



2023 ANNUAL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT REPORT ON TRIBAL RELATIONS

Director: Mike Reese

Assistant Director of Correctional Services:
Larry Bennett

Oregon Department of Corrections activities under ORS 182.164 to 182.168

December 15, 2023

Submitted to the
Governor and the
Legislative
Commission on
Indian Services

Table of Contents

1	Executive Summary	2
2	ORS 182.166(3) Annual Reporting Requirements	2
2.1	The policy the state agency adopted under ORS 182.164 [182.166(3)(a)]	2
2.2	The names of the individuals in the state agency who are responsible for developing and implementing programs of the state agency that affect tribes [182.166(3)(b)]	2
2.3	The process the state agency established to identify the programs of the state agency that affect tribes. [182.166(3)(c)]	2
2.4	The efforts of the state agency to promote communication between the state agency and tribes and government-to-government relations between the state and tribes. [182.166(3)(d)]	3
2.5	A description of the training required by subsection (1) of this section. [182.166(3)(e)]	4
2.6	The method the state agency established for notifying employees of the state agency of the provisions of ORS 182.162 ...to 182.168...and the policy the state agency adopts under ORS 182.164... [182.166(3)(f)]	4
3	2023 Native American Programs and Activities	4
	Coffee Creek Correctional Facility (CCCF), Wilsonville	6
	Columbia River Correctional Institution (CRCI), Portland	9
	South Fork Forest Camp (SFFC), Tillamook	9
	Deer Ridge Correctional Institution (DRCI), Madras	11
	Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution (EOCI), Pendleton	14
	Oregon State Correctional Institution (OSCI), Salem	17
	Oregon State Penitentiary (OSP), Salem	19
	Powder River Correctional Facility (PRCF), Baker City	22
	Santiam Correctional Institution (SCI), Salem	24
	Snake River Correctional Institution (SRCI), Ontario	25
	Two Rivers Correctional Institution (TRCI), Umatilla	28
	Warner Creek Correctional Facility (WCCF), Lakeview	31
4	Table of DOC 2023 Native American Programs	33
5	Conclusion	34

I Executive Summary

This report, required by [ORS 182.166\(3\)](#) to be submitted to the Governor and the Legislative Commission on Indian Services by December 15 of each year, highlights the activities, ceremonies, and events which took place in prisons throughout the state of Oregon. Because the frequency and types of activities offered to Department of Corrections’ (DOC) Native American population varies by location throughout the state, they are grouped by institution.

Also included is information on newly added Native American religious programming. This is a result of DOC’s continuing efforts to expand services and explore new, and traditionally honoring, ways to serve this population. In 2023, DOC fully reopened its facilities following the restricted operations necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Religious Services Unit has worked to bring back its baseline of services to pre-pandemic levels and plans to focus on opportunities to expand services during 2024.

2 ORS 182.166(3) Annual Reporting Requirements

<p>2.1 The policy the state agency adopted under ORS 182.164 [182.166(3)(a)]</p>	<p>DOC adopted Policy 10.1.6, “Government-to-Government Tribal Relations.” It was last updated November 27, 2019.</p>		
<p>2.2 The names of the individuals in the state agency who are responsible for developing and implementing programs of the state agency that affect tribes [182.166(3)(b)]</p>	<p>The Religious Services Administrator, Daryl Borello, is directly responsible for developing and implementing religious programs of the state agency that affect tribes. Larry Bennett, Assistant Director of DOC’s Correctional Services Division, provides oversight of these efforts.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td> <p>Daryl Borello, Administrator Oregon Department of Corrections Religious Services 3723 Fairview Industrial Drive S.E., Suite 200 Salem, Oregon 97302 503-932-9332 Daryl.R.Borello@doc.oregon.gov</p> </td> <td> <p>Larry Bennett, Assistant Director Oregon Department of Corrections Correctional Services Division 3723 Fairview Industrial Drive S.E., Suite 200 Salem, Oregon 97302 503-437-2668 Larry.W.Bennett@doc.oregon.gov</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Daryl Borello, Administrator Oregon Department of Corrections Religious Services 3723 Fairview Industrial Drive S.E., Suite 200 Salem, Oregon 97302 503-932-9332 Daryl.R.Borello@doc.oregon.gov</p>	<p>Larry Bennett, Assistant Director Oregon Department of Corrections Correctional Services Division 3723 Fairview Industrial Drive S.E., Suite 200 Salem, Oregon 97302 503-437-2668 Larry.W.Bennett@doc.oregon.gov</p>
<p>Daryl Borello, Administrator Oregon Department of Corrections Religious Services 3723 Fairview Industrial Drive S.E., Suite 200 Salem, Oregon 97302 503-932-9332 Daryl.R.Borello@doc.oregon.gov</p>	<p>Larry Bennett, Assistant Director Oregon Department of Corrections Correctional Services Division 3723 Fairview Industrial Drive S.E., Suite 200 Salem, Oregon 97302 503-437-2668 Larry.W.Bennett@doc.oregon.gov</p>		
<p>2.3 The process the state agency established to identify the programs of the state agency that affect tribes. [182.166(3)(c)]</p>	<p>Typically, DOC Native American programs and activities are provided through volunteers and supervised by a Religious Services chaplain. Many of the volunteers are recruited by chaplains, and any new programs must go through an approval process before taking place in an institution. DOC’s Religious Services Unit coordinates with DOC’s Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to determine where new programs best fit – whether under Religious Services or as a club activity supervised by an institution Activities Unit. As a result of being involved in the development, recruitment, supervision, and approval processes, the Religious Services Unit is aware of existing as well as upcoming programs affecting tribes.</p>		

2 ORS 182.166(3) Annual Reporting Requirements

Except for club activities, all programs affecting tribes are directly coordinated through Religious Services. Powwows are institution-endorsed events, with Religious Services chaplains serving as the sponsors.

All Native American programs and activities are tracked in DOC's data systems, and specific information is available upon request. The programs and activities affecting tribes provided by DOC in 2023 are listed in Section 3 of this report.

2.4 The efforts of the state agency to promote communication between the state agency and tribes and government-to-government relations between the state and tribes. [182.166(3)(d)]

DOC is a long-standing member of the Government-to-Government Public Safety Cluster. Participation provides DOC with current information on public safety activities and concerns among the various tribes, as well as those of other state agencies. It provides an avenue for building ongoing relationships with tribal and state representatives. These relationships have been critical as DOC implements strategies and develops statewide procedures which may affect tribal members. DOC believes participation has helped tribes and other state agencies and stakeholders better understand the agency's mission and operations. DOC also believes its advice and participation in the cluster has been helpful and beneficial to Oregon's tribes. DOC's liaison with the Public Safety Cluster is an Assistant Inspector General, while the Religious Services Administrator acts as liaison for all religious matters.

DOC continues to work with Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes and tribal members to identify opportunities for partnership. Daryl Borello, Religious Services Administrator, oversees all religious services, accommodations, and activities for Oregon's 12 prisons. All institutions maintain contact with tribal representatives and tribal volunteers to develop and present special cultural ceremonies, promote adult in custody (AIC) participation in cultural events and affiliations, and recruit volunteers. The DOC Religious Services Administrator also attends Legislative Commission on Indian Services meetings and offers in-person briefings when appropriate.

Native American Volunteers

DOC relies on Native American volunteers from around the state. Volunteers conduct Native American ceremonies in the prisons and provide spiritual guidance for AICs. DOC, as well as the AICs who benefit and participate in these programs, are very grateful to have such dedicated volunteers. Many of the services and programs would likely not be available without their service. DOC cannot thank these volunteers enough for giving their time and energy.

Tribal representatives began meeting with DOC and the Oregon State Penitentiary (OSP) Lakota Club in August 2017 to develop a reentry program for releasing Native Americans. During 2018-19, Administrator Nichole Brown co-chaired Native American Summit meetings with Jim St. Martin, a Native American volunteer at OSP. The workgroup has continued to develop the Red Road to Transition model to utilize volunteers and native healers for a Native

2 ORS 182.166(3) Annual Reporting Requirements

	<p>American-specific Narcotics Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous-type reentry program. DOC actively reaches out to the Native American tribes to request their support through volunteers to strengthen Lakota Club members through native spiritualism and native-based treatment and cultural activities.</p>
<p>2.5 A description of the training required by subsection (1) of this section. [182.166(3)(e)]</p>	<p>Specific annual training for state agency managers and employees is required by ORS 182.166(1) and ORS 182.166(2). DOC participated in the 2022 Tribal-State Annual Government to Government Summit provided by Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS). The theme was “Celebrating our accomplishments and preparing for the challenges ahead,” and was hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw. While disappointed to learn the December 2023 summit was cancelled, DOC looks forward to attending the 2024 summit.</p>
<p>2.6 The method the state agency established for notifying employees of the state agency of the provisions of ORS 182.162 ...to 182.168...and the policy the state agency adopts under ORS 182.164... [182.166(3)(f)]</p>	<p>All DOC employees are notified by email when a new rule or policy is implemented or when a rule or policy is changed. DOC Policy 10.1.6 is the means by which DOC notifies employees of the state agency provisions under ORS 182.162 to 182.168. DOC Policy 10.1.6 was updated November 27, 2019, and an email notification to all DOC employees was sent shortly thereafter.</p>

3 2023 Native American Programs and Activities

A range of Native American services and events were provided during the year at all Oregon prisons. DOC’s Religious Services Unit continued to develop and deliver Native American spirituality and healing programs. Religious Services has developed healing ceremonies at multiple facilities and plans to expand offerings during 2024.

While nearly all programs experienced some sort of decline or negative impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Religious Services continued to work with Native American religious leaders and volunteers in disseminating materials and aiding in the communication between AICs and Native American volunteers. This partnership flourished during the pandemic and has strengthened the working relationship between Religious Services and Native American religious leaders and volunteers.

Religious Services staff work with the Eagle Repository in Colorado to facilitate acquisition of eagle feathers for AICs.

Each facility provides regular care and maintenance of its Native American Sweat Lodge and outdoor worship areas. In partnership with Native American volunteers and Red Lodge Transitional Services, some institution sweat lodges were updated during 2023.

Augmenting Native American programs and activities, DOC continuously seeks more avenues and opportunities to enhance positive family involvement in AICs' lives. DOC is currently working with several tribes to enhance the transition experience of an AIC releasing from DOC custody. Several tribes are conducting pilot transitional services programs, and the results have been positive.

Individual Institution Programs and Activities

In May of this year, DOC responded to a letter from the Tribes to Governor Kotek expressing concerns regarding the adequacy of and access to Native American spiritual and cultural programs within DOC's institutions. DOC's response identified the many ways in which it has been providing and continues to provide Native American spiritual and cultural activities within the boundaries of the Oregon Administrative Rules, DOC policies, and safety and security needs. DOC believes many of the expressed concerns were related to the COVID-19 restrictions that impacted all DOC programs and activities, as well as the lack of volunteers at several institutions which limits DOC's ability to provide Native American-led programs. The department is thankful for the letter and the opportunity to address the concerns raised, and we are pleased to report all institutions are now functioning at pre-pandemic levels of service. Volunteers are again entering our facilities and providing much needed support to chaplains and adults in custody (AICs).

In late 2022 and early 2023, the DOC partnered with Red Lodge Transitional Services and others to build, rebuild, or provide maintenance across the state to several sweat lodges inside DOC facilities; and as you can see from the pages that follow, powwows, sweat lodges, drumming, talking circles, smudge ceremonies, and pipe ceremonies are once again taking place in our facilities.



Coffee Creek Correctional Facility (CCCF), Wilsonville

Chaplain Emily Brault, Medium

(503) 570-6785

Emily.R.Brault@doc.oregon.gov

Vacant, Minimum

(503) 570-6604

Vacant

Chaplain David Cary, Intake/Medium

(503) 570-2211

David.J.Cary@doc.oregon.gov



C

This year at CCCF, the Native American Population was able to participate in various opportunities for expressing their spirituality including Spring Celebration, smudge ceremony, and beading circle.

C

Spring Celebration was held April 29, 2023, with both medium and minimum custody facilities worshipping together for the first time since the COVID pandemic. The celebration included 28 Native American elders, visitors, and volunteers representing tribes from across Oregon. There were 82 AICs present, 26 from the medium facility and 56 from the minimum facility. Fresh salmon, assorted fruits and berries, as well as freshly prepared fry bread were made available to everyone who attended the event. Together, AICs, elders, honored guests, and family and friends were able to listen and participate in traditional song and dance, offer their prayers as they shed many healing tears, and have conversations and fellowship with one another.

C

After some delay due to volunteer availability, smudge ceremony and talking circle were restarted in the medium facility August 20, 2023, and will continue to be scheduled to occur every third Sunday of the month. Smudge in the minimum facility is also scheduled to be held once a month. Native beading circle is scheduled in the medium facility every second and fourth Saturday.

F

Intake Population

People are typically housed at the Coffee Creek Intake Center for only 30 to 45 days while they undergo risk and needs assessments before transfer to a DOC facility. Therefore, recurring religious services and activities are not provided inside this short-term facility. However, a chaplain is available and Native American reading materials are provided upon request. Information and DOC rules on eagle feathers, medicine bags, powwows, and sweats within DOC institutions are also available to the residents.

C
C
C
F





Spring Celebration at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility





Columbia River Correctional Institution (CRCI), Portland



South Fork Forest Camp (SFFC), Tillamook

Chaplain Phil Holbrook

(971)-673-3563

Phillip.E.Holbrook@doc.oregon.gov

One chaplain is assigned to both the CRCI and SFFC facilities, with one day per week spent at SFFC.

CRCI:

The chaplain supervised a weekly talking circle and smudge ceremony. Volunteer William Ward oversaw monthly sweat ceremonies. Native American volunteer, Fred Cooper provided a weekly talking circle and smudge ceremony. Other Native American volunteers also supervised two weekly crafting classes.

CRCI held their powwow August 13, 2023. It was attended by several Native American volunteers and community members along with 62 Native American AICs. AICs were permitted to have two adult guests join them for the powwow. Red Lodge, under the supervision of volunteer Patricia Jordan, provided all the food for the powwow including deer meat, salmon, Native American tacos, and berry soup. Aztec dancers performed dance ceremonies.

Working with Native American volunteers at CRCI, the chaplain recently submitted an application to the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund hoping to attain grant money to help AICs purchase crafting supplies and Native American medicines.

SFFC:

The chaplain supervised a weekly talking circle, smudge ceremony, and crafting time. Volunteer William Ward provided a monthly sweat ceremony. Nine SFFC Native American AICs were allowed to be transported to CRCI to participate in the powwow.



C S
R F
C & F
I C



CRCI/SFFC Powwow





D eer Ridge Correctional Institution (DRCI), Madras

Chaplain Ken Ball

(541) 325-5617

Ken.W.Ball@doc.oregon.gov

The Religious Services Unit at DRCI was able to provide much more robust Native American religious services and early cultural activities in 2023 than was possible last year. Two factors influenced this positive change – the conclusion of the pandemic and the return of volunteers. During 2022 when there was elevated levels of COVID-19 risk, only limited, outdoor, socially distanced events and virtual talking circles every other week and no group activities like sweat lodge took place. In 2023, DRCI is nearly back to pre-pandemic programming levels.



**D
R
C
I**

DRCI's 2023 regularly scheduled Native American activities have included:

- Weekly in-person talking circle led by one carded volunteer and one or more escorted visitors;
- Weekly drum circle with indirect supervision by the chaplain;
- Daily weekday beading/leathercraft with indirect supervision by the chaplain;
- Monthly sweat lodge with direct supervision by at least one carded volunteer and at least one escorted visitor; and
- Periodic pipe ceremonies, marking the passing of AICs' loved ones.

In addition, DRCI also held two special events this year:

- The Annual Spirit Run was held on the lower yard July 29, 2023. Thirty-two AICs and several outside guests participated in the day-long event. DRCI's Physical Plant provided shade awnings and hand wash stations while Food Services



provided coffee and pastries in the morning, followed by sack meals and gallons of ice water for the thirsty runners. The event consisted of an opening ceremony with smudging, an opening prayer, and instructions for the run. The running commenced with the feather staff in motion until the last song and final prayer at the closing ceremony.

- Our annual powwow was observed as an all-day special event August 19, 2023, beginning with check-in at 7:00 a.m. and concluding at 4:00 p.m. As the Native Circle's signature religious/cultural event of the year, powwow was attended by approximately 80 people, including 37 Native American AICs from various tribes, approved AIC guests, and numerous outside visitors and volunteers. The event consisted of a smudge for all attendees, the grand entrance, songs, drumming, games, dancing, storytelling, prayers, gift giving, and a feast of traditional foods such as salmon, venison, frybread, roots, and huckleberries. After the closing prayer, all guests exited the facility, and the AICs accomplished the cleanup before being dismissed to their housing units. Although there were a few hiccups, DRCI's 2023 powwow was a successful event, and a good time was had by all.

DRCI looks forward to 2024 with hopes of adding at least two more carded volunteers and possibly beginning another mid-week regular volunteer-led culturally relevant class.



**D
R
C
I**





E astern Oregon Correctional Institution (EOCI), Pendleton

Chaplain Carmelo DiSalvo
Chaplain Nondier Zuleta

(541) 278-3641
(541) 278-3642

Carmelo.DiSalvo@doc.oregon.gov
Nondier.D.Zuleta@doc.oregon.gov



The rebuilding of the sweat lodge at EOCI in 2023 was symbolic for how the Native American community has moved forward in programs and activities for the year and looking to the future.

The Native American programs in 2022 were starting to climb back from the time of COVID with drumming, smudge, and pipe ceremony. In 2023 EOCI set out to not only continue these programs, but to build on the successes of the previous year and offer more of the programs the AICs are familiar with.

E
O
C
I

This year EOCI reestablished the role of the fire starters, renewed the annual powwow, and brought back sweat lodge events after securing a renewed commitment from Tyler Barlowe to volunteer. EOCI greatly appreciates Mr. Barlowe’s commitment, as it is difficult to find Native American volunteers for institutions on the east side of the state, and he must travel a significant distance from the west side of the state in order to provide sweat ceremonies for the EOCI Native Circle.

Looking ahead, EOCI hopes to bring in an additional volunteer to help AICs with beading and other crafts and creating a talking circle.

EOCI Religious Services has committed itself to moving forward and believes its progress will bring positive change by serving the needs of others – keeping in mind the philosophy of the Oregon Way, by “normalizing the correctional environment and, in turn, improving the outcomes for incarcerated people.”









Oregon State Correctional Institution (OSCI), Salem

Chaplain Don Hodney

(503) 373-0147

Don.E.Hodney@doc.oregon.gov

OSCI continues to grow, expand, and diversify programs offered to its Indigenous AIC community. Following are a few highlights since the 2022 report.

Drum Circle – This program increased from biweekly to a weekly program to enhance communication, build a cooperative spirit, and strengthen the teaching of Indigenous spirit songs among the OSCI Native Circle participants.

Sweat Ceremony – The Circle has been enjoying monthly sweat ceremonies, maintaining consistency for scheduling the program. Historically, OSCI sweat ceremonies were often cancelled due to volunteer cancellations, weather, fire marshal burn ban restrictions, or no available staff to provide supervision when sweat ceremonies were held on the weekends. Since rescheduling the sweat ceremony from the weekend to a weekday, the Native Circle has been able to celebrate sweat each month except during the burn bans.

Wellbriety Program – The six-week event was sponsored through OSCI's substance use disorder (SUD) treatment program; however, OSCI Religious Services partnered with the SUD program to facilitate the celebratory sweat ceremony for those AICs who completed the Wellbriety event.

Many Nations Cultural Club (MNCC) & OSCI Chaplain Meetings – The chaplain continues to hold monthly meetings with the Indigenous officers of the MNCC reviewing existing religious programs for the Native Circle, discussing new proposals, and planning for the annual powwow. Additionally, the chaplain meets with individuals who wish to confidentially discuss issues affecting them.

OSCI Powwow – OSCI held its annual powwow July 22, 2023. The theme was **Recovery**. The collaboration between the OSCI MNCC and OSCI Religious Services was good, and the outcome of the event was highly successful. The food was excellent, the program well received, there were several honored guests from various tribal communities and state agencies as well as families and friends of the OSCI Native Circle. State leadership in attendance as honored guests included Representative Tawna Sanchez, Senator Janeen Sollman, and Cheryl Meyer, who at the time was serving as the interim Secretary of State, but who has since returned to serving as the Deputy Secretary of State and Tribal Liaison.



OSCI





Oregon State Penitentiary (OSP), Salem

Chaplain Avrohom Perlstein (503) 378-2333 Avrohom.Y.Perstein@doc.oregon.gov
 Chaplain Isaac Witcraft (503) 373-1350 Isaac.H.Witcraft@doc.oregon.gov (rotation)
 Chaplain Dennis Stahlnecker (503) 373-1673 Dennis.U.Stahlnecker@doc.oregon.gov



Once the COVID-19 operational restrictions were lifted, OSP has been able to schedule a sweat at least once a month. If there was a month when a sweat couldn't be provided, a smudge and pipe ceremony was offered. With the help of some very dedicated volunteers who have committed to OSP to provide these services, the Native group now sweats at least twice a month. Overall, OSP has been able to maintain its programming since COVID-19 and has been steadily providing sweats.

O
S
P

The sweat lodge was rebuilt this year, and the group of 25 men who helped rebuild the lodge were able to sweat too.

In July, OSP hosted a spirit run. It ran from Tuesday, July 11 through Friday, July 14. A nice crowd joined the opening and closing ceremonies on the yard, which included a pipe ceremony. Following the spirit run were four days of Sundance Sweats.

OSP hosted its annual powwow August 5, 2023. Seventy-five (75) volunteers who passed background checks were able to attend and help, and close to 50 family members joined as well. It was very well attended, and everyone had a good time together. This year the OSP Circle honored long-time volunteers Tyler Barlow and Dino Butler. Guests and family members were able to take gifts home with them. Some were created by the men themselves, and others were bought or donated from other sources.









Powder River Correctional Facility (PRCF), Baker City

Chaplain Dornic Pillay

(541) 523-9560

domnic.n.pillay@doc.oregon.gov

Throughout this year, the Native American Circle has practiced and participated in weekly smudges on the sweat lodge grounds and monthly sweat ceremonies. Pipe ceremonies have been held as needed for bereavement purposes on the sweat lodge grounds.

Weekly talking circle meetings are followed by a viewing of a Native American movie. The AICs were able to participate in the beading program during this time as well. August 1, 2023, the PRCF Native American circle participated in a virtual talking circle with volunteer Patricia Jordan in the PRCF chapel.

This year, the circle was finally able to replace their sweat lodge. The circle received assistance from the community, including Ms. Heather Phillips, a Native American DOC employee, and her husband who provided the circle with willow branches for the sweat lodge building project as well as the Nazarene Church, who donated four to five cords of firewood for the sweat lodge ceremonies.

In August of this year, the PRCF Native American circle received a charitable grant of \$500 from the Siletz Tribe for the annual powwow and for the purchase of Native American medicine.

The PRCF powwow was held September 8, 2023, and was attended by tribal elders and representatives, including Patricia Jordan, from Red Lodge.

PRCF continues to seek the service of a Native American volunteer(s) to provide more Native American opportunities and programs.



P
R
C
F



Programs & Events



Rebuilding the PRCF Sweat Lodge





Santiam Correctional Institution (SCI), Salem

Chaplain David Betts

(503) 378-3188

David.K.Betts@doc.oregon.gov



SCI offers a variety of Native American services for those interested in participating. Native American literature is available in the chapel library for AICs who are interested in checking out books. A volunteer comes in on a regular basis to lead smudging ceremonies and talking circle. In July, the volunteer and AICs were able to rebuild the sweat lodge and have a sweat ceremony that same day. This was the first sweat at SCI since COVID began in 2020.

In September, SCI held a powwow, which was also the first one held since COVID. In preparation for the powwow, the AICs were able to meet once per week to make gifts. The powwow was attended by AICs, their family members, volunteers, and honored guests and elders from the community.

S
C
I





Snake River Correctional Institution (SRCI), Ontario

<i>Chaplain Mike Clig</i>	<i>(541) 881-4624</i>	Mike.A.Clig@doc.oregon.gov
<i>Chaplain Kent Sullivan</i>	<i>(541) 881-4686</i>	Kent.Sullivan@doc.oregon.gov
<i>Chaplain Samuel Suh</i>	<i>(541) 881-4625</i>	Samuel.S.Suh@doc.oregon.gov
<i>Chaplain Steve Toth</i>	<i>(541) 881-4626</i>	Steven.M.Toth@doc.oregon.gov



SRCI got back on track this year in being able to provide sweat lodge, talking circle, pipe ceremonies, and powwow.

In preparation for this year’s powwow, Native American AICs were able to meet to prepare beading and other handcrafted gifts. They also met to repair existing, and design new, regalia and to build and repair the sweat lodge and drums. This year’s powwow was successful, and SRCI was able to include outside guests, volunteers, and a host of Red Lodge Transitional Services staff and supporters. Trish Jordan and the Red Lodge staff provided indigenous foods for everyone, which was a first at SRCI. These are the sacred foods traditionally eaten by Native peoples across North America.

**S
R
C
I**

Some of the other Native American activities provided through SRCI Religious Services and volunteers this year included:

- Devery Saluskin from the Klamath Tribe - Native American Cultural Education Class via Skype. This class covers a variety of topics including tribal values as well as healthy relationships, anger management, and addiction recovery.
- Pipe Ceremonies: Bereavement pipe ceremonies were provided as needed for spiritual needs and mourning. There was also a pipe ceremony for the changing of the seasons.
- Native American Craftwork: Beading for necklaces, bracelets, medallions, earrings, pens, keychains, as well as leather work and dream catchers.
- Medicine Bags: Constructed and provided to verified AICs for in-house use.
- Feather Repository: Assisted in ordering and delivered to appropriate person
- Drumming
 - Provided a learning ceremony to teach new Native American AICs how to drum and sing.
 - Practiced powwow songs
 - A total of 17 AICs drumming, and approximately 10 AICs who had never drummed or sang powwow songs before.
 - Drumming group will continue throughout the year so they can continue to learn and practice the ceremony and powwow songs.

- Dancing
 - AICs learned different styles of dancing (traditional, grass dance, fancy dance)
 - Nine new Native American AIC dancers were added to the group, six of which had never danced before.
- Talking Circle (Complexes 1, 2, and 3)
- Sweat Lodge (Complexes 1, 2, and 3 and minimum custody facility)
 - First sweat since January 2020
 - Grounds crew and landscapers cleaned up and remodeled, adding a new gravel walkway lined with stones.
 - Physical Plant built a wood box, repaired and repainted the sweat lodge shower, and made and painted each of the Four Directions and installed them in the sweat lodge grounds.
 - Sundance sweat

In the past year, many SRCI Native American AICs have benefitted from the ceremonies and cultural education to which Religious Services has been able to provide access. It is important for AICs to learn and keep the traditions going, inspiring the next generation to continue along the path of healing and wellness.

SRCI is actively seeking volunteers to help with Wellbriety, talking circle, beading class, and powwow dances, including passing along their history, meaning, and significance.







Two Rivers Correctional Institution (TRCI), Umatilla

Chaplain Jaime Cardona
Chaplain Richard Bates

(541) 922-2086
(541) 922-2087

Jaime.A.Cardona@doc.oregon.gov
Richard.P.Bates@doc.oregon.gov



Religious Services at TRCI was able to provide more to the Native Circle in 2023 than the previous year, but is still finding its footing after COVID-19.

Eighty-two AICs participated in TRCI's 2023 powwow, with four serving as flag bearers, four as smudgers, five as food handlers, and six as drummers. There were also several volunteers Red Lodge recruited to help with the festivities. TRCI also offered several pipe ceremonies to AICs in 2023 to mark the passing of a loved one.

T
R
C
I

Regrettably, Religious Services was unable to provide a spirit run before powwow. TRCI is working to include this activity as part of the 2024 powwow event.

TRCI has also recently seen the welcome return of two valued, carded volunteers, Tyler Barlowe and Leon Azaria, who travel a significant distance to conduct sweat ceremonies every other month (six times a year). In the alternating months when there is no volunteer-led sweat, TRCI offers a chaplain-supervised drum circle.

At the time this report was prepared, the first of a series of talking circles to be hosted by Teara Farrow Ferman, Program Manager of the Cultural Resources Protection Program with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, are scheduled to begin. Ms. Farrow Ferman is also actively recruiting additional Native American volunteers.





Two Rivers Correctional Institution (TRCI), Umatilla

**T
R
C
I**





Two Rivers Correctional Institution (TRCI), Umatilla

**T
R
C
I**





W arner Creek Correctional Facility (WCCF), Lakeview

Chaplain Stan Friend

(541) 947-8217

Stan.E.Friend@doc.oregon.gov

This year, the average WCCF Native population was 20. The WCCF circle harvested its own sage with AICs who had appropriate clearance. Pipe ceremonies were provided every other month and with every verified death notice of a family member or friend.



DOC appreciates the volunteers from, and donations made by, the Klamath and Siletz Tribes to support WCCF Native American programs. Other Native American activities provided through Religious Services this year include:

- Weekly drumming
- Weekly beading
- Weekly smudging
- Weekly talking circles
- Weekly cultural videos
- Sweat lodge and fire starters (every other month)
- Annual Native American barbeque
- Powwow, which included buffalo burgers.

This year, WCCF applied to the Klamath tribe and Siletz tribe for grant money to enhance the Native American activities provided at WCCF.



W
C
C
F



4 Table of DOC 2023 Native American Programs

Institution	Native American Programs															
	Beading	Change of Seasons	Crafts	Cultural Study	Drumming Circle/Song	Fire Starters	Medicine Harvest	NA DVDs	Pipe Ceremony	Powwow	Smudge	Spirit Run	Spring Celebration	Sweat Lodge	Talking Circle	Wellbriety
CCCF (med)	X								X		X		X	X	X	
CCCM (min)	X						X		X		X		X	X	X	
CRCI	X		X		X	X		X	X	X	X			X	X	
DRCI	X		X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
EOCI					X				X	X	X			X		
OSCI					X	X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X
OSP					X	X			X	X	X	X		X		
PRCF	X	X				X		X	X	X	X			X	X	
SCI	X				X	X		X	X	X	X			X	X	
SFFC	X		X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
SRCI	X		X	X	X				X	X	X			X	X	
TRCI					X	X			X	X		X ¹		X	X	
WCCF	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	

5 Conclusion

DOC is eager to move past the negative impacts the COVID-19 pandemic has had on religious programming over the past several years and increase the level of religious programs, services, and activities available to AICs. Looking forward, DOC will continue its efforts to provide opportunities for its Native American community to participate in religious and cultural programs, not only so they can express their spiritual beliefs and traditions, but also with the prospect that their involvement will promote positive changes during incarceration and support successful transition back into their communities upon release.

DOC would like to express its gratitude to the Native American community for their volunteer support, financial support, donations, and interest in DOC's efforts to provide Native American AICs with resources to express their spiritual beliefs and traditions. With volunteers now returning to our facilities, several sweat lodges built or rebuilt, and powwow ceremonies for 2023 going well, DOC looks forward to 2024 and the advancements it will bring in working relationships, religious programming, and overall support to Native American adults in custody.

Prepared by and Agency Contact:

Daryl Borello, Administrator
Oregon Department of Corrections
Religious Services
Cell: 503-932-9332
Daryl.R.Borello@doc.oregon.gov