

# Tribal member appointed to Disabilities Commission

SALEM – Tribal member Shayla Duke, 40, has been appointed by Gov. Tina Kotek to serve a four-year term on the Oregon Disabilities Commission.

Duke, a resident of Eugene, will serve through March 28, 2027.

The Disabilities Commission is composed of 15 members broadly representing major public and private agencies who are experienced in or have demonstrated particular interest in the needs of individuals with disabilities. The commission acts as a coordinating link between and among public and private organizations serving individuals with disabilities.



Shayla Duke

According to her LinkedIn profile, Duke is an administrative expert and executive support specialist. For the last 15 years, she has been a personal support assistant, providing cognitive and personal support services to an individual with a disability and has constantly advocated to help defend that individual's rights.

"I have been advocating for the rights of people with disabilities for around 20 years," Duke said. "When I was in college, I used to help assist some individuals who lived in a group home. Although my primary career goals have been focused on housing, construction and hospitality, I have been a part-time care provider for 15 years.

"When the Affordable Care Act was expanded here in Oregon in roughly 2013, I started paying close attention to the Oregon Administrative Rules and other laws, such as federal Medicaid laws, so I could know how to best prepare for any upcoming benefit changes for anyone I worked for.

"My interest in public benefits law led me to get involved in various volunteer opportunities, many of which involved me advocating for people with disabilities and their care providers during administrative hearings and other correspondence with the Department of Human Services. As a hobby or pastime, I've continued to study this area of law in my spare time and frequently participate in public hearings while advocating for all Oregonians with disabilities.

"I came across this opportunity through one of my care providing groups online and figured I'd go ahead and apply. ... I am very excited, but most of all just truly honored to be able to help serve Oregonians with disabilities, some of whom might even be my fellow Tribal members, in this capacity. I am very grateful for the opportunity to help be a voice for some of our state's most important individuals." ■

# Clothes Closet open

The Clothes Closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon Friday on the Tribal campus near the Elders Activity Center at the end of Blacktail Drive.

The Clothes Closet accepts clothing, small appliances and pieces of furniture, electronics and household goods that are clean and in good condition. It does not accept books, large TVs or furniture, but there is a community board where people can post those items.

For more information or emergency clothes, contact Lori Walker-Hernandez at 559-847-7565. ■

**itukuma**  
**COMMUNITY STICK GAME NIGHT**

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 26TH 5:00PM**  
**CHACHALU CULTURAL CENTER**

**GRAND RONDE TRIBAL MEMBER FABIAN QUENELLE HOSTS AN EVENING OF STICK GAME PLAYING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING**

**NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED**  
**BEGINNERS ENCOURAGED**  
**DINNER WILL BE SERVED**  
**PRIZES TO WIN**

**PLEASE RSVP TO**  
**CULTURALEUCATION@GRANDRONDE.ORG**  
**503-879-2185**

**CHACHALU**

**Lunch Provided**

**Veterans! Get Trained to Help Save Lives**

**May 4, 2023 from Noon to 2 PM**

**Take a FREE Firearm Suicide Prevention Training**  
 Time and Distance saves lives!

Firearm owners lead the way in firearm safety, and together we can lead in the fight against suicide. Learn how to support a friend, family member, or loved one should they become a risk for suicide.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/602642298337>

**At the Community Programs Building (Building Q)**  
 25500 SW Grand Ronde Rd. Grand Ronde, OR

**SWAG & Door Prizes**

**TRIBAL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**  
 (503) 879-1484 • CTGRtribalVSO@GrandRonde.Org

**OREGON FIREARM SAFETY QUALITY OF SC**

**Awareness Walk**

**\* April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month**

We, the Warriors of Hope Program, feel it is important to highlight our support for survivors.

We invite you to join us in solidarity for a short walk during the lunch hour, rain or shine! We'll be awarding prizes to the person wearing the most TEAL, and the person who decides to do the most laps around the old pow wow grounds! Your family and friends are welcome to attend. There will be light snacks and water.

**Friday, April 21 - 12:10-1 p.m.**

Old Powwow Grounds in the middle of campus  
 9615 Grand Ronde Road Grand Ronde OR 97347

**Warriors of Hope: 24 hour crisis line 971-241-3594**