



## Williams returns to Siletz as new health director

We welcome Miranda Williams as the new Siletz Tribal health director. Miranda is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. **She honors the importance of introductions to respect our Tribal elders and understands how introductions bring kinship to one another and family connections to the community.**

Her parents are Nora Williams-Wood and Kent Strickler. On Miranda's maternal side, her late grandmother, a Grand Ronde Tribal member, is Carol Williams and late grandfather, a Siletz Tribal member, is Eugene Williams, Sr.

On her paternal side, her grandmother is Siletz Tribal member Charolette Noble and her late grandfather is Darrell Strickler. She has five children (three sons and two daughters), all enrolled Siletz Tribal members who are Navajo on their paternal side.

Miranda proudly served as the community health advocate at the Siletz Tribal Eugene Area Office before moving to Arizona to continue her college education in 2003. She received a bachelor's degree in science in nutrition (focus: dietetics) from Arizona State University and obtained a master of public health (focus: management of health systems) from the University of Liverpool in partnership with the University of California, San Francisco.

In 2018, she completed a two-year HEAL (Health, Equity, Action, Leadership) Fellowship with the University of California, Berkeley/San Francisco. Through this fellowship, she received advanced training and experience in global health care systems by applying principles of equity, justice and solidarity to understand achievement of health in vulnerable populations globally.

Prior to returning home to Siletz, Miranda was the supervisory public health advisor for the Navajo Nation at the Navajo Area Indian Health Service, Chinle Service Unit, for the past 11+ years. She was responsible for coordinating diabetes prevention, management and treatment services and care across three health care facilities with a total user population of more than 35,000 people from 31 communities.

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### Siletz Tribal offices will be closed:

- **Friday, Nov. 11, for Veterans Day**
- **Friday, Nov. 18, for the Tribal Restoration Holiday**
- **Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24-25, for Thanksgiving**

## Tribe invites community to annual Restoration Pow-Wow

The public is invited to join the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians on Saturday, Nov. 19, as it holds its annual Restoration Pow-Wow at Chinook Winds Casino Resort in Lincoln City, Ore., for the first time since 2019.

This free event, canceled the last two years because of the COVID-19 pandemic, begins with a grand entry at 6 p.m. American Indian vendors with jewelry, beadwork and other items for sale will be available throughout the day.

This is the 45<sup>th</sup> year that the Siletz Tribe has celebrated the signing of Public Law 95-195, which re-established government-to-government relations between the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and the federal government. The Siletz Tribe was terminated from federal recognition in August 1954.

In the late 1960s, it became apparent that the only way to preserve and revitalize

Siletz Tribal sovereignty, community and culture was for the Siletz Tribe to regain its status as a Tribe recognized by the United States.

In November 1977, after years of intense lobbying, Congress and President Jimmy Carter approved Public Law 95-195, which reinstated recognition of the Siletz as a federal Indian Tribe. The Siletz Tribe was the second in the nation – and the first in Oregon – to achieve restoration.

Dedicated to improving the quality of life of its more than 5,600 members, the Tribe puts strong emphasis on the education, health and social well-being of all its members.

Significant Tribal accomplishments since Restoration include opening the original health clinic in 1991 and a new much larger clinic in 2010; building more than 150 homes and multiple dwellings for Tribal members, including 28 units at Neachesna Village in Lincoln City that

have opened since 2009, 19 apartments in Siletz that opened in 2010 and 20 homes in the Tillamook subdivision in Siletz that have opened since 2013; and 10 Workforce Housing townhouses in Lincoln City that opened in 2021; completing the Siletz Dance House in 1996; opening the Tenas Illahee Child Care Center in 2003; opening the Tillicum Fitness Center and a new USDA food distribution warehouse in Siletz in 2008; and opening the Siletz Rec Center in 2009.

Through its economic development division, the Siletz Tribal Business Corporation, the Tribe purchased the Lincoln Shores office complex in Lincoln City in 2001 and opened the Siletz Gas & Mini-Mart in Siletz in 2004, the Logan Road RV Park in Lincoln City in 2004 and the Hee Hee Illahee RV Resort in Salem in 2006. Tribal offices in Portland, Salem

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Photo by Andrea Taylor

Community members admire the basket display at the new STAHS Gift Shop and Museum in Siletz, Ore., on Oct. 10. The building was open for Indigenous Peoples Day to celebrate Tribal heritage and bring attention to the completion of fundraising to build the new Tribal museum on Government Hill. Drawings and a raffle took place throughout the day and those attending indulged in fry bread to their heart's content.

The Siletz Tribal Arts and Heritage Society completed its \$2.5 million capital campaign earlier this year for the construction of Ghii Dee-Ne Dvn, A Place for the People.