

Spokane Tribe and DCS Policy 7.01 Plan and Progress Report

Annual Timeframe: July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

Plan Due Dates: April 2 (Regional Plan submitted to Assistant Secretary) and April 30 (Assistant Secretary Plan submitted to IPSS) of each even-numbered year.
 Progress Report Due Dates: April 2 (Regional Plan submitted to Assistant Secretary) and April 30 (Assistant Secretary Plan submitted to IPSS) of each odd-numbered year.

Implementation Plan				Progress Report
(1) Goals/Objectives	(2) Activities	(3) Expected Outcome	(4) Lead Staff and Target Date	(5) Status Update for the Fiscal Year Starting Last July 1
<p>1. Continue implementing informal agreement on child support services provided by DCS in connection with Spokane Tribal TANF cases.</p>	<p>DCS and the Tribe have agreed that (1) DCS will open a case where the custodial parent has applied for Spokane Tribal TANF benefits and that custodial parent previously received State TANF benefits or previously received non-assistance services from DCS; (2) DCS will provide Spokane Tribal Accounting with a copy of the “Basic Case” computer screen, and the “Case Financial” screen on our case to assist Tribal Accounting with identifying the parties and the amount of child support arrearages assigned to the Spokane Tribal TANF program; (3) when the Spokane Tribal TANF Program closes its case, it will notify our office; and (4) when our office receives notice of a Spokane Tribal TANF case closure, our office will send to the Spokane Tribal TANF Program a month-by-month debt calculation, a copy of our Basic Case screen on the case, and a copy of our “Order Record” screen on the case; (5) While DCS has an open case, as referenced in (1) – (4), DCS will continue whatever enforcement actions are available to DCS and forward collections to the Spokane Tribal TANF Program; (6) DCS will not open a case where the custodial parent has applied for Spokane Tribal TANF benefits and that custodial parent has not previously received State TANF benefits or previously received non-assistance services from DCS.</p>	<p>Tribe and Spokane Tribal TANF clients receive child support services in accordance with agreement.</p>	<p>Debbie Wulff, Dawn Pullin, Karl Boettner</p> <p>September 1, 2009 January 1, 2010 April 1, 2010 June 30, 2010</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<p>2. Improve employment Opportunities for Spokane Tribal members and for clients of Spokane Tribal TANF Program.</p>	<p>DCS to investigate with other DSHS agencies and IPSS the feasibility of hosting an all-agency Region One DSHS Job Fair For American Indians in Region One.</p> <p>DCS to investigate with other DSHS agencies and IPSS the feasibility of hosting a targeted pre-test training session at Spokane Tribal Employment and Training Office co-located with Spokane Tribal TANF Office in Spokane.</p> <p>DCS to work with IPSS Region One Manager to explore availability of providing workshops to American Indians in Region One, through the Executive Recruiter for DSHS Management Services Administration, in the following subject areas: Effectively completing the State of Washington Employment Application, Effectively completing the In-person Examination for a position, Effectively completing the Experience and Training Examination for a position.</p>	<p>Tribal members learn about DSHS employment opportunities, how to effectively apply for State of Washington employment positions, and employment opportunities for Tribal members improved.</p>	<p>Debbie Wulff, Dawn Pullin, Karl Boettner</p> <p>September 1, 2009 January 1, 2010 April 1, 2010 June 30, 2010</p>	
<p>3. Mutually develop government-to-government training tailored to the Spokane Tribal government and DCS and deliver to as many DCS staff and Spokane Tribal government staff as possible.</p>	<p>Tribe to designate Tribal representative(s) to work with DCS representatives to develop a curriculum together for government-to-government training that is based on Spokane Tribal government values and DCS values. Tribe and DCS representatives to develop plan for delivering, and deliver, the training to as many DCS Spokane staff and Spokane Tribal staff as possible.</p>	<p>DCS staff and Tribal staff learn how to more effectively work with each other to deliver child support services to Tribal members and others of mutual concern to the Tribe and DCS.</p>	<p>Debbie Wulff, Dawn Pullin, Karl Boettner</p> <p>September 1, 2009 January 1, 2010 April 1, 2010 June 30, 2010</p>	
<p>4. Continue implementation of agreed protocol on the handling of child support issues in Spokane County Superior Court family law cases where a party receives, or has received, Spokane Tribal TANF benefits.</p>	<p>DCS and the Tribe have agreed to the following protocol: when the judge or commissioner becomes aware that TANF benefits are being paid to one of the parties, the judge will notify Paul Cornelius of the Prosecutor's Office, if Mr. Cornelius is not already involved. If it is unclear whether the TANF benefits being paid are State or Tribal in origin, the Spokane DCS Tribal Unit (Barbara Melville) will make the determination. (If there are Tribal TANF benefits being paid, they will most likely be Spokane Tribal TANF benefits.) If it is determined that Spokane Tribal TANF benefits are being paid to one of the parties, Mr. Cornelius will notify Debbie Wulff, Spokane Tribal Executive Director. The Spokane Tribal TANF Program, having received an assignment of child support from their Tribal TANF client, will have an interest in the Order of Child Support. Mr. Cornelius, as attorney for DCS, will have a</p>	<p>Tribe has opportunity to be heard on child support issues in Spokane Superior Court family law cases in which the Tribe has an interest because Tribal TANF benefits have been or are being paid on behalf of a party.</p>	<p>Debbie Wulff, Dawn Pullin, Karl Boettner</p> <p>September 1, 2009 January 1, 2010 April 1, 2010 June 30, 2010</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

	<p>separate interest in establishing the medical support obligation, since the Tribal TANF client necessarily receives Medical Assistance from the State of Washington in conjunction with the Spokane Tribal TANF benefits. Mr. Cornelius will make sure that the proposed Order of Child Support has a signature line for the Spokane Tribal TANF Program separate from Mr. Cornelius's signature line on behalf of DCS. Upon notification to the Spokane Tribal TANF Program, all the interested parties will either agree and sign off on the Order, or not agree, at which point all the parties, including the Spokane Tribal TANF Program, will be notified of a contested (or presentment) hearing, and, after hearing from the parties who appear at the hearing, the judge or commissioner will enter the Order. If an attorney for the Spokane Tribal TANF Program does not appear at the contested (or presentment) hearing, the judge or commissioner will not enter the Order, unless there is proof, by certificate of mailing, of having served Debbie Wulff, Executive Director of the Tribe, with a copy of the proposed Order (according to the time required for the particular Order) and of having served Debbie Wulff with adequate notice of the hearing. The address and contact numbers for Debbie Wulff are as follows:</p> <p>Debbie Wulff Executive Director Spokane Tribe of Indians PO Box 100 Wellpinit, WA 99040 Telephone: (509) 458-6524 (Direct) or (509) 458-6500 (Receptionist)</p>			
<p>5. Tribe and DCS meet frequently regarding implementing this Plan.</p>	<p>Tribe and DCS to meet at least quarterly to review progress in implementing this Plan.</p>	<p>Tribe and DCS communicate more effectively regarding delivery of child support services to members and others of mutual concern to the Tribe and DCS.</p>	<p>Debbie Wulff, Dawn Pullin, Karl Boettner</p> <p>September 1, 2009 January 1, 2010 April 1, 2010 June 30, 2010</p>	<p>Discussed the Plan Once Annually By Telephone</p>