



**Oregon Youth Development Council
Early Learning Council**

2012 Government to Government Report

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Youth Development Council

The Youth Development Council (YDC) was established by House Bill 4165 in 2012 to assist the Oregon Education Investment Board in overseeing a unified system that provides services to school-age children through youth 20 years of age in a manner that supports academic success, reduces criminal involvement and is integrated, measurable and accountable.

The council, created on July 1, 2012, consists of no fewer than 15 members who are appointed by the governor. The membership of the council satisfies federal requirements for membership of a state advisory committee on juvenile justice, and includes tribal representation.

The council prioritizes funding for prevention and intervention services related to gang violence and gang involvement; determines the means by which services to children and youth may be provided effectively and efficiently across multiple programs to improve the academic and social outcomes of children and youth; assesses state programs and services related to youth development and training, and identifies methods by which programs and services may be coordinated or consolidated.

Legislation also requires that the YDC establish common academic and social indicators to support attainment of goals established by the Oregon Education Investment Board; establish common program outcome measurements and coordinate data collection across multiple programs and services; ensure implementation of best practices that are evidence based, culturally, gender and age appropriate, address individual risk factors, build upon factors that increase the health and wellbeing of children and youth, and include tribal best practices.

The YDC works with the Tribes through its partnerships with state tribal liaisons and tribal representatives on issues that better the lives of Oregon's children and families. Respect of tribal ways and sovereignty are among the Youth Development Council's highest concerns when working with Oregon's tribal communities.

The YDC's Federal Compliance Monitor has been attending the Public Safety Cluster meetings. The Federal Compliance Monitor describes the requirements of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act to tribal law enforcement representatives. The Juvenile Crime Prevention Manager will be representing YDC on the 770 Education Cluster.

Early Learning Council

The Early Learning Council was created by Senate Bill 909 during the 2011 legislative session. As of July 1, 2012, the Early Learning Council assumed a variety of duties and responsibilities outlined in HB 4165 as adopted in the 2012 legislative session.

Youth Development Council Programs:

Juvenile Crime Prevention

The Juvenile Crime Prevention and Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention funds were transferred to the Youth Development Council from the Oregon Commission on Children and Families on July 1, 2012.

The goal of the Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) program is to reduce juvenile arrests, reduce juvenile recidivism (new offenses by juvenile offenders) and reduce the need for beds in facilities operated by the Oregon Youth Authority. The Juvenile Crime Prevention Advisory Committee (JCPAC) is responsible for approving county and tribal juvenile crime prevention plans and establishing guidelines for funding eligibility.

ORS 417.855 requires the county and tribal recipients to use JCP funds for services and activities for youth who: (a) Have more than one of the following risk factors: antisocial behavior; poor family functioning or poor family support; school failure; substance abuse; or negative peer association; and (b) "Are clearly demonstrating at-risk behaviors that have come to the attention of government or community agencies, schools or law enforcement and will lead to imminent or increased involvement in the juvenile justice system."

The YDC administers state and federal funding dedicated to reducing juvenile crime and improving the juvenile justice system. The Juvenile Crime Prevention Advisory Committee (JCPAC) appointed by the Governor and staffed by the YDC allocates general funds to each of the nine federally-recognized Tribes in Oregon. The plan includes funding to address tribal programming in delinquency prevention and juvenile justice.

The YDC's Juvenile Crime Prevention Manager is working with each of the nine Tribes to support local prevention services to reduce the numbers of Native American youth entering the county and state juvenile justice system. The YDC supports the work of the Tribal Best Practices Panel, whose purpose is to review and approve tribal practices submitted for review as Practice-Based Evidence Programs. The YDC's policy supports implementation of Tribal best practices that promote positive development and prevent delinquent behavior.

The Tribal Prevention Quarterly meetings convene the JCP programs staff from all nine Tribes and provide for a forum to discuss issues, share concerns and accomplishments, receive training and technical assistance from YDC staff and contractors, and engage in a dialogue with county juvenile department directors and other state agencies.

The YDC has been engaged in a concerted effort to improve outcomes for youth of color and Native American and Tribal youth in particular. The 2012 Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) in Oregon's Juvenile Justice System: Identification and Assessment Report drew the following conclusions:

“The primary findings, as with examination of previous data, are that the principal areas of DMC are in the referral of African American and Native American youth into the juvenile justice system, as well as in the higher rates of detention for Native youth.

Further investigation of the differences in referrals of African American and Native youth lead to the following disturbing conclusions:

- African American youth tend to have more serious allegations when they enter the juvenile justice system and tend to have an earlier age of first referral. Additionally, both African American and Native American youth tend to have had a higher proportion of youth with previous court referrals, a higher proportion of prior referrals for criminal allegations and a higher proportion of prior probation or sentences involving out of home placement.
- When referred to the courts, both groups of youth tend to have higher risk profiles on the Juvenile Crime Prevention scales, especially those related to peers, school, attitudes and values, and family factors. This is particularly true for youth with multiple court referrals.
- Both groups of youth have significantly higher rates of founded child welfare cases. Findings of injury, threat of harm, neglect, and mental injury are higher among these court referred youth. “

Ensuring fair and equitable treatment of youth and families by the state-funded services is among the Youth Development Council highest priorities. A significant portion of Formula Grant Title II funds is dedicated to support local and statewide activities aimed at reduction of DMC. Counties that were awarded the grant are working closely with their neighboring Tribes to collaboratively resolve underlining issues and reduce involvement of tribal youth with the juvenile justice system.

The upcoming 2012 Governor’s Summit on Reducing Disproportionate Minority Contact in the Juvenile Justice System will call for taking action for justice and fairness through commitment, collaboration, data and accountability. The summit will be hosted by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde on November 1 and 2. Tribal, county and state agencies’ representatives will come together to develop a plan of action to reduce disparities across systems and improve outcomes for youth and their communities.

Juvenile Crime Prevention Tribal Programs

Burns Paiute Tribe

The JCP program coordinator works with the Burns Paiute Tribal Police, Tribal Juvenile Court, Tribal Prevention Programs, the Harney County Juvenile Department, Harney County Schools, and local groups such as Harney Partners for Kids and Families, and the Drug-Free Communities activities, to prevent and reduce juvenile crime among tribal youth.

- The JCP program utilizes the following evidence-based curricula and tribal best practices: Strengthening Families
- Protecting You Protecting Me
- Tribal Crafts
- Tribal Family Activities
- Tribal Youth Conferences

Confederated Tribes of Coos – Lower Umpqua – and Siuslaw Indians

The JCP Prevention services include weekly afterschool program, mentoring cultural , and monthly prevention activities that take place in a variety of locations throughout the Tribes' five-county service area. Snow Camp takes place in March; Youth Camp is held in August.

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

The Tribal Youth Prevention Program relies on mentors and other community volunteers to provide youth with an opportunity for positive involvement in the community and in family activities.

- JCP programs include the following culturally appropriate, individualized activities that reduce risk factors and increase protective factors: Making Parenting a Pleasure
- Afterschool & Weekend Alcohol and Drug Free Activities:
 - Culture Class
 - Canoe Journey and Canoe Family Activities, TBP
 - Mentoring
 - Equine Therapy, TBP
 - Sports/Recreational Skill Building Activities promoting healthy lifestyles
 - Academic Skill Building Opportunities (tutoring)
- Leadership Skill Building Activities
- Targeted case management plan

The federal Title V Community Prevention Grants Program requires a comprehensive community-based approach to prevention, based on the premise that in order to prevent a problem from occurring, the factors that contribute to and buffer the development of that problem must be identified and addressed. Oregon's Title V priorities are aligned with the JCP program. The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde received the award and completed two years. Currently, the third year of the Tribal Youth Horse Project utilizes Therapeutic Horsemanship sessions to supplement other research- based juvenile justice interventions to reduce risk factors associated with juvenile delinquency.

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

Tribal Prevention staff will provide the following services to Siletz Tribal Youth ages 10 to 17:

- Referrals to appropriate services
- Crisis follow up and management
- In-school support
- Skill building groups
- Liaison services and transition planning are provided for families and youth who are under the jurisdiction of county juvenile departments, Siletz Community Accountability Board, Oregon Youth Authority (OYA), the Department of Human Services (DHS), the Siletz Tribe's Indian Child Welfare Program, and Community Efforts Demonstrating the Ability to Rebuild and Restore (CEDARR). These services are also provided for those families participating in the multidisciplinary team, including the AOD Prevention Coordinator, cultural programs, Education Specialist, Tribal Housing and school staff.

Tribal Best Practices and Evidence-Based Best Practices provided are:

- Cultural Activities
- Traditional Gathering
- Equine Assisted Therapy
- Daughters of Tradition
- Strengthening Families Program
- Sons of Tradition
- Children of Alcoholics

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Services are contracted through Juvenile Tribal Court and Cornerstone Community Youth Services, known as *Lost and Found*. The Tribal Court Prevention Specialist coordinates with Lost and Found when planning for monthly youth programs, with three to four activities per week, including weekends and after school hours. *Lost and Found* conducts after school meetings with youth either referred to them by tribal court or through friend association.

The *Lost and Found* program provides life skills, cognitive behavioral skills, and service-learning projects that enhance cultural development and expression. Classes are designed to help youth learn more about themselves and the world in which they live. They are age appropriate, gender and culturally relevant but also promote a pro-social anti-gang perspective by encouraging and enhancing youth efforts in remaining drug, alcohol and crime free. It is estimated there will be 5-10 youth per activity each week.

The Tribal Court Juvenile Department is responsible for keeping the Law and Order Committee and the Board of Trustees informed of the progress of services and accomplishments of youth.

In August 2012, upon receiving a Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) from the YDC, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Juvenile Court signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Central and Eastern Oregon Juvenile Justice Consortium (CEOJJAC) joining efforts with 17 county juvenile departments in maintaining a regional continuum of services for youth.

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs utilizes Juvenile Crime Prevention funds to pay for a portion of a full time clinical psychologist position. The Tribal Juvenile Department provides case management, probation, community service, diversion programs and readily accessible treatment services. The Tribe is taking this approach to address a rapidly increasing service need in the community for juvenile delinquency, to provide an integrated service package to youth, and to reduce the number of youth in the Juvenile Court system through prevention and early intervention with respect to substance abuse and mental health problems.

Coquille Indian Tribe

The Juvenile Crime Prevention funds support afterschool and summer activities for youth ages 10-17. The majority of young people who attend these programs are at a high risk for delinquency, behavioral issues and other negative outcomes.

The Afterschool Program partners with numerous organizations within and outside the Tribe to assure the needs of the youth are identified early and there is an appropriate intervention. These partners include, but are not limited to: Coquille Indian Tribe Health and Community Centers, Education Department, Tribal Peace Giving Court (Tribal Best Practice), Tribal Council, Housing Authority, Tribal Elders, Tribal Police, Tribal Cultural Department, local mental health service providers, other Oregon Tribes and Tribes of the Pacific Northwest.

A teen group meets bi-weekly at the Community Center to discuss relevant adolescent issues. The goals of the program are to reduce the number of youth using alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, increase the number of at-risk youth making healthy lifestyle choices, and increasing the number of adolescents attending the Afterschool, Summer Program and other tribal events, especially among those who live off the reservation. This will be achieved by strengthening partnerships with tribal departments and tribal families, as well as other members of the community on and off the reservation.

The Juvenile Services Coordinator/Prevention Specialist implements both Evidence Based Practices, i.e., mentoring programs, as well as Tribal Best Practices such as Talking Circles, Tribal Crafts, Traditional Food Gathering Events and the Tribal Peace Giving Court.

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians

The strategies supported with JCP program funds are to identify behaviors and barriers related to situational factors that put juveniles at risk for offending and provide interventions that address the barriers, as well as social and environmental issues that feed into criminal behaviors.

Julie Hargraves, MSW, CADC II, provides individual and family therapy for each client and client's family and makes referrals to appropriate services. Program participants learn life skills and positive coping skills and parenting skills. A special emphasis is on the strengthening of family relations.

The Klamath Tribes

Health and wellness continue to be a high priority for the Klamath Tribes. Tribal programs are designed to protect, preserve and enhance Klamath, Modoc, and Yahooskin traditional cultural values and meet the social, spiritual, cultural, educational and health needs of the Tribes.

The prevention team, a part of the Klamath Tribal Health & Family Service's Youth & Family Intervention Program, is committed to creating and implementing programs and services to improve the wellness and education of youth and the community. The prevention coordinator is responsible for the JCP program. The coordinator works with the police, courts, DHS,

probation officers, schools and families to design programs, activities and individual interventions to prevent and reduce juvenile crime among tribal youth. Tribal youth with two or more risk factors identified during the screening will participate in individual interventions developed to assist them in learning healthy beliefs, clear standards and pro-social skills, thereby reducing antisocial behaviors and simultaneously increasing school attendance and academic success.

Projects funded with the JCP grant include:

- School Intervention Services
- Attending YAT (Youth Attendance Team) meetings for referrals for youth with school attendance issues
- Tribal Families School Engagement Project
- Home based mediation with Youth & Families

Title IV-B (2) Promoting Safe and Stable Families

The 1997 Adoption and Safe Families Act approved by Congress amended Title IV (B) to add components for time-limited family reunification services along with adoption promotion and support provisions. The amendment increased funding and also changed the name from Family Preservation and Support to Promoting Safe and Stable Families. Tribes use Title IV-B(2) funds to serve the needs of their communities by investing in services, systems change, community development and capacity building that targets child maltreatment, adult substance abuse or poverty. Tribes also use these funds for transportation to alleviate barriers to accessing services, improving family management and life skills.

Safe & Equitable Foster Care Reduction (SEFCR) Partnership

The Youth Development Council also staffs the Community Engagement Coordinator for the Safe and Equitable Foster Care Reduction partnership in Oregon. The Community Engagement Coordinator provides technical assistance and support to the eleven county teams and Tribal Indian Child Welfare Programs. Technical assistance on strategies to increase Tribal/Native American engagement, including planning for Listening Circles and Tribal Roundtables was provided, along with the provision of team consultations.

The coordinator provides information regarding the partnership to the Tribal ICW Programs and the Urban Indian organizations. This includes SEFCR work efforts, convenings and training opportunities. The coordinator represents the partnership on the ICWA Advisory Committee, the Native Caring Committee, the ICWA Conference Planning Committee, the Portland American Indian Advisory Committee and the State Court ICWA Compliance Workgroup. The coordinator has participated in numerous meetings relating to ICWA, including the JCIP Reassessment Findings (ICWA Cases), QUICWA planning meeting, and was a review member of the ICWA CFRs for the State.

The coordinator also represents the Youth Development Council on the design team for *Knowing Who You Are*, a Casey Family Programs curriculum designed to help child welfare

professionals explore race and ethnicity, preparing them to support the healthy development of their constituent's racial and ethnic identity. She also participates on the Differential Response Design Team and provided input to the Tribal focus group. She also gave a presentation at the Native Caring Conference on *Grandparents Raising Grandchildren*.

Early Learning Council Program:

Healthy Start~Healthy Families Oregon

Healthy Start~Healthy Families Oregon, a program overseen by the Early Learning Council, is a voluntary home visitation and family support program offering screening and outreach services to all first-time families during the prenatal period and/or at the time of birth. High risk families are offered intensive home visiting services. The state and local advisory boards are comprised of diverse community members. The state's Healthy Start~Healthy Families Oregon Advisory Committee and some local advisory committees include a tribal member.

Two Oregon tribes, Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center in Pendleton and Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians have each been awarded a \$200,000 annual grant as part of the FY 2012 Affordable Care Act (ACA) Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Grant Program. These funds support grants (cooperative agreements) to Tribes (or consortia of Indian Tribes), Tribal Organizations, or Urban Indian Organizations to conduct needs and readiness assessments; develop infrastructure needed for the widespread planning, adopting, implementing, and sustaining of evidence-based maternal, infant, and early childhood home visiting programs; implement with fidelity to evidence-based models high-quality home visiting programs for pregnant women and families with young children aged birth to kindergarten entry; measure program participants' progress toward meeting legislatively mandated benchmarks; and conduct a rigorous evaluation of the implemented home visiting program. The project period for these grants is five years, contingent on availability of funds. The existing MIECHV state home visiting programs, through the Oregon Healthy Authority, are reaching out to these new grantees to discuss coordination and collaboration opportunities.

Continuation of Healthy Start~Healthy Families Oregon Tribal Activities:

Burns Paiute Tribe (Harney)

Harney County continues to actively recruit families from the Paiute Tribe by distributing information about the program to the Tribal Health Department. The Department of Human Services also refers families to Healthy Start~Healthy Families who are having their first baby.

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (Yamhill/Polk)

The Healthy Start~Healthy Families supervisor for Marion and Polk County continues to teach a parenting class at Grand Ronde. She has organized several other community partners to offer classes for parents, demonstrating great collaboration.

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians (Lincoln)

Lincoln County receives all of its information of births and pregnancy from the local doctors and hospitals. The Tribe is familiar with Healthy Start~Healthy Families and makes referrals.

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation (Umatilla)

Healthy Start~Healthy Families Oregon has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Tribe for WIC, Head Start and Healthy Start~Healthy Families.

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon (primarily Jefferson/Wasco)

Healthy Start~Healthy Families in Wasco County learns about first-birth families almost exclusively through its prenatal provider referral system and continues to rely on those referrals for its outreach.

Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians (Coos)

Coos County has been working to bring a tribal member onto its team.

The Klamath Tribes (Klamath)

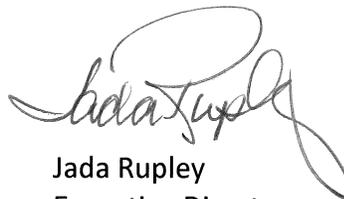
Healthy Start~Healthy Families Oregon works with many enrolled members of the Klamath Tribes and also has a number of other programs and collaborations with Tribal Administration and Tribal Health Services, which frequently results in referrals to the program. Healthy Start~Healthy Families regularly trains on issues of cultural sensitivity in its work with members of the Tribes. It is a very strong relationship.

The Youth Development Council and Early Learning Council continue their collaboration with the nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon. We look forward to continuing this work with Oregon’s Tribes to improve the lives of Native American youth and families.

Respectfully submitted,



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