

Grants activities centralized . . .

Planning Department adds grants office

In an effort to minimize tribal funding of programs and projects, and to centralize grant writing and research, the Tribal Planning Department has added a grants office to its operation.

The grants office (which became fully operational the first of this year) was instituted not only to coordinate and streamline the contract and grants proposal system for the Confederated Tribes, but to assist other branches and departments through research of funding sources other than tribal.

It is anticipated that by centralizing grants writing and research in one office that the Tribes will better be able to synchronize new grants with Tribal and Council priorities while also creating better coordination between BIA and Tribal programs.

The staff in the new grants office includes Arthur B. Tassie (Grants Planner-Development Specialist), Lilly Sahme (Grants and Contracts Specialist), and Carol E. Wewa (secretary). Upon entering their office, one is struck not only

by the organization, but by the prevailing spirit of teamwork and cooperation among the staff.

Until completion of the new administration building, the grants office is temporarily housed on the second floor of the old boys dorm where the staff is subjected to the mouthwatering aroma of fresh toast at 8:30 every morning, and the happy pandemonium of active children on the first floor. Tassie said he likes the sound of the kids, but the smell of the toast and bacon

nearly drives him crazy!

The grants office was set up primarily to research and review grant proposals and to set up a clearinghouse process where drafts will be reviewed and evaluated prior to being submitted. A prime goal is to try to off-set as much of the tribal funding of projects and programs as possible through grants. "We'll have to maintain a high level of awareness of what's going on to keep abreast of possible new alternatives to tribal funding," said Sahme.

Having just finished the writing of a significant grant for the Simnasho - Schoolie water system, Tassie and Sahme are now in the process of gathering, reviewing, and cataloging all existing grants.

Once they have completed the grants review process, they will meet with each of the branches for the purposes of orientation and to open lines of communication so there will be a two-way flow of information with other departments and branches. "We don't want to isolate ourselves," Sahme stressed.

"That's really important," agreed Tassie. "And I think we should go to the people constantly. We hope to become a part of the tribal organization that takes a look at the long-range impact of all these grants that are available in terms of tribal objectives and reality."

According to Sahme, her job is to become completely familiar with all tribal contracts and grants and the guidelines set forth. She will also be responsible for monitoring those grants and will be involved in some evaluation as to how each grant is coming along.

Tassie, who must make sure the Overall Economic Development Plan is followed, said that it will be important to be in touch with what other tribes are doing, and that a cooperative venture would be wise because of the great deal of competition involved in the procurement of grants.

He also said that after two years with the State of Oregon, he is more impressed with the plans the Tribes have for their future than those of the state. "The tribal organization seems to have things pretty well together even though they're really just getting started."

The creation of a grants office will allow the Planning Department more time to devote to long-range planning projects and activities for which it was set up, according to Ray Rangila, planning director. "We'll be able to concentrate more of our energies on the comprehensive plan for the Warm Springs Community, Simnasho, and the Kah-Nee-Ta Resort plan.

Prior to the conception of the grants office, a great deal of grant proposals and grant-related activities were coming out of the planning office, leaving a limited amount of time for the staff to spend on actual planning.

"Historically, the Tribes have relied heavily upon outside consultants to develop the plans for the reservation and Warm Springs community, and we want to change that," said Rangila. Now, with the addition of a grants office to centralize and coordinate grants activities, it would appear that the Tribes have taken a big step in the right direction.



LILLY SAHME and Art Tassie review a sheaf of existing grants in preparation for meetings with branch managers and other departments. (Photo from Story on Page 3)

(Photo by Sandy Rangila)



CAROL WEWA, secretary for the new grants office, has been industriously organizing and setting up a workable filing system.

(Photo by Sandy Rangila)

Volunteers sought for emergency training

(See Photo on Page 5)

It's a big commitment, admits Police Chief Jeff Sanders, but he is optimistic that enough people will volunteer their time so that the Warm Springs ambulance service can become a truly community-based program. With the offering of an 81-hour Emergency Medical Technician course, it is hoped that people outside the police department will seek the training that will qualify them to answer emergency calls.

Sponsored by the Indian Health Service, COCC, and the State of Oregon Emergency Medical Services, the EMT-I class will begin Monday January 24 at 7-10 p.m. and continue on a twice weekly basis until April 18. In addition to lectures and video tapes presented by IHS Doctors Fisher and Creelman, there will be a required ten hours of actual emergency room experience.

Course coordinator Lee Loomis of the IHS points out

that the training will be offered to anyone who is willing to be an active volunteer. The \$50 fee will be picked up by the individual's employer or affiliated organization. But, he stresses that it is not a glorified first aid course for people who merely want to acquire some useful skills.

Chief Sanders predicts that a volunteer would be on call 24 hours a day a week at a time for perhaps 10-12 weeks out of the year. Of course, he added, the more trained volunteers there are, the less time commitment will be involved.

At this time people from Kah-Nee-Ta and the mill have signed up for the class. It is important that qualified EMT's be available in a variety of locations and settings throughout the reservation to administer aid before the ambulance arrives as well as en route to the hospital, says Loomis.

The two-year old ambulance program is operated by

the police department and nearly all the volunteers are police officers. They have done a "commendable job" of running the service, according to Loomis, but Sanders feels that this involvement "detracts from the effectiveness of the police department." Although all patrolmen will continue to receive EMT training, other citizens are being encouraged to participate on an equal or greater basis.

The fully-equipped ambulance is available for any emergency on the reservation whether or not a tribal member is involved. Fees are small and are usually covered by insurance or the IHS. The crew includes a driver who may or may not be an EMT and an attendant who must have EMT certification. Although only about 1-2 per cent of the ambulance calls involve life-threatening situations, EMT's must be prepared to deal calmly and quickly with a

variety of emergency situations.

The course will teach trainees to "stabilize a person who has received a traumatic injury or the victim of an acute illness." Such skills as bandaging, artificial respiration, treating shock and stopping blood loss will be thoroughly reviewed.

EMT-I certification depends on class attendance, written and practical test scores and completion of emergency room experience. In addition, an EMT must maintain familiarity with equipment and techniques by participation in 10 hours of continuing training a year.

Those interested in contributing their time and skills to the building of a community-based ambulance program may get in touch with Lee Loomis at the IHS or Jeff Sanders at the police department for more information about EMT training.