

Policy 7.01 Plan and Progress Report
Timeframe: July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

Updated: 3/25/2022

ESA Division: Division of Child Support (DCS)

Region: 2
FO: Seattle

Tribe(s): Muckleshoot Indian Tribe

RAIO(s):

Most recent meeting: 12/16/2021

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

| 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 <i>List in reverse chronological order (most recent on top).</i> |
| 1) Efforts continue to be made to coordinate with the Muckleshoot Tribe in accordance with Admin Policy 7.01 | The Division of Child Support will attend scheduled 7.01 meetings. | The Muckleshoot Tribe will receive information regarding child support services offered by the Washington Division of Child Support. | State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175 Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James 253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us | OIP contacts the Muckleshoot Tribe to schedule joint 7.01 meetings with the Community Services Division and the Division of Child Support. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic all DCS outreach is currently on hiatus as of 3/9/2020. District Manager, Christine Servin, emailed Alexandra Cruz-James on 8/10/2021 to advise DCS and CSD are developing plans to resume outreach and want to include the Muckleshoot Tribe in our planning. We want to assess the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are your expectations of outreach from the Division of Child Support and the Community Services Division? • Same frequency as before? As needed? • When would you like to start outreach again? • What are your safety protocols (social distancing, masks, vaccine requirement?) |

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| 2) Data/Demographic requests. | <p>DCS tracks data on the number of visitors, modification and conference board requests received at the Muckleshoot Resource Center.</p> <p>Differentiate Muckleshoot visitors from other visitors at the Muckleshoot Resource Center in regards to child support.</p> <p>DCS will continue to track data regarding write-offs, Statute of Limitations loss and modification/hearing requests effective 4/24/2013. This data is recorded on separate appendixes.</p> | Statistics will be available to the Muckleshoot Tribe's representatives upon request. | <p>State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175</p> <p>Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James 253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us</p> | Information provided on a separate spreadsheet/infographic. |

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| 3) Coordinate with various levels of Muckleshoot Tribal government and Social Services to provide Child Support Assistance where services intersect. | <p>Build process for “case staffing”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tribal member and Social Worker meet with DCS <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Worker meets with DCS after getting a signed release from tribal member to discuss case <p>Assist tribal members in locating necessary resources and completing paperwork.</p> <p>Continue to provide options for adjusting child support debt that did not previously consider variations of wages for tribal members.</p> <p>Tribal Liaison will investigate available training and instructional opportunities with court and family law resources.</p> | <p>Improved understanding of child support case issues.</p> <p>Resolution of individual case issues.</p> <p>Increased customer participation in establishing and modifying their support orders.</p> <p>Increased support distributed to custodial parents to improve the quality of life for their children.</p> | <p>State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175</p> <p>Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James 253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us</p> | <p>An informal process with the Muckleshoot Social Workers is ongoing. Seattle Division of Child Support Liaison Wesley Sales will maintain a relationship with and continue to communicate with Muckleshoot Child and Family Services staff and Muckleshoot Adult Work Training Program case managers as needed about customer needs. Written disclosure authorization is necessary before case specific information can be shared.</p> <p>Wesley is available to assist with a more formal arrangement at the request of the Muckleshoot Tribe.</p> <p>Letters with administrative hearing information are mailed to parent’s last known address. Letters provide the name of the DCS attorney setting up the hearing and the attorney’s direct telephone number.</p> <p>Wesley is available to provide Administrative Hearing reminder calls to all members upon request. Telephone numbers are essential for reminder calls.</p> |

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| 4) Ensure efforts are made to recruit/hire American Indian staff to meet the overall DSHS goal of having a diverse workforce. | Send job postings to the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe to be distributed as needed. | Facilitate Tribal member employment within the State government. | State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175 Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James 253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us | Seattle Division of Child Support sends OIP manager Aimee Gone job postings for Region 2 distribution to the Tribal community. Hired employees self-disclose if they are native. DCS Tribal Relations Team also forwards emails regarding Tribal/State job postings to Division of Child Support's primary Muckleshoot contact. For Higher Level Positions at Seattle Division of Child Support, efforts are made to involve Tribal partners in the hiring process by inviting Tribal representatives to participate on the hiring panel. |
| 5) Income Withholding Notices for Paying Parents employed by the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and its enterprises. | Income Withholding Notices are sent directly to the Muckleshoot Tribe, Muckleshoot Bingo and Muckleshoot Casino. | Improved collections on Muckleshoot Tribal cases. | State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175 Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James 253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us | The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and the Division of Child Support have a longstanding informal agreement that Income Withholding Notices are honored by the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and its enterprises. |

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| 6) Obtaining Muckleshoot Tribal Court orders directly from Muckleshoot Tribal Court. | Inform the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe of the benefits of directly providing to DCS Muckleshoot Tribal Court orders that affect paternity and/or child support. | Improved relationships between DCS and Muckleshoot Tribal Court to benefit Tribal Muckleshoot members. | State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175 Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James 253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us | <p>In May 2014, the previous tribal liaison discussed obtaining court orders affecting paternity and/or child support directly from Muckleshoot Tribal Court with Bobbie Jo Norton, Muckleshoot Court Administrator. Bobbie Jo advised that it is currently the responsibility of the parties to a court action to provide DCS with the resulting order and that there are no provisions in Muckleshoot Tribal code to allow sharing Muckleshoot Tribal Court Orders with the State of Washington. The tribal liaison shared with Bobbie Jo that even if Muckleshoot is not able to provide orders to DCS that if Muckleshoot were to provide paternity orders to Washington State Department of Health that the Department of Health may be able to update a child's birth certificate to include the child's father at no cost to the parties; this would allow the child to receive many types of dependent benefits from the state and/or federal government. As of June 2014, Bobbie Jo advised she had not received any indication from the Muckleshoot Tribe that the Tribe is considering changing the current process.</p> <p>In February 2020, DCS and the Muckleshoot Tribe began discussions with regards to coordinating efforts on paternity establishment between Muckleshoot Child and Family Services, the Division of Child Support, and the King County Prosecuting Attorney's office.</p> |

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Completed Items (Date: Action completed)

2009: Support Enforcement Management System (SEMS) onsite at Muckleshoot Resource Center

2010: Find relief for Tribal Members who are subject to high fees while using DCS services through US Bank Card.

2012: Introduced Sylvia Flores as the new District Manager of Seattle DCS, and Christopher Tabor as the new Tribal Liaison Back-up

2013: Paternity interviewing is now available at Muckleshoot Resource Center in combination with outreach. In June 2013, Seattle Division of Child Support conducted Child Support 101 training with the Muckleshoot Fatherhood program per a request from the April 2013 7.01 meeting.

2020: In February 2020 DCS met with Alexandra Cruz-James, the Acting Director of Human Services with the Muckleshoot Tribe and introduced new Tribal Liaisons Wesley Sales and Ethan Cassady and new District Manager Christine Servin and Child Support Program Manager Van Nguyen.