

TRIBAL PROGRAM NEWS

New Program for Youth

by Kelli Brugh, Tribal Youth Mental Health Specialist

"Children are the living messages we send to a lifetime we will never see."

Unknown Author

I like that saying. It makes me think of my children, my yet-to-be-born grandchildren and great-grandchildren, my mom and dad, my grandparents, my great-grandparents, and beyond. Somehow it makes sense to me that we're all connected in ways that are sometimes hard to visualize.

My living messages are parts of the truths, joys, and heartaches transferred through the generations. So I ask myself, what do my living messages say?

I hope they say they're messages of resiliency, spirituality, kindness, connectedness, hope, humility, service, and love. Yet I know that life has a way of transforming our intent and the messages have felt the impact of grief, alcohol, poverty, abuse, disappointment, racism, violence, greed, and hatred.

My name is Kelli Brugh. I'm the daughter of Catherine Thomas and Rodney Brugh. I'm a member of the Lyackson First Nation of Vancouver, B.C. I've previously worked for the Siletz Tribe in different capacities and I recently was hired as the youth mental health specialist for the Tribal Youth Project.

This program has been funded by a three-year grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The program's overall goal is to promote individual and family resiliency and reduce the risk factors that contribute to:

- Generational abuse and trauma
- Single-parent households
- Teen pregnancy
- High school failure/dropout
- Limited access to recreational/social activities
- Early onset of alcohol and drug use, and higher substance abuse rates than the general population
- Suicide
- Teen violence
- Poverty

- Overrepresentation in the juvenile and justice system
- Diminished self-esteem and limited opportunities for leadership development

In partnership with existing tribal resources (prevention, health clinic, substance abuse treatment, culture, education, and law enforcement) and the county juvenile department, the project will implement a mental health services program for youth and their families, and youth involved in the criminal justice system. The objectives of the Tribal Youth Project are to:

- Provide mental health services (assessment and therapeutic interventions) to at-risk Siletz Tribal youth (age 8-18) and their families throughout the 11-county service area
- Provide culturally oriented activity-based counseling (ropes course, rafting, wilderness treks, talking circles, sweathouse ceremony, basket weaving, traditional food identification and usage, traditional storytelling, and exposure to tribal history) to Siletz Tribal youth and their families
- Facilitate an annual Tribal Youth Conference to identify and address risk factors and health concerns of Siletz Tribal youth
- Provide culturally sensitive mental health services to court-involved Siletz Tribal youth and their families

May all of our living messages be filled with love, balance, and health.

For program information and/or services, please contact me at 1-800-648-0449, ext. 611, or 541-444-9611. Current schedule: Monday – Portland Area Office, Tuesday – Salem Area Office, Wednesday – Eugene Area Office, Thursday and Friday – Siletz Health Clinic.

We're Looking for a Few Good Homes

To foster: to bring up, nurture; to promote the growth and development of, cultivate; to nurse, cherish; to provide parental care and nurture of children not related through legal or blood ties.

The Indian Child Welfare Program is always looking for good homes for children from all areas of our 11 counties. ICW is seeking foster homes as well as relative homes for relative placements.

If you think you would like to be a foster home or relative placement, or have questions about being a foster parent or relative provider, please contact Wendi Schamp at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 236, or 541-444-8236. She will be more than happy to assist you with any questions.

Annual Cultural Camp Coming in July

It's time to plan your summer vacations, so be sure to include the annual Culture Camp as the place to be.

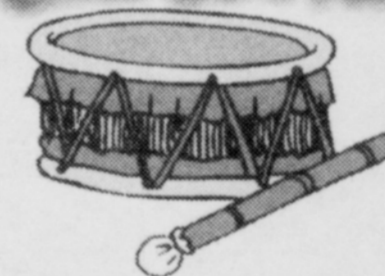
Culture Camp will begin on July 22 and end on July 25. Camp will be held at the Siletz Tribal Community Center/Pow-Wow grounds. Tipis are available for tribal families who live outside of the city of Siletz. They are limited, so to reserve a tipi you must call Selene Rilatos at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 246, or 541-444-8246.

We're having an art contest for our annual T-shirt giveaway. The deadline to send your artwork is May 14. Please send it to Cultural Programs, CTSI, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380.

The camp planning committee would like you to call ahead and let us know if you'll be attending the camp this year. If you have any questions, suggestions, ideas, or donations, please call the Cultural Programs.

Hum'Chi!

Tenas Illahee Child Care Center Educational Child Care for Our Future



We currently are accepting applications for children age 6 weeks to 12 years old. If you're interested in applying, please call 541-444-2450 or stop by the child care center, located at 930 W. Buford Ave. in Siletz.

Feel free to stop by and take a tour of our brand new facility. Our hours currently are 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Rates

| Age of child | over 20 hrs/week | 0-20 hrs/week |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| 0-23 months old | \$2.50/hour | \$2.75/hour |
| 2-12 years old | \$2.25/hour | \$2.50/hour |

Limit of 9 hours/day in care. Ten percent multiple-child discount!

Opened to members of the community

Priority is based upon tribal membership, employees of the Siletz Tribe or Chinook Winds, families on child care assistance, residents of Siletz Tribal housing, and members of the community.

We have plenty of space, so get your applications in as soon as possible! Information on pre-enrollment interviews and parent orientation will be mailed out to applicants.