

Policy 7.01 Plan and Progress Report
Time Period: July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017
Region 1 / Spokane DCS
Spokane Tribe

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
Facilitate improved contact with the Spokane Tribe staff and their clients.	Maintain regular contact, exchange contact information and establish outreach opportunities.	Improve contact and strengthen relationships to mutually benefit shared clients.	Yvette Buckley Michelle Kiehn Deidre Darling-Shea Jim Sugden Shannon Garbe	DCS requested to meet with the Spokane Tribe to update our 7.01 plan by sending a formal invite letter and follow up phone calls. As of 3/07/16 the Spokane Tribe has not requested to meet. Daryl Toulou from OIP has not heard back either.
Maintain good case management communication.	Timely communication is critical to effective case management for both DCS and the Spokane Tribal TANF Program: (1) TANF open/close information is critical to accurate case management. Staff may send TANF referrals and closures by fax 509-329-3870 to DCS at 509-329-3870. (2) Sharing other household changes is also important (newborn added to TANF grant, child emancipation or leaving the home, new court order, etc.) (3) Both programs need to know if a child is receiving SSI. Information flowing to DCS will be sent to Michelle Kiehn, Information from DCS, for TANF will be sent to Deb Ost and/or Bobbi Williams (TANF team leaders). When a child is identified as an SSI recipient, DCS will adjust its files to	Tribe and DCS communicate more effectively regarding delivery of child support services to members and others that are of mutual concern to the Tribe and DCS.	Yvette Buckley Michelle Big Eagle Deb Ost Bobbi Williams Michelle Kiehn Deidre Darling-Shea Jim Sugden Shannon Garbe	This communication process continues.

	<p>accurately account for any support owed or paid on behalf of the SSI child separately from support owed or paid for siblings on TANF.</p> <p>(4) Should DCS be unable to obtain a voluntary wage assignment by a non-tribal member employed by the Spokane Tribe, a Tribal Enterprise or an Indian owned business located on the Reservation, DCS can attach a garnishment order to a Tribal Civil Complaint Form and send it to the Tribal Court Clerk for Judicial Review at: Bldg. 268, Agency Square, PO Box 225, Wellpinit, WA 99040.</p> <p>(5) The Tribe is concerned with the release of license certification actions. DCS will negotiate with all clients in an attempt to release the certification and collect child support. DCS will release the certification of any license while the individual is receiving Tribal TANF.</p> <p>(6) If DCS fails to serve an individual residing on the Reservation by <i>Certified Mail Restricted Delivery</i>, the Tribe stated that the preferred alternate method is for DCS to request Service of Process through the Spokane Tribal Police Department.</p>			
<p>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 Debby Kurbitz of the Prosecutor's Office, if Ms. Kurbitz 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 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, Ms. Kurbitz will notify Donnie Lebret, 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. Ms. Kurbitz, as attorney for DCS, may have a separate interest in establishing the medical support obligation, since the Tribal TANF client necessarily receives Medical Assistance from</p>	<p>Tribe has the 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>Donnie Lebret Debby Kurbitz</p>	<p>This process continues.</p>

the State of Washington in conjunction with the Spokane Tribal TANF benefits. Ms. Kurbitz will make sure that the proposed Order of Child Support has a signature line for the Spokane Tribal TANF Program separate from Ms. Kurbitz' 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 Donnie Lebret, 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 Donnie Lebret with adequate notice of the hearing. The address and contact numbers for Mr. Lebret are as follows:

Donnie Lebret
Executive Director

Spokane Tribe of Indians
PO Box 100
Wellpinit, WA 99040

Telephone: (509) 458-6500 (Receptionist)