

Our History

Since 1987, the Washington State Division of Child Support (DCS), Indian tribes and RAIOs have partnered and learned from each other and developed a variety of child support agreements and processes.

That effort began with a commitment to recognize the sovereignty of each Indian tribe, and work government-to-government to address child support, and regularly educate and train staff on these principles. We found it critical to listen to each other, focus on common interests, and invest in building and strengthening relationships.

State/Tribal relationships founded on trust and mutual respect have led to increased understanding, shared vision and improved services to children and families.

Our Goals

- Advocate for policies, procedures and laws that respect tribal sovereignty
- Build and strengthen relationships, trust and mutual respect with all tribes, RAIOs and stakeholders
- Advance intergovernmental agreements, contracts and processes
- Provide valuable and timely training, guidance and resources to DCS staff, tribes, RAIOs and partners
- Provide accessible and culturally relevant services

Our Purpose

To facilitate the Division of Child Support's commitment to work government-to-government with Indian tribes.

Our Vision

DCS, Indian tribes and RAIOs – Bridging cultures to provide exceptional child support services.

DCS Tribal Relations Team

712 Pear Street SE, PO Box 9162
Olympia, WA 98507-9162

Toll Free: (800) 457-6202
Phone: (360) 664-5000
Fax: (360) 664-5343
Email: DCSTribalRelations@dshs.wa.gov

Tribal Relations Website

www.childsupportonline.wa.gov

(click on *Tribal Relations*)

Field Offices

Everett (425) 438-4800 or (800) 729-7580
EverettTribal@dshs.wa.gov

Kennewick (509) 374-2000 or (800) 345-9981
ken-dcs@dshs.wa.gov

Olympia (360) 664-6900 or (866) 850-1496
oly-dcs@dshs.wa.gov

Seattle (206) 341-7175 or (800) 526-8658
seattle-dcs@dshs.wa.gov

Spokane (509) 363-5000 or (800) 345-9982
spotribal@dshs.wa.gov

Tacoma (253) 597-3700 or (800) 345-9976
tacomatribal@dshs.wa.gov

Vancouver (360) 696-6100 or (800) 345-9984
vancouver-dcs@dshs.wa.gov

Wenatchee (509) 886-6800 or (800) 535-1113
wenatchee-dcs@dshs.wa.gov

Yakima (509) 249-6000 or (800) 441-0859
yak-imal@dshs.wa.gov

Washington State's Child Support Program



Tribal Relations Team



Transforming lives



Core Values

Respect Sovereignty

We recognize and value the sovereign status of tribes and communicate on a government-to-government level.

Strengthen Relationships

We demonstrate the highest level of respect when working with tribes, families, Recognized American Indian Organizations (RAIOs), stakeholders and partners. We seek direct, open communication that strengthens trust and confidence. We value community outreach.

Act with Integrity

We strive to earn the trust and confidence of the people we work with through open, honest and ethical interaction.

Foster Growth and Development

We commit ourselves to the professional growth and development of those in our team and others.

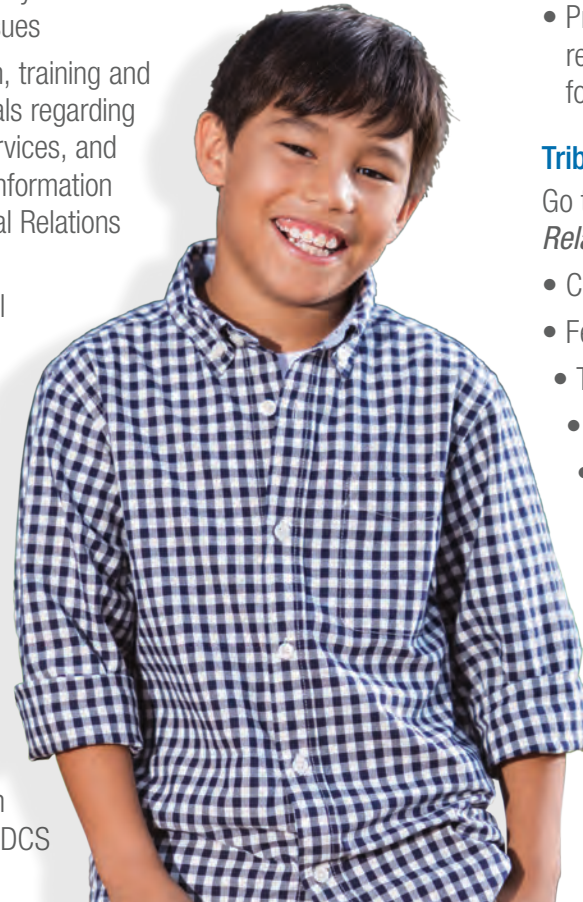
Pursue Excellence

We commit to hold ourselves to the highest ethical and professional standards.

Tribal Relations Team (TRT)

TRT leads DCS statewide tribal relations efforts, serving as a resource to tribes, families, RAIOS, DCS leadership, Tribal liaisons and staff. Both TRT and local Tribal liaisons regularly interact with Tribal leaders and tribal program staff. TRT works to:

- Draft, negotiate and monitor child support contracts, data shares and cooperative agreements, including Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and federal tax offset agreements
- Draft DCS tribal-specific child support policy. Review proposed laws, policy and forms for potential impact on tribes and tribal members. Involve tribes, RAIOS in proposed policy, law or organizational changes
- Research and provide guidance to resolve child support policy and case management issues
- Provide outreach, training and resource materials regarding child support services, and manage public information on the DCS Tribal Relations website
- Provide technical assistance and support for tribes interested in applying for federal child support funding
- Oversee and coordinate statewide DSHS Administrative Policy 7.01 (American Indian Policy) plans for DCS



Field Office Tribal Liaisons

More than 25 statewide DCS Tribal liaisons serve as the contacts for tribes, families, RAIOS and TRT to:

- Manage specialized tribal caseloads and serve as a local resource on state/tribal relations and issues
- Build and maintain government-to-government relationships with tribes
- Research and resolve child support case issues, coordinating with TRT on issues with potential statewide implications
- Work closely with families and tribes in providing and coordinating child support services
- Provide training, technical assistance and presentations to local tribes, RAIOS, DCS staff and DSHS staff
- Provide outreach services to tribes and RAIOS and represent DCS at meetings, conferences, public forums and cultural events

Tribal Relations Website

Go to www.childsupportonline.wa.gov (click on *Tribal Relations*) to access:

- Contact lists and resources
- Federally recognized tribes in Washington state
- Tribal Child Support and TANF program information
 - State/Tribal child support agreements
 - Federal and State tribal child support policy
 - American Indian Policy 7.01 plans
 - The Centennial Accord
 - And much more