
Building Trust and Partnership: The Strategic Role of Tribal Liaisons

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Moderated by Crys O'Grady, CareOregon Tribal Affairs Director

Introductions

- **Dove Dexter**, Health Share of Oregon
- **Allison Nelson**, Jackson Care Connect & Columbia Pacific CCO
- **Laurel Schwinabart**, InterCommunity Health Network CCO
- **Brit Taft**, Trillium Community Health Plan CCO
- **Michael Stickler**, OHA-Office of Tribal Affairs, Policy Analyst

Why this work exists

- There are Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon, they are each individual Sovereign Nations.
- The United States Government has a unique legal relationship with Tribal governments as set forth in the Constitution of the United States, numerous treaties, statutes, federal court decisions and executive orders.
- The federal government has a Trust Responsibility to provide Health Care to Indian People through programs such as Medicaid and Indian Health Service.
- The state also has a government-to-government relationship with the Nine Tribes in Oregon.
- Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is the State Medicaid Authority that works with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to oversee the Oregon Health Plan.
- The Office of Tribal Affairs, partners with Tribal representatives to guide the work of the agency in all areas of health across OHA.

Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon



Tribal Governments in Oregon

- **Burns Paiute Tribe** (1 Band-Wadatika Band of Northern Paiute)
- **Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians** (3 Tribes/2 Bands-Hanis Coos and Miluk Coos)
- **Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde** (5 Tribes/Bands-Umpqua, Molalla, Rogue River, Kalapuya, Chasta)
- **Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians** (28 Tribes and Bands-Clatsop, Chinook, Klickitat, Molala, Kalapuya, Tillamook, Alsea, Siuslaw/Lower Umpqua, Coos, Coquille, Upper Umpqua, Tututni, Chetco, Tolowa, Takelma, Galice/Applegate, and Shasta)
- **Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation** (3 Tribes-Cayuse, Umatilla, Walla Walla)
- **Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs** (3 Tribes-Warm Springs, Wasco, Paiute)
- **Coquille Indian Tribe** (1 Tribe-Ko-Kwel)
- **Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians** (1 Band of the Umpqua)
- **Klamath Tribes** (3 Tribes/Bands-Klamath, Modoc, Yahooskin Band of Snake Paiutes)

Indian Health Care Delivery System

Indian Health Care Provider (IHCP): an Indian health program operated by the Indian Health Service (IHS) or by an Indian Tribe, Tribal Organization or an urban Indian organization (otherwise known as an I/T/U) as defined in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1603)

Types of Health Services that may be provided:

- Ambulatory Primary Care (outpatient care)
- Inpatient care - Hospitals
- Traditional Health Care Practices
- Dental and Vision Care
- Behavioral Health Services
- Specialty Care Services
- Public Health as Tribes are Tribal Public Health Authorities



CCO Tribal Liaisons

- Required since CCO 2.0 and HB 2267 (2020), each Coordinated Care Organization will have a dedicated Tribal Liaison.
- The Tribal Advisory Council made up of representatives from the Nine Tribes, will serve as a channel of communication between the CCO's and the Tribal Health Programs and the Urban Indian Health Program regarding the health of tribal communities. The TAC will assist in the selection of the Tribal Liaison position and will regularly coordinate with the Tribal Liaison at each CCO.

CCO Tribal Liaison Responsibilities

- Facilitate resolutions of any issues that arise between the CCO and an Indian Health Care Provider
- Participate in the community health assessment and the development of the health improvement plan
- Communicate regularly with the Tribal Advisory Council members; and
- Be available for training by OHA Tribal Affairs and any federally recognized Tribe in Oregon and the Urban Indian Health Program

*How is the Tribal Liaison role
integrated in your CCO operations?*

Challenges?

Opportunities for growth?

*Ask yourself: How will this impact
the Tribes?*

– Julie Johnson, OHA-Office of Tribal Affairs, Director