

## State Centennial Accord Plans

As mandated in the *Centennial Accord*, each state agency shall “establish a procedure by which the government-to-government policy shall be implemented. This procedure should be called the “*Centennial Accord Plan*” and will be developed by each state agency in conjunction with the tribes. In the development of these plans, the guiding principles and critical elements identified above in this Section should be utilized. Please feel free to submit attachments.

The key components of the *Centennial Accord Plan* should include:

### **1. Programs**-List of programs and/or services available to tribes.

- Native American offenders are given the opportunity to participate in identified cultural and traditional practices including meetings, drumming, and sweat ceremonies to include Change of Season and Pow Wows.
- Facility Chaplains assist in the coordination of volunteer involvement in Native American activities and are also responsible for distributing group religious property such as sacred pipes and drums.
- Native American offenders may self-identify their tribal affiliation so that the Department can connect them with their Tribal community to assist in family reunification and transition planning.
- The Native American community is actively included as stakeholders on policies that address an offender’s opportunity to practice cultural and religious traditions.
- A memorandum of understanding has been established with multiple tribes to allow Native American offenders to have death bed visits or attend memorial services in Indian Country.
- A contract was established with the United Indians of All Nations Foundation (UIATF) in order to provide services to the incarcerated Native American offenders at all Department facilities. The UIATF will also be involved in helping offenders with their transition needs as they complete their sentences and prepare for release to the community.
- The Department will continue to work with the tribes to facilitate the release of an offender to Indian Country to enhance the chances for successful re-entry.

### **2. Funding Distribution**-List of funding distribution methods currently available to tribes.

- The Department funds the facility Chaplains and the UIATF contract.
- The Department provides the funds for the supervision at events.
- The Native community continues to work in cooperation with The Department to provide items to meet the spiritual and cultural needs of the community.

### **3. Definitions**-Detailed definitions of relevant terms as they apply to agencies

- **UIATF** – Has been contracted to provide religious/cultural services at all DOC facilities.
- **Sweat Lodge** – Built by the Native community, the sweat lodge is set aside for Native American Spiritual/traditional activities.
- **Pow Wow** – Native American ceremony that is celebrated annually.
- **Allowable Religious Items/Group Religious Property List** – List of religious items that is authorized for each faith group. This list was recently revised with significant input from the Native American community.
- **Washington State Department of Corrections Handbook of Religious Beliefs and Practices** – Document which details a multitude of faith and religious group practices. The manual provides general guidelines, and defines practice and procedure for Washington State Department of Corrections institutions. It is intended to be used in conjunction with Department policy.

**4. Consultation Process-Procedures** (including policy development, program development and implementation of funds distribution).

- The 2010 Tribal and Corrections Summit, hosted by the Squaxin Island Tribe, was attended by representatives from more than 20 tribes, several tribal elders, and top leaders and managers from the Department. Growing out of the Summit was a commitment by the Department and the attending tribes to maintain open lines of communication and to work collaboratively to resolve issues of mutual interest.
- The Department is currently revising its policy on religious practices and has obtained valuable input from many Native American community members.
- The Department will continue to work with the tribes when releasing and supervising an offender in Indian Country.

**5. Dispute Resolution Process**-Describes dispute resolution processes and outlines what particular process may be used.

The Department/Tribal dispute resolution process is built on mutual respect and open communication, with an emphasis of trying to resolve matters at the local level first. Disputes involving a particular offender should first be addressed to staff at the facility where the tribal member is housed or to the responsible field administrator.

Disputes relating to a group of offenders or to a departmental policy or practice may be addressed to the Department's tribal liaison or to the appropriate headquarters program manager who can resolve issues relating to a tribal member's religious or cultural practice while in prison. It is expected that the Department's tribal liaison or the appropriate headquarters program manager will work to resolve the issue at their level. If they are unable to do so, the dispute may be referred to the appropriate assistant secretary and ultimately to the Secretary of the Department of Corrections.

the Department recognizes the need to resolve some issues between the Department and the tribes through the tribal leadership and the tribal elders at a much higher government-to-government level. Disputes involving the Department and the tribes may be referred to the Secretary of the Department of Corrections for resolution. The Secretary will work with tribal leaders and elders to arrive at an amicable resolution.

It is recognized that these Plans will vary among state agencies. However, the basic policy and guidance included in these *Government-to-Government Implementation Guidelines* should govern the development of these Plans and be embraced by both state and tribal officials. Each state agency *Centennial Accord Plan* should be completed prior to the Annual State/Tribal Centennial meeting. These Plans will be included as attachments to this document and reviewed annually and updated as necessary.