

**SENATE BILL 770 HEALTH SERVICES CLUSTER MEETING
SALEM, OREGON
JULY 31, 2006**

Attendance

Richard Acevedo	Department of Human Services (DHS) – Director’s Office
Diana Woods	DHS – Director’s Office
Robert Barley	DHS – Office of Central Support
Judy Bowen	DHS – Office of Seniors and People with Disabilities
Caroline Cruz	DHS – Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Kay Culbertson	Indian Health Services, Portland Area Office
Karen Elliott	DHS – Public Health, Immunizations
Joe Finkbonner	Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board
Susan Frey	Umatilla Tribes – Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center
Robert Furlow	DHS – Eastern Oregon Psychiatric Center
Bruce Goldberg	DHS – Director
Sharon Hill	DHS – Oregon Medical Assistance Program
Ron Hudson	Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Leroy Jackson, Jr.	Klamath Tribal Health & Family Services
Ruth Jensen	Native American Rehabilitation Association
Jack Lawson	Oregon Youth Authority
Jeannie McNair	Klamath Tribes / Wellness Center
Debra Mosher	DOJ – Division of Child Support
Stephaine Parrish-Taylor	DHS – Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Jim Quaid	Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Lynn Read	DHS – Office of Medical Assistance
Jim Roberts	Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board
Clyde Saiki	DHS – Deputy Director
Anya Sekino	Commission on Children and Families
Ralph Summers	DHS – Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Leah Tom	Indian Health Services
Peggie Voth	Coquille Indian Tribe
Diann Weaver	Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indian Tribes

Introductions & Welcome

Rick Acevedo welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ron Hudson gave the invocation. Roundtable introductions were made.

Clyde Saiki, Deputy Director, DHS

- DHS is currently in the process of wrapping up the policy option packages. Policy Option Packages are requests for enhancements to programs or requests for money for new programs for the next legislative session. The first drafts will be out next week for public comment.

Action Item:

Rick Acevedo will send the drafts of the Policy Option Packages out to the Tribes for comment.

- Regarding the new federal Citizenship Verification requirements for people who are receiving Medicaid benefits, DHS has drafted a letter to Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) with comments and concerns from the State of Oregon.

Action Item:

Rick Acevedo will also send a draft of the CMS letter out to the Tribes for comment. Please send any tribal concerns or issues to Rick Acevedo for incorporation into the letter.

DHS Budget and Legislative Update**Bruce Goldberg, Director**

- DHS has been focused on the Deficit Reduction Act (Citizenship requirement and TANF changes), and the department's approach is to do what we can do to influence the legislation. There have been some progressive and steady changes to the rules as they have been developing. DHS has been working with other states through a number of forums to have a unified message. DHS understands the need to comply with law, but do it in a way that doesn't disadvantage people who are legally entitled to the services.
- DHS is in the process of putting together the agency requested budget that is due on September 1, 2006. The draft budget should be out the week of August 7 for review and comment.
- In April, the Emergency Board gave DHS \$50 million to help fill the budget deficit and \$80 million held in reserve if needed to deal with the increasing caseload numbers. The budget deficit will not be completely filled this biennium. The other issue is the federal changes. The department was concerned with the possibility of a TANF penalty this biennium, which won't happen; the citizenship changes that will increase workload but not a huge impact to the budget; and still concerned about some of the targeted case management potential changes.
- There has been some movement, on a statewide basis around access to health care for kids. There is a Senate group as well as the Governor working on that. As far as everyone else, there is a Senate taskforce that is looking at universal access to healthcare. Hopefully there will be something out in the next few months. The access piece will be addressed in the DHS budget. Generally, DHS is going to try to cover more people with OHP that would benefit the Tribes.
- So far there has not been a tribal voice at the Senate commission. It would be good to make a presentation and meet with the co-chairs.

Action Item:

Bruce Goldberg will set up a meeting between tribal representatives, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and chair of the Senate Commission.

Action Item:

Jim Roberts will give Bruce Goldberg a copy of the concept paper NPAIHB will draft after meeting with Washington.

- SB 878 would provide Indian people the same benefits as OHP plus. Can DHS look at this? There is a meeting with Washington tomorrow.
- This is something DHS has always wanted to move forward on and if something can be proposed that will pass CMS, DHS is willing to look at it. [Maybe 3 states could take this on (Washington, Oregon & Alaska).]

Tribal Updates

Rod Hudson, Grand Ronde

- Mike Watkins, Executive Health Director has accepted another job in Las Vegas, so his position with Grand Ronde will be opening soon.
- Staff are currently on a canoe journey down the Straights of Juan de Fuca. The “canoe family” built a canoe this year and held many fundraisers. This has brought the community together and 50-60 people are in attendance for the finish with more expected. Chief Jerry Jack, Gold River, British Columbia drowned last week when the canoe he was in capsized.
- Meth Transitional Program is up and running and a transitional house should be open in next 3-4 months. Have two staff on board now and working with NARA on the issue of meth.
- Grand Ronde Powwow will be August 18-20, 2006.

Leah Tom, Indian Health Services

- In the process of implementing the Electronic Health Record (EHR).
- Implementing new policies and changes around debt collection and third party reimbursement.
- The federal sites are also all going through accreditation this year. The Makah Tribe is assuming the federal facility at Neah Bay, Washington effective Sept 3, 2006. The last facility to be assumed by a tribe was 10 years ago (Yellowhawk) and the process of converting from federal to tribal has changed. Normally a tribe will allow a period of one year to make the change but the Makah Tribe is on the fast track of wanting to assume the facility quickly. We just found out a couple of months ago and are very busy assisting the federal facility to make the conversion.

Susan Frey, Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center

- Primary focus has been around recruiting for a new doctor and clinical director.
- New chief dentist starts 8/1/06.
- A Health & Wellness conference was successfully held in May. Utilizing some of the diabetes grant money, a lot of the community as well as employees were able to attend and it was a much bigger event than last year.
- Struggles with the new data collection and transmittal processes. Errors were discovered with the system and are working diligently to get those corrected to move forward with the Electronic Health Record project.

Diann Weaver, Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indian Tribes

- Applied for two grants from APF and along with the Coquille Tribe and Teamwork for Children (an organization out of Eugene) and if funded, will expand the parenting classes, fathering classes and financial workshops.
- Just finished the Annual Tribal Family Camp. Approximately 135 tribal members and family attended at the Big K Ranch. This year the Culture Camp was combined with the Family Camp. Many activities took place.
- 2005 Annual Report, Health & Human Services Division, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw, was passed around to the group. Rick Acevedo has copies for the State people if needed.
- Construction is beginning on permanent casino and hotel in Florence.

Peggie Voth, Coquille Indian Tribe

- A college student intern working on a community health profile. She will be visiting random tribal members within the service area.
- Elder care population has increased as well as the need for more in-home care and assisted living. Working on funding.
- Housing has looked into building assisted living care on the reservation.

Ruth Jensen, Native American Rehabilitation Association (NARA)

- Native Youth Suicide Prevention project to reduce or eliminate risk factors for native youth suicide and to promote protective factors. All tribes have chosen to participate.

Jeannie McNair, Klamath Tribes / Wellness Center

- 20th Anniversary Restoration Powwow on August 26-28, 2006.

Leroy Jackson, Jr., Klamath Tribal Health & Family Services

- Health clinic moved into new facility in January and trying to get stabilized. More people coming back home for health services. Currently at a level 3 for contract health, but may have to change levels.
- State incentive grant (0-6 youth in counties mental health) is very successful and is exceeding expectations.
- Diabetes Prevention Program is now in the implementation stage and is also very successful.
- The Tribe is looking at a Mitigation Plan from FEMA; in the event of a disaster, to have something in place.
- Klamath is also looking for a dentist.

Jim Quade, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

- Just awarded an RDA grant. Will be eliminating the group home and building a big childcare center for kids in protective custody.
- Just got two big health promotion campaigns for the summer: methamphetamine use and diabetes/obesity. Partnering with Nike.
- In the middle of a major health planning including a risk factor survey throughout the community and develop a strategic plan for the next 20 years.

Joe Finkbonner, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB)

- Met with Mike Harryman, Public Health on the pandemic flu assessment with the tribes. There was a quick turnaround and 8 of the 9 tribes completed with the 9th working on completion. Results of the draft should be completed today. Consistent results with the workforce assessment from 1½ year ago. Once completed, the report will be shared with the tribes and with Mike Harryman. Anticipate a greater dialog that discusses what are the areas that need support within the pandemic readiness (e.g., who is responsible for what areas, etc.).
- The Third Annual Emergency Preparedness conference will be August 3-4, 2006. On the final day is specifically a state/tribal breakout.

Jim Roberts, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB)

- IHHS budget appropriations, both House and Senate have completed their budget marks. If passed the IHHS will do well with a 4-5% increase (\$148 million increase). Not a lot of money for facility construction, but that will mean more money for programs. Will be meeting in Washington on Wednesday, August 2, 2006 on appropriations.
- Indian Health Care Improvement Act is beginning to see some progress. The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs is wrapping up negotiations this week with the Health Committee. The Finance Committee has taken the Medicaid/Medicare provisions and adopted a stand-alone bill and passed favorably out, which gives more significance to those Medicaid/Medicare provisions with the Administration, CMS and the State. In the event the Indian Health Care Improvement Act does not pass, there is still the separate legislation that has cleared the Senate. Once the Health Committee has passed, the plan is to bring the Finance Committee work and the Indian Health Care Improvement Act legislation to floor for unanimous consent agreement in the form of amendment, back to S. 1057 so all the bill parts will get back together as one comprehensive bill, and hopefully passed. If not passed, it will be brought back to the tribal health directors and tribal leaders for their opinions on whether the Title IV provisions should be passed as a separate legislative vehicle. The strategy is to keep everything together as one comprehensive package.
- The House Resources Committee did pass favorably the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which is a companion bill to the Senate bill. It is expected that the Energy, Commerce and Ways and Means will be taking that bill up this week or next. The best chance is for something passed favorably out of the Senate then over to the House. All committees of jurisdiction seem to be buying in this time. Any questions should be directed to Jim Roberts.

Q: Looking at the Medicaid requirements for citizenship, tribal identification is down in the level 5 category. The Indian Healthcare Improvement Act has recognition for tribal identification for citizenship and moves it back to a level one. Is that still in there?

A: The Title IV provisions the Finance Committee passed fixes all of the documentation requirements for Medicaid eligibility. It also addresses all of the cost sharing issues, but does not address the benefits flexibility issue.

Oregon Mental Health and Addiction Services

Ralph Summers, OMHAS

- In looking at managed care enrollment issues for mental health, came across an enrollment policy difference for native people in mental health compared to the enrollment policy in health. For medical, tribal members are excluded from auto enrollment in Medicaid managed care plans, but a phone call to DHS could make that change if desired. However, for mental health, tribal members are auto enrolled, and if asked, DHS would disenroll. Not aware of any access problems or continuity of care or coordination problems. Mental health plans have more different types of services that they can pay for, may not be billable on a fee-for-service basis for kids not in managed care.

Q: Is DHS going to allow a fee for service kids to access Children's Farm Home, which is under the managed care umbrella?

A: There is a limited amount of fee for service capacity, but there is access for people who are enrolled in all of the psychiatric residential treatment centers.

- Preference should come from each tribe. A letter will go out to each tribe for additional input and then DHS will move forward based on consensus.
- The Christy School has purchased a facility and is working at developing services for Indian kids. They are still in development.
- It is still possible to negotiate three-party agreement with providers for Medicaid kids.

Action Item:

Rick will follow up that the formal relationship letter is sent out to the Tribes.

Emergency Preparedness and Mental Health

Robert Furlow, DHS, Eastern Oregon Psychiatric Center

- Bob was given the assignments of business continuity planning and all-hazards emergency preparedness in the mental health system. In the process of developing an effective preparedness plan to address mentally ill patients under a pandemic flu scenario. Encourages tribes to participate in the planning process by region.

Federal Citizenship Requirements

Karen House, Children, Adults and Families

- The federal government has released the rules for the citizenship verification requirements. Oregon will use the electronic vital statistics for verification of people born in Oregon. It is estimated that 50% of DHS clients were born in Oregon and would have documents on file with the Office of Vital Statistics.
- Currently, the Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) is only acceptable as identification, not proof of citizenship.
- The states have 30 days to submit comments to CMS. DHS is drafting a letter with comments and concerns to include the CDIB as proof of citizenship at a level one or two. The Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board has a letter already drafted to CMS and will forward a copy to Karen House.

- Individuals who receive Medicare or SSI benefits will not have to go through the additional verification because they have already been verified by Social Security.
- DHS plans to include clients receiving SSDI in the letter to CMS since they go through the same process to receive SSDI benefits as those who receive SSI.
- DHS plans to implement the provision as of September 1, 2006. A workgroup is developing the processes for implementation.
- Clients showing a good faith effort to get the required documentation will not be denied benefits, however, medical benefits will not begin until the required documents are provided. If documents cannot be obtained and all avenues exhausted, a form may be signed in lieu of those documents (DHS form #0695 Statement of Citizenship).

DHS Cluster Liaisons Report – Action Items / Current Issues

Caroline Cruz, Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS)

- The State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup is currently meeting. Oregon was able to secure a three-year grant to look at national outcome measures and get more accurate data in the area of alcohol and drugs with the youth. This grant will enable DHS to gather more active data. DHS also wants to gather data on tribal youth as well as adults. DHS will begin conversations with the tribes on how to gather this data and will also be given the results.
- Just completed a three-day federal site review and results will be out soon.
- Federal planning based on a logic model along with evidence based practices. Substance Abuse Prevention training will be held on September 20, 2006 with the tribes using that logic model.
- Caroline will be attending a national underage drinking conference in August where Warm Springs will be awarded a plaque for successful changes in major policies within their housing authority by passing an alcohol and drug, as well as a meth policy. Violators of the policies are denied housing for one year. This significant change was noticed at the federal level and the plaque will be presented to Warm Springs.
- OMHAS and the Oregon Indian Council on Addiction will be co-sponsoring a substance abuse recovery month in September. A “well briety” walk to Bush Park in Salem and all are welcome to attend. Al Smith will be honored that evening at the Native Center at Portland State University for 50 years of sobriety.
- Working with Siletz Tribe on a youth family leadership camp in Agnes, OR.

Lynn Read, Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP)

- A letter was sent to tribal representatives soliciting input on a policy to reopen OHP Standard. Written comments will be accepted through August. OHP Standard has been closed to new enrollments since July 2004. The proposal is to establish a reservation list where individuals could call in, get their names on a reservation list, and once approved by the federal government, take names from the list on a first come, first served basis. DHS will submit a waiver amendment to CMS seeking approval in September and if approved, the reservation list could start in December and reservations could begin use in February 2007. Please send comments and suggestions to Sharon Hill (OMAP) or Mary Reitan (OMAP) at DHS.

Q: How many American Indians/Alaska Natives were on the program (OHP Standard) in 2003 and how many are on today?

A: DHS can do a data run on this information and sent it out to the tribes.

Jack Lawson, Oregon Youth Authority

- Two OYA facilities, Hillcrest MacLaren will be hosting Powwows on September 2 and September 9, 2006. Contact Jack Lawson at (503) 378-6973 for more information. Everyone is welcome to attend and support the kids' hard work.
- OYA is a small part of the overall Juvenile Justice system. OYA only manages 10% of the youth; county juvenile departments handle the other 90%. Training was recently completed on June 8 in southern Oregon bringing Tribal representatives from Coos, Lower Umpqua and Suislaw; Coquille; Klamath; Warm Springs and Cow Creek tribes, county juvenile department workers and OYA staff together to learn more about each other's systems, and how to better engage each other in providing and improving services for youth in custody, for youth that are preparing to come back home, and youth that are remaining out of the community in community programs.
- Planning for the Governor's Summit on Minority Over-representation on November 20, 2006 at the Doubletree Lloyd Center in Portland. Accepting requests for proposals to make presentations at this summit. Interested persons should contact Jack Lawson at OYA.

Sharon Hill, Office of Medical Assistance Programs

- Interviewing for Deborah Catera's position. New person should be on-board by the next Quarterly Tribal meeting in October.
- Will be doing more claims training. Sharon is working on getting this scheduled.
- Pre-meeting on claims issues will be held tomorrow. A draft of the proposed Administrative Rules (January '07) rewrite will be given to the attendees of tomorrow's meeting.

Action Item:

Rick Acevedo will send the draft Admin. Rules out to the tribes for review.

Ruth Kemmy, Department of Consumer and Business Services

- Nothing to report.

Debbie Mosher, Department of Justice, Child Support Division

- The Umatilla Tribe is one year into the start-up of their own child support program and the Klamath Tribe is in the process of writing their grant for the start-up program. The tribes have been written into the contract for paternity testing at a cost of \$30 per person testing. The test can be administered at the tribal health clinics. Debbie has contact information.

Anya Sekino, Commission on Children and Families

- The Commission has several open positions.
- Homeless and Runaway Initiative – several forums will be held throughout the state. Contact Anya for additional information.
- Cultural Competency Train-the-Trainer was held in Warm Springs. Additional cultural competency training will take place in Morrow County in September and in Burns on October 19th.
- Violence Prevention training was held in Corvallis.
- Healthy Kids Learn Better training will be held in Ashland on August 14-17, 2006. More information and registration can be found on the Department of Education website.
- Accepting nominations for youth who have overcome adversity in life.

Stephaine Parrish-Taylor, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

- At the national level, the Senate passed their version of the Workforce Improvement Act, which now goes to committee and DHS is waiting to see what comes of it.
- The Consortium of State Administrators of VR programs have been meeting to talk about the future of VR. One of the topics discussed was the advocacy for funding for Native American Rehabilitation Programs going from grant to permanent.

Judy Bowen, Seniors and People with Disabilities

- Received good statistics on elders over 60 years of age nationally (to include Oregon). The 2004 estimate was well over 4,000. This is a growing population.
- Available grant through the Administration on Aging on empowering older people to take more control of their health through evidence-based prevention programs. Sent information to all elder coordinators and AAA directors. Warm Springs was one of the chosen and will be working in conjunction with the local AAA in Deschutes County. DHS will be providing technical support to Warm Springs.
- Judy has been attending many Elder Honor Days around the state. 600 elders attended at Siletz Elder Honor Days and 1000 elders attended Warm Springs Elder Honor Days, which five AAAs were also in attendance. A lot of good information was given out to the elders.
- Next Native American Caregiver conference is scheduled for October 2007 in Umatilla.
- Met with NARA and Jackie Mercer to write grants to support the conferences with NARA agreeing to be the 501C-3. Jackie is concerned about the outreach to the elders in the tri-county area and the need to have an outreach worker, because of the large elder population. Judy is working with AAA in Multnomah County; a meeting is scheduled for September to do more outreach.
- Elder Coordinator Caregiver conference is scheduled for next spring at Ka-Nee-Ta.

Bob Barley, DHS, Office of Central Support

- Information from Karen House on the Citizenship Verification is the most current.

Richard Acevedo, DHS

- TANF renewed for Siletz and Klamath for 3 years.
- Umatilla Tribe has notified the feds of their intent to seek the TANF program for 2007.
- Federal Deficit Reduction Act – no changes to tribal TANF yet, however, look for changes in 2010. The big impact of the Deficit Reduction Act is the reduction of federal dollars for the State TANF programs and new restrictions on how the state spends its dollars. Changes are coming for the state right now, and there is going to be changes coming for the tribal TANF programs.

Next meeting and adjourn

The next meeting will be held at the Coquille Indian Tribe, 3050 Tremont, North Bend, OR 97459 and is tentatively scheduled for October 18, 2006, 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.