

Date updated: 3/31/2025

- Draft Plan
- Final Plan

DSHS Policy 7.01 Plan

July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 Annual Plan and Progress Report
 Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and
 ESA: Division of Child Support (DCS), Region 1, Yakima Office
 (contact information listed at end of plan)

	Yes	No
Met with Tribe/UIO?	X	
Tribal input received?	X	
Tribal approval of plan?		X

Most recent meeting date: 3/24/2025

Implementation Plan				Progress Report
(1) Goals/Objectives	(2) Activities	(3) Expected Outcome	(4) Lead Staff and Target Date	(5) Status Update
<p>1) Maximize the efficiency of communication between the Yakima DCS Field Office and the Yakama Nation</p>	<p>1.1 Meet with Yakama Nation Administrators regularly with the assistance of OIP representative to develop DCS – Region 1 DSHS Administrative Policy 7.01 Plan</p>	<p>Foster consultation, communication and collaboration.</p>	<p>Juan Ramirez 509.249.6057 Juan.Ramirez@dshs.wa.gov Alexis Jaime 509.249.6088 Alexis.Jaime@dshs.wa.gov Ismael Ochoa 509.249.6047 Ismael.Ochoa@dshs.wa.gov Janet Gone, OIP 509.865.7529 Janet.gone@dshs.wa.gov Jeremy Takala, Chair, YN Law & Order Committee</p> <p>Target Date: At least annually</p>	<p>03/24/2025 DCS met with YN Excutive Board Chair, Secretary, Law and Order Chair, members, HEW Chair and members. The following type of information was presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yakima YN Tribal Caseload Demographics which included debt, collection/distribution information, • Children on caseload and number with possible paternity at issue, • Number of obligated parents who pay • Information on DSHS debt written off for YN parents when hardship is at issue <p>Answered questions YN Council made about caseload and how DCS establishes support. Touched on Resolution T-140-93 which was codified under 22.14.05 and agreement drafted in 2011 in cooperation with YN Chair at the time and YN Atty. Council to discuss further internally as would require rescinding T-140-93 and RYC 22.14.05.</p>

(1) Goals/Objectives	(2) Activities	(3) Expected Outcome	(4) Lead Staff and Target Date	(5) Status Update
	<p>1.2 Establish Paternity and/or Administrative Child support order while respecting YN Sovereignty</p> <p>1.3 Attend conferences sponsored by the Yakama Nation.</p>	<p>DCS establishes Administrative orders and forwards cases to county prosecutors for Paternity establishment when the non-custodial parent resides outside the Yakima Nation Reservation or is non-tribal member</p> <p>Increase DCS program knowledge in the Yakama Nation community. Make DCS services more accessible.</p>	<p>Juan Ramirez, Alexis Jaime and Ismael Ochoa</p> <p>Juan Ramirez, Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa YN Cultural Center Target Date: Annually</p>	<p>Discussed DCS outreach activities – Council member suggested DCS may need notification of YN events. DCS recognized YN's sovereignty and Resolution T-140-93 codified under RYC 22.14.05 – Child Support. DCS does not establish Administrative child support order on non-custodial parents residing within the YN Reservation or refers cases to the county prosecutor for paternity establishment.</p> <p>DCS plans on setting up an information booth at YN's Treaty Days if invited again.</p>
<p>2) Identify outstanding issues/gaps in service and develop performance expectations, which can be implemented, monitored and evaluated.</p>	<p>2.1 DCS Outstation on Thursdays – Ensure coverage each week.</p> <p>2.2 Use technology & innovation to increase payment points and payment methods to make it easier to pay</p>	<p>Improve accessibility to the Yakama Nation community with timely DCS services.</p> <p>Deliver clear and assessable services to the Yakama Nation</p>	<p>Alexis Jaime, and Ismael Ochoa</p> <p>Target Date: Weekly</p> <p>Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa YN Enterprises Target Date: Review Annually</p>	<p>DCS has moved to the Toppenish Community Services Office located at 4 E 3rd Ave, Toppenish WA 98948 to provide DCS services from 9am to 3:00 pm every Thursday.</p> <p>Continue to provide alternate payment options to clients when discussing how payments can be made. Some YN Enterprises allow voluntary child support payroll deduction. Also some private tribal employers accept child support withholds.</p>

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	<p>2.3 Disseminate child support program information to various locations on the reservation including CSO.</p> <p>2.4 Conduct child support outreach on Yakama Nation Reservation</p> <p>2.5 Update Indian Owned Business and Enterprise List for Yakama Nation to be included in SEMS Web TI Screen.</p>	<p>Improve customer services through increased information on child support services.</p> <p>Educate and inform attendees about child support services and processes. Follow up with specific case requests as needed.</p> <p>Update periodically as needed.</p>	<p>Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa YN Justice Services Target Date: As Needed</p> <p>Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa YN Enterprises Target Date: As Needed</p> <p>Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa Target Date: As Needed</p>	<p>DCS updated information flyer with current Tribal Liaison's names and posted them around community services areas. A leaflet was drafted outlining differences of DCS enforcement vs. YN direct garnishments to disseminate at YN Court and/or YN Enterprises to distribute to employees at new employee orientations. Waiting for approval from YN for its use/dissemination.</p> <p>DCS will continue to do outreach to YN Enterprises and be available to present DCS information to staff and/or employees as requested. DCS has a team who does child support presentations to high schools and are willing to present at Yakama Nation Tribal School students with YN authorization. We are also willing to present to any tribal entity or group who would like more information on our services.</p> <p>As new tribal businesses are identified information is added to TI to avoid sending garnishments.</p>
<p>3) <i>Act as a resource to the Yakama Nation's ability to develop their own IV-D program & respect the sovereignty of the Yakama Nation</i></p>	<p>3.1 Facilitate the discussions of local Tribal-State agreements.</p>	<p>Act as a resource to the Yakama Nation and Region X Office of Support Enforcement.</p>	<p>Juan Ramirez Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa Erica Torrance Target date: When needed</p>	<p>DCS respects the YN Sovereignty and continues to be available as a resource in the event YN is interested in starting its own IV-D Program. We recognize Yakama Tribal court orders and enforce these orders within legal limits.</p>
<p>4) License Suspension as leverage to collect child support for families.</p>	<p>4.1 Proper steps are taken prior to certify an individual's license for suspension.</p>	<p>Obligated individuals will resume/start making their child support obligation for their children.</p>	<p>SEOs, Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa 2025-2026</p>	<p>Individuals with a child support obligation who do not make their support payments as directed by a Tribal, Superior Court Order or Administrative Support Order are notified of the possibility of losing their driver's license. This is a last resort DCS uses in collecting child support for families.</p>

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<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 48px; opacity: 0.3; font-family: serif;">D R A F T</p>				<p>The obligor gets the following notices after he/she has missed at least six (6) months of child support payments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) General notice of the possibility of losing driver's license. Individual has 30 days to respond. 2) If no response, individual is served with an official notice his/her license will be certified for suspension if he/she does not make arrangements to begin/resume making support payments. Notice is sent 1st class mail on cases with WA Superior Court orders and personally served by USPS Certified Mail or by Personal Service in cases with foreign orders. 3) An additional 20 days from the date the individual is served are given to respond. 4) If no response is received, DCS attempts to contact individual by phone or letter again to warn of potential of losing driver's license and additional time is given to respond (20-30 days). 5) After no response or effort by obligor to remedy the situation, DCS proceeds with license certification for suspension. <p>An individual may go up to 9-12 months without making a child support payment before license is certified for the first time. Individuals can remedy situation at any time by making payment arrangements with DCS case worker so license can be re-instated. Clients may also reach out to their SEO in situations where they need their license for upcoming employment or to be hired.</p>

CONTACT INFORMATION Yakama Nation

<i>TRIBE</i>			

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CONTACT INFORMATION FOR STATE OF WASHINGTON

DSHS			
Erica Torrance	Kennewick/Yakima – District Manager	509. 249.6073	Erica.Torrance@dshs.wa.gov
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Juan M Ramirez	Yakima – Supervisor/Tribal Liaison	509.249.6057	Juan.Ramirez@dshs.wa.gov
Alexis Jaime	Yakima – Lead Support Officer/Tribal Liaison	509.249.6088	Alexis.Jaime@dshs.wa.gov
Ismael Ochoa	Yakima – Support Officer/Tribal Liaison	509.249.6047	Ismael.Ochoa@dshs.wa.gov

CRITERIA USED FOR CASES TO BE INCLUDED IN DCS TRIBAL CASELOAD

Yakima DCS Tribal Caseload Criteria

NCP is a member of the Yakama Nation (YN).

or

NCP is employed by the Yakama Nation , tribal enterprise or Indian owned business.

Or

There is a **Tribal Court order** on the case that needs to be modified to set child support.

or

NCP is Unknown, CP is a member of the Yakama Tribe.

Or

CP receives Tribal TANF (This is decided case by case. The Tribal Liaison in the Field Office with Tribal TANF will contact you when they receive the Tribal TANF referral)

Other jurisdictional issues exist (case by case basis).

Revised 03/17/22

Historical Goals not Actively Being Pursued

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