

Date updated: March 29, 2023

Policy 7.01 Plan and Progress Report

Timeframe: July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

ESA Division of Child support

Region 1, FO: Yakima DCS

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

- Draft Plan
- Final Plan

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

Most recent meeting date:

Annual Due Date: April 2 (Submit Regional Plan to the Assistant Secretary) and April 30 (submit Assistant Secretary's Plan to OIP) **RAIO(s):**

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
<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 ramirjm@dshs.wa.gov Alexis Jaime 509.249.6088 Alexis.Jaime@dshs.wa.gov Ismael Ochoa 509.249.6047 ochoaiv@dshs.wa.gov Janet Gone, OIP 509.865.7529 Janet.gone@dshs.wa.gov Jeremy Takala, Chair, YN Law & Order Committee At least annually</p>	<p>March 20, 2023. With the assistance of OIP Regional Manager, Janet Gone, DCS [Erica Torrance, Child Support Program Manager, Juan M Ramirez, Child Support Supervisor] met in person at YN Council Chambers with YN Law & Order Committee Chairman, Jeremy Takala, Council members, Terry Heemsah, Caseymac Wallahee, Ruth Jim, YN Chief Judge, Ronna Washines and YN Justice Services Deputy Dir., Tamara Saluskin. Went over 7.01 plan and presented Yakima Field Office Tribal Caseload demographics. A copy of the DCS/YN Draft agreement from 2011 was distributed for review and possible future discussion.</p> <p>DCS plans on setting up an information booth at YN's Treaty Days if COVID restrictions are lifted.</p>
	<p>1.2 Attend conferences sponsored by the Yakama Nation.</p>	<p>Increase DCS program knowledge in the Yakama Nation community. Make DCS services more accessible.</p>	<p>Juan Ramirez, Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa YN Cultural Center Annually</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>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>Improve accessibility to the Yakama Nation community with timely DCS services.</p> <p>Deliver clear and assessable services to the Yakama Nation</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>Alexis Jaime, and Ismael Ochoa Anita Mendoza, YN Tiinawit Prg.Mgr. (509)865-5121X4462 Weekly</p> <p>Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa YN Enterprises Review Annually</p> <p>Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa YN Justice Services As Needed</p> <p>Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa YN Enterprises As Needed</p>	<p>DCS has resumed providing direct, ongoing, one day per week coverage at the YN Tiinawit Program Office, 20 Gunnyon Rd. Toppenish to provide customers with DCS services from 9am to 3pm every Thursday. Suggestion was made DCS could contact Crystal Bass, Tribal Administrative Director to get our outreach days out to YN Tribal Employees.</p> <p>Continue to provide alternate payment options to clients when discussing how payments can be made. Some YN Enterprises allow voluntary child support withholds and others do not.</p> <p>DCS will update information flyer with current Tribal Liaison's names and post 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.</p>
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	2.5 Update Indian Owned Business and Enterprise List for Yakama Nation to be included in SEMS Web TI Screen.	Update periodically as needed.	Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa As Needed	As new tribal businesses are identified information is added to TI to avoid sending garnishments.
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>	3.1 Facilitate the discussions of local Tribal-State agreements.	Act as a resource to the Yakama Nation and Region X Office of Support Enforcement.	Juan Ramirez Alexis Jaime Dan Johnston When needed	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.
4. License Suspension as leverage to collect child support for families.	4.1 Proper steps are taken prior to certify an individual's license for suspension.	Obligated individuals will resume/start making their child support obligation for their children.	SEOs, Alexis Jaime Ismael Ochoa 2023-2024	<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> <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

				<p>driver's license and additional time is given to respond (20-30 days).</p> <p>5) After no response or effort by obligor to remedy situation, DCS proceeds with license certification for suspension.</p> <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 payments arrangement with DCS case worker so license can be re-instated.</p>
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