

TRIBAL PROGRAM NEWS

TCIS Project Moves into Training Mode

by Robert Arce-Torres,
Project Coordinator, TCIS Project

The Tribal Centralized Information System Project (TCIS) is funded by the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) for Social and Economic Development Strategy (SEDS). After the project is completed, various departments will be able to share pertinent information that is currently located in multiple departments and in different formats, which makes it difficult to keep updated and consistent client and membership information.

The impact of the project will allow collection and storage of information for efficient and effective decision making on matters of Tribal governance, which include providing services in the areas of health, housing, employment, family services, culture, history, education and Tribal records.

Over the last few months, the project staff has been diligently working on analyzing, installing, training and converting data for a couple of departments. With the help of EagleSun trainers, we have trained the Enrollment, ICW and CPS groups with the new software. We currently are getting Tribal membership information in the new database.

I want to thank the employees who have attended these training sessions. I know you all have jobs to do and I want to thank you for participating. With your help, we will make this project successful, allowing you to fulfill your responsibilities more efficiently.

Loraine Butler	Shawna Henarie
Pam Lane	Denis Bosque
Heidi Hibdon	Jessica Escamilla
Aline Miller	Bekki Johns

There is a lot more to come on the horizon for these departments and others. There will be more updates on the project in the future.

Siletz Tribal Language Project

The Siletz Tribe is pleased to announce the award of a two-year Administration for Native Americans Native Language Preservation and Maintenance Category II grant to develop an Athabaskan language curriculum for Head Start through fifth grade.

As a Tribe, we have lost more than 90 percent of the ability to speak the Native language, Athabaskan. This is the first step of many on a long path to address this tragedy. It is the goal that the curriculum developed at the pilot project site, Siletz Valley School, will be largely available upon the completion of a successful project.

We currently are seeking community input at the following Language Community Meetings held at each area office:

Eugene – 5:30 p.m.
April 6 and May 4

Siletz – 5:30 p.m.
April 7 and May 5

Portland – 5:30 p.m.
April 13 and May 11

Salem – 5:30 p.m.
April 14 and May 12

This will be an opportunity for interested individuals to provide feedback on the curriculum development process. It is the interest of the Siletz Tribal Language Project to address the needs of the community the Language Project is intended to serve.

Please bring your comments to any of the listed community meetings or contact Bud Lane at 541-444-8230 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1230; or Cova St. Onge at 541-444-1036.

Hvm' Chi'

First-Time Home Buyer \$8,000 Tax Credit: Seven Things to Know

Here are seven things you need to know about the freshly-enacted \$8,000 first-time home buyer tax credit. The credit is being issued from the IRS.

1. **Limit:** The tax credit is \$8,000 or 10 percent of the purchase price, whichever is less. The new tax credit replaces the earlier \$7,500 home buyer tax credit enacted last year. This one is a true tax credit while the other was a 0 percent interest loan.
2. **First-time buyers:** A "first-time home buyer" is someone who hasn't owned a principal residence for three years before buying a house.
3. **2009 buyers only:** Only those who purchase a home on or after Jan. 1 and before Dec. 1, 2009, are eligible for the credit.
4. **Income limits:** The tax credit is subject to income limitations. Single buyers need a modified adjusted gross income of \$75,000 or less to qualify for the full credit and \$150,000 for married couples. Those earning more may be eligible for reduced credits.
5. **Refundable:** The tax credit is "refundable," meaning qualified buyers can take advantage of it even if they don't have much tax liability.
6. **Recapture:** If buyers sell the home within three years, they must repay the credit to the IRS. If the home is owned for more than three years, there is no recapture.
7. **Using the tax credit with other programs:** If you qualify, you may be able to utilize the tax credit along with other first-time home buyer programs, such as Siletz down payment assistance, OHCS down payment assistance, state bond, land trusts and others. Qualifications and availability of these programs vary.

If you are interested in buying your first home this year and want to learn more about the available programs, call Yvonne Messmer at 503-390-9494 or toll-free at 888-870-9051.

April USDA Distribution Dates

Siletz		Salem	
Monday, April 6	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.	Monday, April 20	2 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 7	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.	Tuesday, April 21	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Wednesday, April 8	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.	Wednesday, April 22	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Thursday, April 9	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.		
Friday, April 10	9 a.m. – Noon		

We would like to send a big thank you to Adrienne Crookes, community health advocate in the Eugene Area Office. She cooked up a fantastic meal of turkey stroganoff, zucchini tomato bake and magic fruit salad.

If you would like the recipes, please call April or Joyce at the numbers listed at right or come in and we'll have copies for you.

Would you like a \$25 gift card for Fred Meyer? All you have to do is come in and prepare a healthy meal using commodities, leave your recipe and you will receive a \$25 gift card. Please call Joyce or April to schedule an appointment.



Joyce Retherford, FDP Director
541-444-8393 or
800-922-1399, ext. 1393
OR
April Scoggins, USDA Clerk
541-444-8279 or
800-922-1399, ext. 1279

Happy meals!

CTSI Jobs

CTSI employment information is available at www.ctsi.nsn.us.

Note: "Open Until Filled" vacancies may close at any time. The Tribe's Indian Preference policy will apply. Tribal government will not discriminate in selection because of race, creed, age, sex, color, national origin, physical handicap, marital status, politics, membership or non-membership in an employee organization.

CTSI is constantly looking for temporary employees to cover vacancy, vacations, maternity leave and extended sick leave. If you are retired, a homemaker or a student and are looking for temporary work that can last from two weeks to 12 weeks, please submit a temporary application for the temp pool.

Position: Community Health Director
Salary: DOE
Location: Salem, Eugene, Portland or Siletz, Oregon
Closing Date: Until Filled

Position: On-Call Medical Assistant
Salary: \$14.95 per hour
Location: Siletz, Oregon
Closing Date: Until Filled

Position: Head Coach-High School Girls Volleyball
Salary: \$2,000 per season
Location: Siletz, Oregon
Closing Date: May 1, 2009

Tribal Youth Annual Easter Egg Hunt

April 11 • 11 a.m.
Siletz Tribal Community Center

Hunt eggs with kids your age and win a raffle prize!

Questions? Call Alissa Lane at 541-444-8373 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1373.

This event is sponsored by the Siletz Tribal Education Department

Tribal Children Need You

Do you value Siletz Native culture and want to help preserve it? If so, please consider fostering for the Tribe. The Siletz Tribe needs loving, stable, nurturing homes in all areas.



If you are interested, please contact Shawna Henarie, foster care certifier, at 541-444-8275 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1275; or visit www.ctsi.nsn.us/icw.html.