



Tribal & State Partnership

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs



CTWS & Oregon DHS History:

- ◆ Treatment referrals made by Tribal worker
- ◆ Treatment committee included Tribal case worker, Director, & DHS Staff
- ◆ Joint Custody to get child into treatment but Tribe assumed case management responsibility & jurisdiction
- ◆ DHS worker assistance for tx referrals & information needed.
- ◆ DHS communication for necessary f/u & coordination needed
- ◆ Joint custody meant joint responsibility



State & Tribal position- History:

- ◆ A State & Tribal position was created to assist both the State & Tribe with tx referrals. This facilitated case coordination between Tribe, DHS, & residential facility.
- ◆ Jointly, this person with Tribal case worker would attend & participate with Tx reviews, aftercare planning, etc.
- ◆ Tribe was included in the position description development, interviewing, & both agencies were responsible for position supervision.
- ◆ Supervisors communicated weekly.
- ◆ Position was paid out of State funds.



Child Abuse Reports

- ◆ Tribes assume Exclusive Jurisdiction of our cases.
- ◆ In our neighboring city and county, the Jefferson County DHS cross-reports the Child Abuse reports to Tribal CPS and Police Department.
- ◆ Any inquiries made regarding Tribal children, DHS contacts Tribal CPS to communicate the situation and/or necessary follow up information.
- ◆ If family resides in the County area, the DHS worker notifies the Tribe, if action taken for immediate removal or services provided.



Statewide Resources

- ◆ Tribal CPS & Local DHS program work collaboratively together for resources that may be beneficial for our children/families (treatment, hard to place children, testing, Title IVE, TANF, DD services, etc).
- ◆ Tribal CPS is able to contact Local DHS program and/or Tri-County DHS programs to certify foster homes (to do a Dual FC certification). This occurs vice versa & DHS honors Tribal FC Certification.
- ◆ Annual Tribal & State ICWA Conference-information sharing & relationship building opportunities.



State Resources (continued)

- ◆ Tribal CPS has utilized Local DHS program to facilitate Family Decision Meetings.
- ◆ Tribe having opportunity to be Expert Witnesses in ICWA hearings.
- ◆ Tribes having ability to provide Technical Assistance to DHS for cultural awareness.
- ◆ Tribes inviting DHS to the Indian Reservation for meetings, training, &/or get-togethers.



What makes this work?

- ◆ Identifying what needs are for both agencies & build on strengths.
- ◆ Communication is ongoing.
- ◆ Resources are shared between agencies regularly.
- ◆ Staff are regularly introduced to each other.
- ◆ Areas of concerns are presented, discussed, & find solutions to continue partnership.
- ◆ Support of Directors & Supervisors are important to both teams.
- ◆ Having quarterly State & Tribal Regional meetings.



Training Opportunities

- ◆ Tribal CPS program wanted tribal case workers to have more exposure to State Court proceedings- so job shadowing was created between the Tribe & DHS. Both agencies became familiar with one another's court system.
- ◆ Joint training opportunities have been made for the benefit of Tribal CPS & local DHS program through the years.
- ◆ Examples: Title IV-E (T4E) eligibility, T4E reviews, Medical Cards, Tx Referrals, GAP, FACIS, Permanency Planning, Citizen Review Board, DV, child development, Foster Care, etc.



Oregon Tribes & State DHS Quarterly Advisory Meetings

- ◆ Oregon ICWA Manager
- ◆ Oregon ICWA Liaisons developed
- ◆ Oregon Tribes are able to voice concerns & advocate for change as/when needed.
- ◆ Relationships are built among Tribes & State Central Office Directors, so team building efforts start at the top & then flows downward throughout DHS in Oregon.

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