the 2007 allocation in the next few months. Considered a great success by those involved, this new system greatly increased the service delivery to tribes and ensured full expenditure where applied.

Department weatherization staff is also working to secure funding for training of tribal contractors to provide qualified weatherization services. Staff is also working with the ACE tribal representative to prepare a formal training on developing, funding and managing low-income weatherization for tribes wishing to pursue Department of Energy program funding.

### **Low Income Energy Assistance**

The Department uses the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) funded by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services to provide energy assistance payments to vendors (i.e., utilities and heating oil companies) to help low-income households pay their winter energy bills and prevent utility shut-off. The funds also provide energy education, energy conservation activities and conduct outreach activities designed to assure that eligible households are made aware of the assistance available. The Klamath Tribes and the Cow Creek Band have administered LIEAP programs for several years. The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs and the Confederated

Tribes of the Siletz also applied to the Federal government for direct funding from HHS to administer LIEAP. The Department has provided program, management and tribal liaison staff time assisting and advising tribal staff. Department staff invite tribal staff to all trainings offered to its partners as a learning opportunity for tribal staff, even though the Department's relationship with the tribes on this program is not contractual. As with prior years, local community action agency programs did not serve members of these five tribes and have referred clients back to their tribes to avoid duplication of LIEAP services.

The Department was very pleased to provide \$5000 to sponsor the first annual Tribal Energy Conference held in Portland on December 14-15, 2006. More than 50 representatives from tribal, state, and federal governments, and utility staff and vendors involved with energy assistance, weatherization, and renewable energy production attended from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana. The event was hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw. The event was a great success and organizers hope to repeat it in the future. During this event, participants recalled with appreciation the Department's "Meet Your Partners" day held two years and urged the Department to repeat it in the future.

### **Emergency Food Distribution**

The Department is responsible for administering several emergency food distribution programs in the state. The Emergency Food Assistance Program distributes U.S. Department of Agriculture commodities to low income households through emergency food boxes and provides over 3 million meals each fiscal year. The Community Food and Nutrition Program (CFNP) has provided funding for a Legislative Hunger Relief Task Force, assisting in developing statewide programs targeted at ending hunger in Oregon and raising public awareness of the issue, and developed strategies to establish a statewide food purchasing cooperative. Other food distribution programs include the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), which distributes food rather than food vouchers, and focuses on the specific nutritional needs of targeted populations. The program serves approximately 800 clients. The Department also administers these programs to low income Native Americans living on or near reservations.

The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) provides commodity foods to low income households living on Indian reservations and to American Indian households residing in approved areas near reservations. This program is administered at the Federal level by the Food and Nutrition Services an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. FDPIR is administered locally by either Indian Tribal Organizations or a State government agency. Many households participate in the FDPIR, as an alternative to the Food Stamp Program, because they do not have easy access to the food stamp offices or authorized food stores. Each month, participating households receive a food package to help them maintain a nutritionally balanced diet. Participants may select from over 70 products including frozen meats (bison included), canned fruits and vegetables, soups, spaghetti sauce, macaroni, cheese, pastas, cereals, rice, egg mix and nonfat dry or evaporated milk, flour, cornmeal, crackers, beans and dehydrated potatoes.

FDPIR is available to all tribes in Oregon. Four Oregon tribes administer their own FDPIR program. The Department is presently working to expand service of this program in the Coos

Bay area. The Department administers the FDPIR program for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation through a contract with the Community Action Program of East Central Oregon (CAPECO). The FDPIR program implemented program benefits to all eligible persons living in the tribal boundaries of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and all eligible tribal members living within a region that extends outside the boundary of the reservation. The designated service area includes Umatilla and Morrow Counties in Eastern Oregon.

As of July 2004, the Department was serving 100 participants. Within a few short months, participation increased to over 150. While participation varies with month, about 150-200 participants were served on a monthly basis through 2006. Listed below are the Tribes that participate in this program in Oregon. Department staff has developed a close network and are in constant communication to help, assist and share information with each other throughout the year.

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USDA holds a yearly meeting where all the Western Region Tribes get together for a week long meeting. This training conference consists of training, education, and sharing of information. It also develops a close friendship that has allowed us to develop a respect and partnership with each other.

During 2006, Department staff continued to work with the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde on the development of a food warehouse and the possible application of FDPIR on the Grand Ronde reservation.

### **Emergency Housing**

The Department administers several programs targeted to persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Through the State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP), the Department funds service providers that assist homeless Oregonians and encourages homeless shelter providers to convert a portion of their shelter units into transitional housing. These activities are financed through an Emergency Assistance Grant (ESG) and includes case management, job training, and other essential support services targeted at breaking the cycle of homelessness. The ESG provides grants for emergency shelter services and shelter-related activities. This number does not include those accessing ESG in Clackamas and Multnomah counties, as these counties administer their own programs separate from the Department managed program.

The Emergency Housing Account (EHA) targets those populations most at risk for homelessness. Designated lead agencies receive funding for emergency shelter and services, transitional housing services, supportive housing services to enable persons to continue living in their own homes, and programs that provide emergency payment of mortgage payments, rents, or utilities. EHA homeless funds are also used in conjunction with Adult and Family Services and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds creating the Housing Stabilization Program. Funds from EHA are matched to provide stabilization assistance and homeless prevention programs.

While information on tribal affiliation is not tracked, Department records for 2006 indicate that for all Department homeless programs, there were 1254 contacts to persons who identified themselves as Native Americans.

### **Community Incentive Fund (CIF) and Small Community Incentive Fund (SCIF)**

The Community Incentive Fund and Small Community Incentive Fund (SCIF) was defunded by the 2003 Legislature. Some activity continued during 2006 on funding commitments already made to tribes, notably with the Burns-Paiute Tribe regarding a grant for a tribal cultural and administrative center. The original grant was supplemented with a \$76,774 loan and granted two extensions of completion timeframe. A Department representative attended the opening ceremonies for this community center facility in October.

The SCIF is rolling out \$2.6 million program this year, available as part of the Legislature's and Governor Kulongoski's administration refocused efforts towards economic and community revitalization across the state. The majority of these funds have now been distributed and no tribes appear to be tapping this round.

### **Oregon Housing Opportunities in Partnership (OHOP)**

During 2002, the Department sought and received a Federal grant called the *Oregon Housing Opportunities in Partnership (OHOP)* program to assist persons suffering with HIV/AIDS. This Federal grant from HUD will operate through June 2005. A few clients have identified themselves as Native American; however, none have reported being affiliated with any of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon. During 2004, Department staff worked with two tribal families in this program. During 2005, the program was transferred to the Oregon Department of Human Services, so participation is no longer being tracked in this Department's report.

### **Oregon Individual Development Account (IDA) Initiative**

During 2004, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla became the first tribal fiduciary organization in the State of Oregon funded IDA Initiative. The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs became a partnering agency with Central Oregon Community Action Agency Network (COCAAN), the fiduciary organization serving the Central Oregon region in 2005. The Department also assisted the Umatilla tribe's IDA staff in attending the National IDA Learning Conference in New Orleans in September 2004 along with other fiduciary organization staff. During the fiduciary organization selection process for the 2006 program year, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde became a partnering organization with the Valley IDA initiative through CASA, Inc., the fiduciary organization for the Willamette Valley region. In the coming year, additional tribal activity in the personal asset-building arena is anticipated. Tribal representatives participated in fiduciary organization meetings throughout the year and more than a dozen participated in the Oregon Asset Builders Convergence in April. Several also joined the Oregon delegation in attending the Corporation for Enterprise Development's National Asset Learning Conference in Phoenix in September 2006.

### **Home Ownership Programs**

Administering the Departments' home ownership programs for dwellings on sovereign lands is challenging. The Department has continued to work with tribes and financial partners to overcome the barriers to home ownership lending on tribal lands. Department records indicate 23 Oregon families were assisted with the Department's Homeownership Programs during 2006 identified themselves as American Indian or Alaskan Native. Total loan value for these families was about \$3,305,517. This is a significant increase over last year (17 loans valued at about \$2 million), even though it records only 11 months of service. When a voter initiative to limit all state spending was placed on the ballot, the Department was advised to temporarily suspend implementation of the single-family bond program over concern that obligations might be threatened. That initiative failed in the November election, but the program will not be fully operational again for a few months. Also note, the data required for loan applications does not distinguish tribal affiliation, so we are not presently able to determine how many of benefited families are members of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon.

Department staff continues to track the Federal Home Loan Bank's Sovereign Lending Task Force, attending when possible, and also continues to explore use of HUD's 184 Loan Program to assist tribal members in purchasing homes.

The Department also helped organize the first ever in Oregon Native American Housing Fair at the Chemawa School in Salem on July 31, 2004. The all day event brought together tribal housing representatives, the Department's Homeownership Program staff USDA Rural Development, HUD, mortgage lenders, and a variety of other housing related service providers and vendors in a single location for potential homeowners to learn about opportunities. The event was advertised throughout the Willamette Valley and South Coast areas. Several regional newspapers highlighted the event with articles. Organizers and Department staff had intended to repeat this event in 2005, however scheduling difficulties precluded this from occurring. Though the Department had little involvement with it, Portland's first Native American Housing to Homeownership Fair should also be highlighted in this report. Organizers from the Native American Youth and Family Center in Portland report that the event, patterned after a housing fair sponsored by several tribes, banks, and OHCS at the Chemawa Indian School about two years ago, was a great success. More than 200 individuals registered for the 2007 event, 31 vendors provided information, food and entertainment, and 40 volunteers helped conduct the event. Three classes offered twice through the day covered subjects of renting, preparing to buy, and buying a home. Organizers hope to repeat the fair in 2007. Given the staffing changes with OHCS' Single-Family staff during the summer, the Department's involvement was limited to helping sponsor the fair through agreeing that remaining funds of the previous tribal housing fair be applied to the 2006 Portland event. Now fully staffed, the Department's single family team expects to be more involved in any future event.

### **Other Cooperation with Partners & Tribes**

The Department continues to be an active participant in Government-to-Government relations directly and through partnering organizations. The Department's policy strategist serves as the OHCS Government-to-Government liaison. He regularly attends and supports the quarterly Health/Social Supports Cluster meetings (facilitated by the Department of Human Services) and Economic Development Cluster meetings (facilitated by the Oregon Department of Transportation). These meetings offer state agency and tribal representatives opportunities to build relationships and address common interests on a regular basis. The Department's policy strategist also assisted with the required biennial review of the cluster process around the Government-to-Government Summit in Fall 2006.

The Department tribal liaison and SW Oregon Regional Field Representative participated in the annual Government-to-Government Summit, hosted by the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians at Seven Feathers Resort in Canyonville in December 2006. This major gathering of tribal and state agency officials celebrates the unique relationship enjoyed by tribes and state government in Oregon and affords an excellent opportunity for leaders to network and cultivate relations. The Department's new director, Victor Merced, and new deputy director, Rick Cramer, were previously committed to another group on the date of the Summit and were unable to attend, but they plan to participate in 2007.

In 2004 and 2005, the Department has cultivated interest tribal representative in Department advisory committees. As a result, Carina Kistler-Ginter, Executive Director of the Grand

Ronde Tribal Housing Authority, began serving as a tribal representative to the OHCS Advisory Committee on Energy (ACE) during 2006.

The Department administers the HOME Investment Program for non-entitlement jurisdictions across the state. OHCS acts as the “Responsible Entity” in terms of compliance with CFR 24 Part 58 for this program. As part of the required Environmental Review process for all housing developments funded by the HOME program, a Tribal Consultation is performed. Tribes are notified of the development of every affordable housing project on sites which may be of historical or cultural interest.

Department staff made sure that tribal contacts were notified about public hearings, comment periods, and other requirements of the State of Oregon Consolidated Plan during 2006. The Consolidated Plan is a HUD prerequisite for receiving funding for the State of Oregon HOME and CDBG programs.

### **Training on Government-to-Government Relations**

The Department pursued several opportunities for staff to enhance their knowledge of Native American cultures and the unique issues related to developing safe and affordable housing and critical supportive services for tribal members. Several staff participated in the events and training of Tribal Day at the Capitol. Nine staff, including the acting Department director and tribal liaison, participated in the latter event. In the past three years, more than 10% of the Department's staff has completed appropriate training, such that all management and program staff who are likely to be engaged in tribal relationships have had at least some training. The Department will continue to encourage new employees to participate in available trainings and refresher courses for those already trained.

### **Partnerships with Community-based Organizations**

The Department is a small agency that accomplishes its large mission by partnering with an extensive network of community-based organizations including tribal organizations, community action agencies, community development corporations, housing authorities, and non-government organizations. These partners are encouraged by the Department to serve tribal needs and to include tribal members in the composition of their boards and committees. In many programs administered by these partners, a specific set-aside for Native Americans guides program implementation, usually in the form of a percentage of funding targeted to this population. The Department continuously seeks ways to encourage better relationships between tribal and other partner organizations.

### **Government-to-Government Policy Statement**

A Department policy statement concerning tribal relations has not been developed by the Department, though staff has not found the absence of a formal policy a hindrance in Department-tribal relations. Unlike some agencies (i.e., DHS, ODOT) having major contractual relationships to fulfill program responsibilities, OHCS has few direct program ties to the tribes. Tribes tend to intentionally operate their housing and emergency assistance programs independently of state and federal funds not specifically dedicated for tribal use. Also, the Department is small, so communication across divisions and sections is pretty easy.

As a tribal concern arises, all Department staff have been directed to contact the government-to-government liaison for assistance as needed. They do so regularly and matters tend to be handled efficiently and effectively. For these reasons, the Department's relations with the tribes have tended to remain informal, occurring as issues and opportunities warrant. No barriers or bottlenecks have been reported as tribal representatives regularly contact the Department liaison or program staff. Staff strives to be accessible and responsive wherever an issue or opportunity with a tribe arises. The Department will continue to evaluate the need for a more formal policy statement during conversations with tribal representatives in 2007.

### **Problem Solving and Relationship Building**

The Department strives to serve as a problem-solver in all its partner relationships, including its relationships with the tribes. For example, Department staff provided many hours of assistance to tribes applying for contracts with the Federal government to administer the LIEAP, providing several solutions to challenges faced by the tribes during 2006. In 2007, the Department will continue its role in this area, to assure that the best possible Government-to-Government relations are realized.

Our new director, Victor Merced, also met recently with representatives of the Native American Youth Association (NAYA) in Portland to explore partnership opportunities. While not directly related to state-tribal relations, this organization provides many services to Native Americans in Oregon generally and probably many tribal members. As an example, NAYA served as the lead organizer of the Native American Homeownership Fair in Portland this past summer. The department looks forward to working with NAYA again to capitalize on opportunities in the future.

### **OHCS Government-to-Government Relations Goals for 2006**

A summary of our stated goals and outcomes for 2006 are listed below, followed by a listing of goals for 2007. Department administration intends to continue cultivating sound relationships in the coming years. The Department will continue to provide services and programs to all Oregonians including those who are members of recognized tribal nations and other Native Americans during the coming year.

- A administrator level Department staff person will continue to be assigned to serve as the Department's Government-to-Government representative. (*The Department policy strategist continues to serve as government-to-government liaison.*)
- The Department's Government-to-Government representative will continue to attend and support Economic/Community Development Cluster and Health/Social Services Cluster meetings, as well as the annual State-Tribal Summit. (*Due to communications breakdown, the Department liaison was not notified about two cluster meetings this year and missed an additional one due to a conflict in which he was leading another meeting. Otherwise, he participated in the cluster meetings.*)
- A Department representative will tentatively attend a Northwest Tribal Housing Authority Association meeting, as out-of-state travel restrictions are eased or meetings are scheduled within Oregon. (*Next year, we hope this group holds a meeting in Oregon and the liaison can attend.*)
- Department staff will enhance relationships with Oregon Tribal housing entity representatives. The Department will continue to provide information about the

Department and its programs and services to Tribal housing entities across the state. The Department will also strive to establish communication with Tribal social service administrators during the coming year. *(Additional staffing changes in tribal housing and emergency assistance arenas this past year. Communication linkages continued. Will continue this work during 2007 to further enhance mutual awareness and trust.)*

- The Department will seek additional training opportunities on Government-to-Government relations and encourage Department staff to participate. *(DONE in 2004. Continue to encourage new staff to participate. To date, more than 10% of the Department staff has now attended one or more trainings.)*
- The Department will continue to investigate development of an agency policy for Government-to-Government relations for review and adoption by the Department. *(Placed on hold; will continue to explore value and necessity of this component during 2007.)*
- The Department will submit its annual Government-to-Government report. *(2005 report DONE in January 2006. With submittal of this document, completed for 2006.)*

### **OHCS Government-to-Government Relations Goals for 2007**

- A Department staff person will continue to be assigned to serve as the Department's Government-to-Government representative.
- The Department's Government-to-Government representative will continue to attend and support Economic/Community Development Cluster and Health/Social Services Cluster meetings, as well as the annual State-Tribal Summit.
- A Department representative will tentatively attend a Northwest Tribal Housing Authority Association meeting, as out-of-state travel restrictions are eased or meetings are scheduled within Oregon.
- Department staff will enhance relationships with Oregon Tribal housing entity representatives. The Department will continue to provide information about the Department and its programs and services to Tribal housing entities and social services staff across the state. The Department will also consider organizing another "Meet Your Partners" day at OHCS for tribal staff.
- The Department will seek additional training opportunities on Government-to-Government relations and encourage Department staff to participate.
- The Department will continue to investigate development of an agency policy for Government-to-Government relations for review and adoption by the Department.
- The Department will submit its annual Government-to-Government report.