

Veronica Gaston wins National Poetry Contest

"A Pondering Poet"

I am writing this at a time
When everything I write
Should only be told in rhyme.
In visions that come at night
I keep an open mind,
Images of life and light.
And therefore I have hope:
For it's truth you must find
In riddles, twisted like a rope.
Shall I rid the riddle for you?
There is no need to hurry,
the moon and stars grow dark.
If I were to think you'd worry,
That would break my heart.
For it's communication
that keeps us all apart,
In such a way that can be received?
In the poems that were not believed
Upon the mysteries which bind the past.
— Veronica Eileen Gaston

Tribal member Veronica Gaston won an award from the National Library of Poetry Organization in Washington, D.C. for her poem (at left). Her winning poem will be printed in the next edition of the National Library of Poetry collection. Veronica is the daughter of Donna Casey and Owen Pichette, and granddaughter of Blanche Lillard.



Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS)

The JOBS program is one that assists people that are on cash grant from Adult and Family Services with employment and training needs. The goal of the JOBS program is self-sufficiency. A tribal member that is in this program may choose to work with the state or the Tribe. Grand Ronde has the only Native American JOBS program in the state of Oregon. Support services can be given to clients that are in job search, JOBS activities, or training according to each client's Employment Development Plan. The JOBS program goal is for you to become employed and to eliminate all barriers from obtaining that employment.

The support services that can be provided are:

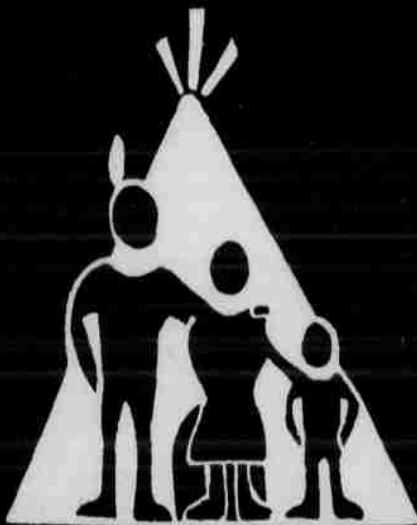
- Day care (provided through Grand Ronde Education Department while in JOBS program)
- Work clothing (when starting a new job)
- Bus passes
- Mileage
- Car repair (limited)
- Fees and licenses
- Car insurance (start-up fees)
- Rent and deposits (relocation to obtain employment)
- Utilities assistance

We serve the Six County Service Area with an office in Grand Ronde, and outreach offices in Salem and Portland. The JOBS program works in close contact with Adult and Family Services.

The JOBS program assesses your skills as well as barriers to employment. After the assessment has been done, a plan will be developed to help overcome any identified barriers and to obtain the skills necessary for employment. There are many paths to self-sufficiency that you and the Employment/Training Counselor can explore.

To schedule an appointment call Sheila Elliott at 1-800-775-0095 ext. 3, or 879-2034.

IT TAKES A TRIBE TO RAISE A CHILD



Consider Foster Parenting

Contact Carmen Mercier

Foster Care Coordinator

Community Resources (TFAP)

879-2034 or 1-800-242-8196

Important Contract Health Information

CHS has a few new changes that you should know about. We suggest you keep this for your reference. By now you have received your ODS health plan application in the mail. We would like to encourage all tribal members in the Six County Service Area who don't have another insurance (other than Contract Health) to apply for the ODS plan. This will not affect your Contract Health coverage in any way as long as you still follow all the Contract Health guidelines as follows:

- 1 If you live in a 25 mile radius of an IHS Clinic you must choose them as your primary care provider.
 - 2 You must call in all appointments as soon as you know about them for pre-authorization. This will be a little different now. When you call in, we will be typing the actual vendor claim authorization while you are on the phone, so it will be your responsibility to have the exact provider information when you call or we will ask you to call back from your provider's office the day of your appointment for authorization. At the time of the call we will give you the authorization number. That number will only be good for that exact date of service to only that provider. If you miss your appointment, reschedule it, or go to a different provider then it is your responsibility to call us to get a new number. We will not use the same authorization number for another date of service or to another provider. If you do not call, the bill could be denied for no notification and you would be responsible to pay for it. This process will help us with accuracy and speed up the payment process.
 - 3 It will also be your responsibility to let your provider know that you have another insurance besides Contract Health, so they can bill them first and bill CHS second. You need to make sure that your provider accepts your insurance and is your primary care provider, or you will need a referral from your primary care provider.
 - 4 The same time line is still in effect that all appointments must be called in as soon as you know about them, preferably in advance. All emergency room visits and hospital admits must be called in within 72 hours of the date of service.
 - 5 If you are admitted into the hospital and have no other insurance other than CHS then you will be required to apply for the Oregon Health Plan as an alternate resource. We will not be able to pay any of your bills for that hospital stay until we either receive a denial or acceptance from Oregon Health Plan. If you fail to comply with this rule in a timely manner your bills for this hospital stay and supporting bills will be denied.
 - 6 All dental visits will be treated the same as medical visits with this exception: we will only authorize one exam and cleaning every six months. We will require a pretreatment plan from your dentist for all other dental work needed and we will return it to them with the services that will be covered. You will still need to call in each date of service for an authorization number.
 - 7 At this time Dr. Gerritz is an ODS Primary Care Provider, even though he is not listed in your book of providers. Also, Chemawa Indian Health Clinic providers are ODS providers, so you can choose them as your primary care provider.
- If you have questions, call Julie Little, Penny DeLoe, or Teri Holsclaw at 1-800-775-0095 or 879-2009.