



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

ECONOMIC SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

DSHS ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 7.01 JULY 1, 2016 TO JUNE 30, 2017 - PLAN & PROGRESS REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I. Key Accomplishments and Areas of Focus for the Future

A. Community Services Division

The Community Services Division (CSD) carries the DSHS Economic Services Administration (ESA) mission to transform lives into its working relationship with Tribal Nations, governments, communities and Recognized American Indian Organizations (RAIO) throughout the State. DSHS American Indian Policy 7.01 follows a government-to-government approach to engage representatives of tribal governments in policy development and service program activities.

Washington State has the sixth highest number of Indian tribes and tribal entities among the states, and the second highest number of Tribal TANF grants, including those states with numerous Villages, Councils, Rancherias and Pueblos. The twenty-nine federally-recognized tribes in the State of Washington are representative of the diverse geography, economy and communities that stretch from the Pacific Coast, across mountain ranges, ocean inlets, flat lands and prairies. Their systems of government, the programs and services they offer and their community priorities must be accounted for and addressed individually.

The Policy 7.01 General Guidelines direct that programs and services be culturally relevant and in accordance with controlling Federal Law and relevant agreements, statutes and tribal, federal and state laws. The specific duties and responsibilities the State and tribes coordinate and collaborate on are periodically evaluated through the Policy 7.01 process. Regular meetings held quarterly or as needed address and improve communication and consultation between the CSD and the Tribes and RAIOs.

The annual DSHS Policy 7.01 Plan and Progress Report provides accountability and measures of progress throughout the year, as well as indicates areas where goals were accomplished. Moreover, the annual Plan and Progress Report reflects the dedication of the staff who engage their counterparts at the tribes in their mutual concern for the direct and timely provision of services to American Indian and Alaskan Native individuals and their communities throughout the State.

Key accomplishments over the past year reflected efforts to achieve more coordination between State and Tribal client services personnel. Outreach between State and Tribal programs has led to more CSD staff working at Tribal administrative offices.

A Financial Service Specialist 3 (FSS 3) will provide onsite service at the Squaxin Island Tribe for eligibility determinations and same-day processing of monetary and Basic Food assistance, and for Classic Medical

applications. Region 2 North reported a decrease in the number of service-delivery issues by identifying specific gaps in services provided to members of area tribes.

The Region 1 provides CSO staff to the Spokane Tribal TANF and Native Health Organization, Spokane/Colville Tribes Reservations, and NATIVE Health Clinic.

A financial worker from the Pierce South CSO will be out-stationed in the Puyallup Tribal Health Authority one day a week to process Classic Medical, Basic Food, and ABD applications. An increase in availability will be discussed if necessary.

Formal agreements between CSD offices and Tribes will enhance relations through clarity and consistency in operating procedures. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Region 2 North CSO and the Tulalip Tribes implementing Tribal TANF Plans and Operating Agreements has been updated. The Shoalwater Bay Tribal Social Services Director will serve as the Tribe's point of contact for sixty-month case planning and review of TANF extension eligibility, particularly when a client is addressing family violence issues or are working with Children's Administration on a first-time dependency case.

Direct communication with Tribal leaders and key staff through the Policy 7.01 process provided CSD staff with the opportunity to directly present issue summaries to seventeen tribes on steps to resolve implementation of applying the Indian Country Disregard in accordance with State law, expediting tribal member access to services through eligibility determinations that include unique tribal sources of income, and the advantages of using the Washington Connection benefits portal.

Planned areas of focus for the coming year include broader tribal participation in decision-making processes, including involving more tribes in Local Area Planning meetings through site selection and joint-hosting. CSOs and tribes have planned for greater participation by the tribes in hiring processes, both as participants on hiring panels and as applicants for positions. More collaboration in case-review for individuals approaching the sixty-month time limit for receiving public assistance will occur.

Further implementation of technological capability will result in tribal staff receiving training on using Washington Connection and increasing the number of applications submitted electronically and reducing waiting times at CSOs. Reliance on traditional means of outreach will include frequent participation in tribal events through the Mobile CSO.

Shared training opportunities will increase the common knowledge base and increase understanding. CSD staff will increase training opportunities for the tribes on laws and programs that impact them, and provide knowledge on the full range of programs DSHS provides. Cross-training between tribal and CSD staff will contribute to enhanced communications and problem-solving.

The Indian Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC) ESA Subcommittee served as the forum for CSD staff to announce the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) reauthorization, Public Law 113-128, section 166 contains a provision for tribes to apply for competitive WIOA funding on their own, which they can use to supplement existing programs of their own that pursue the same goals and objectives. A member of the Workforce Board appeared at a later meeting to provide a power point presentation and details on the State's workforce development plan.

Other Subcommittee meetings featured an ESA IT Solutions presentation on how they are using “zip + 4” (zip code plus four-digit extension) in identifying boundary lines for Indian Country in applying the Indian Country Disregard. This new process will be far more accurate than determinations made by using outdated mapping sources and is a step in developing the a real-time web service with the (Geographical Information System) GIS team reporting if an address is in or out of Indian Country.

In addition, the CSD Washington Connection staff presented a power point on variety of services available through the Washington Connections benefits portal and the benefits of being a partner, including updated information (by email or Listserv) related to direct local contacts, community meetings, network with other organizations, and provide feedback. You may also receive technical assistance and marketing materials as needed. Present Tribal Partners include five Tribal Host Organizations and a dozen Assisting Agencies serving several tribes.

B. Division of Child Support

The Division of Child Support (DCS) maintains government-to-government relationships with Washington Tribes, respecting Indian sovereignty while developing and delivering child support services. The Tribal Relations Team (TRT) leads DCS’ tribal relations efforts in partnership with DCS leaders, statewide tribal liaisons, DCS staff, and the 29 federally recognized Tribes in Washington State to improve the lives of children and families. The team advocates for policies and laws that respect tribal sovereignty and develop processes and agreements to address child support. Additional information about state/tribal child support efforts and agreements is available at the DCS Tribal Relations Website at www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/division-child-support/tribal-relations.

In an effort to improve child support services for families, TRT and DCS staff partner with eight Tribes in Washington State that operate child support programs, 10 tribes and one Recognized American Indian Organization (RAIO) that operate tribal TANF programs. We also partner with other Tribes and RAIOs in Washington and Tribes in bordering states. Tribal cases are assigned to specially-trained DCS Tribal Liaisons.

DCS Tribal Liaisons attend the Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs’ Government-to-Government training and the DSHS Office of Indian Policy’s 7.01 training, manage DCS “Tribal Cases”, receive ongoing training, and serve as the point of contact for local Tribes. DCS Tribal Liaisons provide outreach services, training, and technical assistance to local Tribes. Tribal Liaisons often attend and participate in tribal cultural events like Pow Wows, tribal health fairs, job fairs, and other community events and conferences in an effort to increase cultural competency, strengthen relationships and partnerships, and improve services through coordination with Tribes.

The DCS Tribal Relations Team (TRT) and the CSD State Tribal Relations Unit (STRU) maintain Data Share Agreements with 13 Tribal TANF and Tribal IV-D programs. These agreements provide limited read-only access to State IV-A and IV-D computer data. DCS recently expanded access on the Cross-Reference (CR) screen to include date of birth (DOB) information. (See the attached HQ Tribal Projects Matrix for more information). These agreements also provide Employment Security Department wage and unemployment information for Tribal TANF and Child Support Programs. TRT maintains Federal IRS Offset Agreements with six Washington Tribal IV-D programs and one out-of-state Tribal IV-D Program (Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska) to offer Federal IRS Offset services on certain cases. DCS has intergovernmental child support agreements in place with nine Tribes, and informal child support processes with numerous other Tribes.

DCS is pursuing amendments to [WAC 388-14A-5006](#) to provide an exception to “the algorithm” for distribution of per capita payments when a noncustodial parent has more than one case. The “algorithm” is the method that the DCS computer system uses to determine what part of a child support payment gets applied to which case. Payments are distributed to cases per the algorithm unless an exception exists in the DCS rules that govern how payments get applied within a single case and across multiple cases. DCS does not attach tribal per capita payments, but Tribes sometimes send per capita payments to DCS with the intent that the payment be applied to a particular child support case. These funds are usually the result of a tribal court garnishment order or the result of a collection action taken by a federally-funded Tribal Child Support program. In order for DCS to make any exception to the current distribution requirements; that exception must be specified in the DCS rules. DCS surveyed Tribes and then held a Tribal Focus Group in November 2014, where they received some excellent feedback. Due to vacancies, DCS Policy has not yet had the staff to draft this Rule. DCS Policy hopes to fill vacancies in 2016 and prepare an initial draft Rule to share with Tribes for their input.

DCS is working to reconcile Tribal Employer information in our Support Enforcement Management System (SEMS). DCS has reached out to Tribes to request assistance in updating and maintaining our list of Tribal employers to help prevent the DCS SEMS computer system from sending auto-withholding notices (garnishments) to tribal employers.

In October 2015, DCS published the update to the Tribal Chapter of the DCS handbook. Hyperlinks to the Chapter were sent to staff, Tribes, and other partners and stakeholders. The input received from the Tribes regarding proposed changes was excellent and DCS incorporated nearly all suggestions in the final product. The Tribal Chapter updates include: strengthened language regarding tribal sovereignty and state/tribal government-to-government relationships; additional language and links regarding Tribal IV-D Child Support programs; examples of “tribal connections” on DCS cases, with the emphasis that staff need to contact DCS Tribal Liaisons before taking actions on a case with “tribal connections.” The update clarified policy or procedure, and updated hyperlinks and resources. This was a multi-year effort, and thanks to everyone who participated; particularly the Puyallup Tribal Child Support Program for suggesting the in-person meetings and providing lots of detailed input. The process was a big success and it resulted in a greatly improved handbook. TRT conducted mandatory training of the Tribal Chapter for Field Office (FO) staff. The [DCS Tribal Policy Chapter](#) is now published on the [DCS Tribal Relations Website](#).

In September DCS and CSD’s State Tribal Relations Unit conducted training at the DCS Claims Officer Workshop to familiarize Claims Officers with Tribal Court history and practice, and regarding the differences in working tribal cases compared to regular cases. Participating in the presentations were Brady Rosnagle, DCS/TRT, Martin Bohl (former Chief Judge, Appellate Justice, and Judge Pro Tem at over a dozen NW Tribal Courts), Harry Fretheim (DCS Claims Officer who represents DCS in Swinomish Tribal Court), and Glenn Tunick (Spokane DCS Tribal Liaison). DCS Claims Officers attended the Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs (GOIA) Government-to-Government training. TRT also worked with DCS Business Services and Fiscal to finalize a Best Practices document to obtain payment for Tribal Court Filing Fees.

TRT continues to share what DCS is doing to support the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) [Family-Centered Innovations](#) to Improve Child Support Outcomes. See the [OCSE Bubble Chart](#) regarding promoting child well-being and family-centered innovations. OCSE and state child support programs are emphasizing projects to promote Engagement of Fathers, Economic Stability, Healthy

Family Relationships, Health Care Coverage, Family Violence Collaboration, and Child Support Prevention (activities beyond the traditional core child support mission of locating parents, establishing paternity and child support, and enforcing child support). Instead of simply establishing and enforcing child support, DCS has a number of initiatives (including the Alternative Solutions Program), to assist non-custodial parents in addressing the issues that prevent them from paying child support. For example, DCS works with partners to assist NCP's with obstacles such as unemployment, lack of education, addiction, community re-entry from incarceration, lack of housing or transportation, visitation and parenting issues, issues faced by veterans, lack of medical or dental services, and other barriers.

DCS and the Children's Administration (CA) are working together to modify their respective computer systems to better share tribal affiliation information. These programming changes will assist DCS in identifying tribal connections on foster care cases and getting the cases assigned to Tribal Liaisons. (See the attached HQ Tribal Projects Matrix for more information).

The [2015 Child Support Schedule Workgroup](#) was convened in January to perform the federally-mandated quadrennial review of Washington State's child support guidelines per [RCW 26.19.025](#). The Workgroup's assignment is to determine whether the application of the current support schedule results in appropriate support orders. In the Summer and Fall of 2014, the Governor's Office solicited volunteers from various stakeholders, partners, Tribes, as well as, from the public. The Governor's Office appointed Workgroup members that included "a representative of the tribal community," as provided in RCW 26.19.025(1)(c)(v). Unfortunately, the original tribal appointee resigned before the first workgroup meeting in January 2015. TRT sought tribal participation in the Workgroup through email solicitation and requests at IPAC and ESA Subcommittee meetings. Kala Jackson, Quileute Nation, was subsequently appointed by the Governor to serve on the CS Schedule Workgroup. [The 2015 Child Support Schedule Workgroup Final Report](#) has been completed.

DCS has published three issues of our electronic newsletter [Pacific Northwest News: Issue 1, Issue 2 and Issue 3](#), which contain information about DCS programs and services, including tribal relations. DCS distributes the Newsletter to better 'share our story' with Tribes, partners, stakeholders, and other state child support programs. DCS plans to issue 2-3 Newsletters per year.

In late 2014 DSHS changed its public website www.dshs.wa.gov. The DCS website was changed to www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/division-child-support. The DCS Tribal Relations Website was also changed and is now located at www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/division-child-support/tribal-relations. It includes excellent information, resources, and links.

The 8th Annual Summer Institute Reentry Conference was held 7/23-7/24 @ Edmonds Community College in Lynnwood, WA. The conference is sponsored by the Community Partnership for Transition Services (CPTS) of King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Spokane Counties. This annual conference brings together reentry service providers, educators, and faith-based and community organizations, to network, share expertise, identify and refine best practices, and foster partnerships. The conference theme was "Invest in No Return – Reducing Recidivism." It focused on Transition & Re-entry, Mental Health, Re-employment, Solutions, and Education & Training. TRT facilitated a Tribal session featuring speakers from the Lummi Nation's Transitional Long House Project, and the Tulalip Tribe's "Reunite" parent advocacy program. Other Tribal sessions were offered featuring Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribes Re-Entry Program and Seattle Indian Health Boards overview of "Historical Trauma and Violence against

American Indian & Alaska Native Women.” The [2016 Summer Institute Reentry Conference](#) is scheduled for July 27th-28th at the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma.

In November 2015, the DCS Tribal Relations Team and the CSD State Tribal Relations Unit hosted the 16th annual ESA Headquarters celebration of National American Indian Heritage Month. The event was held at the Capital View 1 Building in Olympia and included a luncheon featuring Indian Tacos with frybread prepared by members of the Chehalis Tribe and SPIPA TANF program. It also included crockpots of chili and desserts volunteered by ESA staff. Traditional drumming and singing was performed by Canoe Journey families from the Chehalis, Quinault, and Squaxin Island tribes of Washington, and a staff member from the Navajo Nation. The event also included an American Indian Arts and Crafts display, Native background music and a continuous slide show featuring photos taken at many years of partnership events (such as Tribal Canoe Journeys and prior Heritage Month events), and a tribal informational resource table.

II. Highlights of the 2015-2016 7.01 Plans & Progress Reports

A. Community Services Division

Region 1

SPOKANE/ TRI-COUNTY/COLVILLE

- Tribal staff is invited to participate in Local Planning Area meetings and training opportunities. The Spokane Tribal TANF Director participates in the Workfirst Local Planning Agency, and the Spokane Access Office maintains a near full-time presence at the Spokane Tribal TANF office.
- Outstation staffing levels have decreased and full-time presence at Region 1 Native Health Centers continues to be challenging. The Region 1 Administrator has committed to continue this staffing as funding allows.
- Region 1 CSO staff work cordially with the NakNuWe Sha Program, Commodity Food and LIHEAP Program, and others to provide services.
- The Yakama Nation Business Tech Centers continue to serve as an alternate site for computer classes, tutoring, workshops that count toward WorkFirst participation as Job Search. The centers provide access to the automated Washington Connection benefits portal and the Region 1 Washington Connection Coordinator and staff will continue this partnership.
- The CSO works with Yakama Nation Housing Authority and Noah’s Ark to assist with housing needs and with the Nation’s Diabetes Program to share important information with clients regarding diabetes related education and prevention.
- The Spokane CSOs ensure that the Spokane Tribe receives invitations to attend a broad range of training including LEAN management, CPR/First Aid, and team-building.
- The Okanogan CSO and representatives of the Colville Confederated Tribes agreed to update contacts for inclusion in the Local Planning Area email list, and the Tribes will add the CSO to its Broadcast email list so that the CSO will receive notification of Business Council actions and per capita disbursements. The new Tribal Government Center in Nespelem provides better bandwidth and allow for more data sharing between the CSO and Tribal TANF program.

Region 2

NORTH (Comprising Lummi Nation, Nooksack, Samish, Sauk-Suiattle, Stillaguamish, Swinomish, Tulalip and Upper Skagit Indian Tribes.)

- Quarterly CSD/Tribal meetings continue to provide tribal representatives an opportunity to review progress on ongoing and future issues including Tribal TANF Plans and Operating Agreements (MOU's). Regular meetings have resulted in a decline of problem areas requiring focused discussion.
- Lummi Nation is reviewing a Draft MOU, the Nooksack Tribe's MOU with both the Mt. Vernon and Bellingham CSOs is in process for final signatures, and the Upper Skagit Tribe Draft MOU is under consideration.
- CSD staff will continue to be out-stationed at tribal facilities where appropriate to urgency and need. The Lummi Nation, Samish, Swinomish, Tulalip and Nooksack Indian Tribes received outstation services in January 2016.
- Cross-training of Tribal and CSD line staff within each catchment area will be explored.
- Enhanced communication on topics recommended by tribes features presenters on areas of special interest including medical enrollments and Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents.
- CSD will continue to provide as many ESA outreach staff as possible for 7.01 meetings as possible, including one supervisor from each program.
- The CSD Region 2 Office provides tribal data on a quarterly basis, including TANF, Basic Food and ABD/MCS ad hoc reports for Workfirst comparing performance indicators for American Indians and the entire services population.
- North CSD job postings will be shared with tribal contacts, tribal representatives are invited to participate on interview panels, and CSD Managers will continue to invite tribal members for job shadowing experiences.
- Gaps in services are identified and addressed at every regularly scheduled meeting and resulted in fewer service delivery issues requiring discussion.
- Tribes are invited to participate in Local Area Planning meetings and Tribal member case staffing.

SOUTH (Snoqualmie and Muckleshoot Tribes, and Seattle Indian Health Board (SIHB))

- Ongoing data collection and report design efforts will provide the SIHB, a Recognized American Indian Organization (RAIO), with information about their members' utilization of services that will aid in increasing the participation rates for those services.
- Regular quarterly meetings will be scheduled to enhance communication and coordination. Discussion will center on urban outreach efforts, including out-station of staff in downtown Seattle.
- Appropriate training opportunities in laws and programs effecting American Indian and Alaskan Natives will be researched and recommended.

Region 3

ABERDEEN/SOUTH BEND

- Data collection and reporting provide the Quinault Indian Nation with statistics for how many of their members seek particular services locally and statewide in order to ensure appropriate service delivery, case management and referrals.
- Continuing communication through frequent contact prevents gaps in services and extends the full measure of services to tribal members throughout the State.
- Additional staff will be attending a variety of training on Quinault Indian Nation history, Government to Government training and federal Indian law to enhance staff knowledge of culturally-appropriate services delivery.

- Customer Service Contact Center (CSCC) staff will receive training on the different aspects between State and Tribal TANF program services delivery to increase tribal access and participation in Working Connections Childcare.
- The Mobile Community Services Office will participate in Health Fairs at Taholah and Queets as outreach to increase access for tribal members.
- Tribal Staff will be receiving training on using Washington Connection as a reference for the variety of services and client information processing that can be performed through internet resources.
- The Shoalwater Bay Tribe participates in a review of Commodities list clients to ensure that clients receive accurate food benefits.
- Home visits related to potential sanctions and Workfirst participation will be coordinated with the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Social Services Director.

BREMERTON

- Discussion continues with the Suquamish Tribe of the Port Madison Indian Reservation on completing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to enable a Community Services Office (CSO) staff person to schedule on-site hours at the Tribe.
- The Bremerton CSO will continue to provide an outstation worker one day per week to process applications, perform eligibility reviews and case-change information. The CSO Administrator will explore the possibility of this service extending to two days per week.
- Currently, the Bremerton CSO provides a Workfirst Program specialist both on-site at the Suquamish Tribe and by telephone every other month, to participate in case management coordination for mutual clients.
- The CSD will arrange for the Mobile CSO to provide services in the Suquamish community as requested by the Tribe and as its schedule allows.
- A commitment to enhanced communications and effective problem resolution is the goal of an agreement to meet as needed for sharing information, joint-planning, problem solving and discussion of issues on a range of topics to include: Workfirst/TANF, Basic Food, Childcare, and the potential impacts of Suquamish Tribal programmatic changes on tribal member benefits through DSHS.
- Community Services Division staff will look at attend cultural and outreach events such as the Women's Health Fair, All Health Fair, and Elder's Luncheon. CSO staff will participate in these events to share current information about DSHS programs to Suquamish Tribal staff and community members.
- An overview of Washington Connection will be coordinated between CSD staff and Region 3 Headquarters.

COLUMBIA RIVER/KELSO

- Both CSOs will be working to provide a broader and more consistent channel of communications with the Cowlitz Tribe. Outreach activities will be discussed and planned.
- The Kelso CSO no longer has an employee out-stationed at the Cowlitz Health Clinic due to space limitations, but if need arises an alternative plan will be agreed upon.

OLYMPIA

- CSD and Tribal representatives will coordinate presentations on CSD services.

- The agreement to provide a full-time Financial Services Specialist (FSS) on-site at the Nisqually Tribe is under review for updating to reflect staffing changes. The current FSS remains on-site to provide walk-in services to tribal members.
- The option of placing the Washington Connection Benefit Portal icon on tribal computers was discussed, and the tribes have been provided with necessary contact information to have this in place.

PORT ANGELES/FORKS

- The Port Angeles and Forks CSOs prepare and share statistics with the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe on the number of tribal member households accessing services throughout the State, and the number of American Indian clients being served through CSD programs including Basic Food, Medical Assistance and Childcare.
- The CSO Tribal Liaison reviews data provided by the Small Tribes of Western Washington (STOWW) to ensure duplication of services does not occur for Jamestown S’Klallam tribal members.
- The CSO Tribal Liaison also provides information, updates and outreach to tribes regarding information provided at Indian Policy Advisory Committees (IPAC) and IPAC ESA Subcommittee meetings.
- Local Planning Area (LPA) meetings center on designing appropriate community service plans through providing information, training and training opportunities. Although the meetings are usually held at the Port Angeles CSO, other opportunities will be provided through using alternate locations more accessible to some of the remote tribes and tribal hosting of meetings.
- Meetings as required will be held in order to address outstanding issues regarding gaps in services. Performance expectations will be implemented, monitored and evaluated. The Hoh Tribe has requested basic program information on Teen Parenting and Youth programs.
- CSO staff hiring processes at the Port Angeles and Forks CSOs will include the participation of area tribes. Port Angeles Tribal Liaison will attend future hiring panels, and extend an invitation to the Jamestown S’Klallam and Hoh Tribes. Government-to- training will continue for all staff, with new staff being a priority.
- The Port Angeles Tribal Liaison will continue to coordinate communication between the Hoh, Jamestown S’Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Makah, and Quileute Tribes. The Liaison will also outstation at the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe SCS office and clinic every Tuesday.
- Revisions or changes to DSHS programs or services will be shared with Tribal newsletter editors.
- The Customer Service Contact Center will provide up-to-date contact lists as they are compiled and updated.
- The option for Tribal TANF clients to work in the local CSOs is not being utilized in the Forks, Port Angeles or Port Townsend CSOs.
- The Tribal Liaison reviews American Indian eligibility review ad hoc reports and makes Hoh tribal member client contact as appropriate. The client list is shared with the Tribe and has resulted in a greater number of eligibility reviews completed on time.

SHELTON

- The Squaxin Island Tribe will receive reports about their population’s usage of services in order to determine whether current policies and programs are meeting their primary needs.
- Meetings to improve communications with the tribes will include available trainings, and notice of anticipated or occurring changes to CSD programs. The Local Planning Area meetings are available to the tribe, as are additional meeting as needed upon request.

- The CSO will send two employees to participate in the in the Squaxin Island Health Fair this Summer, and the Mobile CSO will be available to attend events in the future. Staff will also attend tribal job and health fairs.

CHEHALIS

- The CSO will continue to provide annual updates on the number of tribal members receiving assistance.
- The Chehalis CSO Tribal Liaison will continue to work with the Tribe to identify gaps in services be able on-site for the Tribe depending on changing business needs.
- Teen Living Assessments will include the Tribe and provide a point-of-contact.
- The need for on-site orientation and refresher training for tribal staff on DSHS programs will be assessed and provided accordingly.
- The Tribe will be consulted in developing Workfirst plans when appropriate, in order to increase Workfirst participation by eligible tribal members.
- The tribe will be invited to attend sixty-month case planning and review TANF extension eligibility, particularly when a client has a first-time dependency case when approaching the sixty-month limit.
- The Tribe will be invited to a case staffing with CSO staff prior to imposing of Workfirst sanctions on tribal members.

B. Division of Child Support

Region 1

SPOKANE

- The Spokane DCS office continues to provide information to the Kalispel Tribe of Indians in ways that benefit its members. Kalispel's Tribal Court website has a link that contains information encouraging voluntary payroll deduction as a convenient way to comply with child support obligations. The site provides a DCS contact number and a link to the DCS Assignment of Earnings Form used for income from an Indian Tribe, Tribal Enterprise, or Indian-owned business.

YAKIMA

- Yakima DCS Tribal Liaisons educate and inform customers by posting information about child support services in a variety of locations throughout the Yakama Nation. DCS provides direct services to customers every Thursday at the DCS Outstation at the Yakama Nation Indian Health Services Annex.
- In June 2015 they staffed an information booth at the Yakama Nation 160th Treaty Day Commemoration & the Cultural Center's 35th Anniversary.
- On February 24, 2016 DCS staff met with the Yakama Nation to present a draft 7.01 plan, the background of DCS services to Yakama Nation Members, and demographic information regarding the Yakama Tribal Caseload. Information for Federal IV-D funding was also shared. DCS Director, Wally McClure, was also able to attend this meeting.

Region 2

EVERETT

- Everett DCS has staff out stationed in Community Service Offices (CSOs) at Smokey Point, Mt. Vernon, Lynnwood (Alderwood), Bellingham, and Monroe, and more recently the Sky Valley

CSO. Whenever a client wants to speak with a DCS Tribal Liaison they will be connected directly from any of these CSOs.

- The Everett DCS Tribal Unit continue their visits with the Nooksack, Lummi and Tulalip child support programs on a monthly or bi-monthly basis to ensure that clients within their programs are receiving the best DCS services possible. Monthly outreach to Sauk-Suiattle will begin soon per their request.
- In May 2015 DCS Staff attended the Tribal Mental Health Conference held in Bow WA.
- The Everett DCS Tribal Unit hosted their annual Native American Indian Heritage Month event in November 2015 with an Indian Taco lunch and a guest speaker from Tulalip Tribes who spoke about preserving the Lushootseed language.

SEATTLE

- The Snoqualmie Tribe met with DCS for the first time since 2014. Seattle DCS staff are looking forward to meeting with the Snoqualmie Tribe on a quarterly basis and attending the Snoqualmie Resource Fair in late spring.
- Seattle DCS continues to meet quarterly with Seattle Indian Health Board - Chief Seattle Club, a Recognized American Indian Organization (RAIO).

Region 3

TACOMA

- Tacoma DCS continues to enhance communication with Suquamish Tribal members and staff by providing outreach and on-site services the second Tuesday of each month.
- In addition to quarterly 7.01 meetings and monthly outreach, Tacoma Tribal Liaisons meet monthly with Puyallup line-staff for face-to-face meetings to encourage open communication and relationship building.

OLYMPIA

- Olympia DCS continues monthly outreach to the Chehalis, Squaxin Island, and Skokomish Tribes. The Chehalis Tribe has offered to advertise the DCS outreach in future editions of their monthly newsletter.
- Olympia staff regularly participates in the Squaxin Island Tribe's "Building Strong Families through Culture" program which provides an excellent opportunity to connect with community members who may not be able to meet with her during her regular outreach hours. Staff also conducted a DCS presentation for patients at Squaxin Island Northwest Indian Treatment Center (NWITC) addressing many of the questions patients had about DCS. Olympia DCS is hoping to become regular presenters at NWITC.
- Although further on the peninsula, the Olympia Tribal Team is committed to conducting outreach to the Hoh, Makah, Quileute, and Lower Elwha Klallam Tribes every 3-4 months. In 2015 they participated in the Hoh, Makah, Skokomish, Nisqually, and Quileute Health Fairs; presented Child Support 101 training to the Makah, and to the Skokomish tribal staff; participated in the Quileute Social Services Fair, the Take Back the Night event, and the Quileute Residents fair. They attended the Lower Elwha Potlatch, the Bridges over Poverty workshop, Lower Elwha Back to School/Health Fair, the Skokomish First Elk ceremony/Elder's Picnic; the Nisqually the Little Red Schoolhouse event, the Nisqually Client Holiday dinner, and the Nisqually TANF graduation ceremony. When invited Olympia DCS will continue to

present/participate at the Nisqually TANF client orientation. DCS staff also participated in the Clallam County Hiring & Resource event.

VANCOUVER

- DCS staff continues to foster communication and partnership with the Cowlitz Tribe as they anticipate the opening of the Cowlitz Casino in summer 2017.
- In September 2015, four DCS supervisors received Government-to-Government training from the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs (GOIA).
- Vancouver DCS continues to promote cultural awareness by their annual participation in the Cowlitz Pow Wow on September 15, 2015, and through their recognition of Native American Indian Heritage Month at an all-staff meeting.