

Date updated: 3/3/2025

- Draft Plan
- Final Plan

DSHS Policy 7.01 Plan

July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 Annual Plan and Progress Report
 Muckleshoot Tribe and
 ESA: Division of Child Support (DCS), Region 2, Seattle Office
 (contact information listed at end of plan)

	Yes	No
Met with Tribe/UIO?	x	
Tribal input received?	x	
Tribal approval of plan?		X

Most recent meeting date: 1/10/2025

Implementation Plan				Progress Report
(1) Goals/Objectives	(2) Activities	(3) Expected Outcome	(4) Lead Staff and Target Date	(5) Status Update
1) Efforts continue to be made to coordinate with the Muckleshoot Tribe in accordance with Admin Policy 7.01	<p>The Division of Child Support will attend scheduled 7.01 meetings.</p> <p>OIP contacts the Muckleshoot Tribe to schedule joint 7.01 meetings with the Community Services Division and the Division of Child Support.</p>	<p>The Muckleshoot Tribe will receive information regarding child support services offered by the Washington Division of Child Support.</p>	<p>State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175 wesley.sales@dshs.wa.gov</p> <p>Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James 253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us</p> <p>Target Date: 6/30/2025</p>	<p>OIP contacts the Muckleshoot Tribe to schedule joint 7.01 meetings with the Community Services Division and the Division of Child Support.</p> <p>Due to Washington State budgetary constraints in-person outreach was suspended from May through June and October through Decemeber of 2024 and was subsequently resumed in January of 2025.</p>
2) Data/Demographic requests.	<p>DCS tracks data on the number of visitors, modification and conference board requests received at the Muckleshoot Resource Center.</p> <p>Differentiate Muckleshoot visitors from other visitors at the Muckleshoot Resource Center in regards to child support.</p> <p>DCS will continue to track data regarding write-offs, Statute of</p>	<p>Statistics will be available to the Muckleshoot Tribe's representatives upon request.</p>	<p>State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175 wesley.sales@dshs.wa.gov</p> <p>Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James 253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us</p>	<p>Information is provided to Muckleshoot Tribal staff at 7.01 meetings via a separate spreadsheet/infographic.</p>

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	<p>Limitations loss and modification/hearing requests effective 4/24/2013. This data is recorded on separate appendixes.</p>		<p>Target Date: 6/30/2025</p>	
<p>3) Coordinate with various levels of Muckleshoot Tribal government and Social Services to provide Child Support Assistance where services intersect.</p>	<p>Assist tribal members in locating necessary resources, completing paperwork and continuing to provide options for adjusting child support debt that did not previously consider variations of wages for tribal members. Tribal Liaison will investigate available training and instructional opportunities with court and family law resources.</p> <p>Maintain relationship with and continue to communicate with MCFS and Adult Work Training social workers</p> <p>Written authorization may be required for disclosure of information.</p> <p>Wesley is available to assist with facilitating a formal arrangement at any time.</p>	<p>Improved understanding of child support case issues</p> <p>Resolution of individual case issues</p> <p>Increased customer participation in establishing and modifying their support orders. Increased support distributed to custodial parents to improve the quality of life for their children.</p>	<p>State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175 wesley.sales@dshs.wa.gov</p> <p>Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James 253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us</p> <p>Target Date: 6/30/2025</p>	<p>An informal process with the Muckleshoot Social Workers is ongoing. Seattle Division of Child Support's Liaison Wesley Sales maintains a relationship and continues to communicate with Muckleshoot Child and Family Services staff and Muckleshoot Adult Work Training Program case managers as needed about customer needs. Written disclosure authorization is necessary before case specific information can be shared. Wesley is available to assist with a more formal arrangement at the request of the Muckleshoot Tribe. Letters containing administrative hearing information are mailed to a parent's last known address, and provide the name of the DCS attorney setting up the hearing and the attorney's direct telephone number.</p>

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4) Ensure efforts are made to recruit/hire American Indian staff to meet the overall DSHS goal of having a diverse workforce.	Send job postings to the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe to be distributed as needed.	Facilitate Tribal member employment within the State government.	<p>State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175 wesley.sales@dshs.wa.gov</p> <p>Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James 253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us</p> <p>Target Date: 6/30/2025</p>	<p>Seattle Division of Child Support sends OIP manager Aimee Gone job postings for Region 2 distribution to the Tribal community. Hired employees self-disclose if they are Native.</p> <p>DCS's Tribal Relations Team also forwards emails regarding Tribal/State job postings to Division of Child Support's primary Muckleshoot contact Christina Daniels and Candice Street. For higher level positions at the Seattle Division of Child Support, efforts are made to involve Tribal partners in the hiring process by inviting Tribal representatives to participate on hiring panels.</p>
5) Income Withholding Notices for Paying Parents employed by the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and its enterprises	<p>Income Withholding Notices are sent directly to the Muckleshoot Tribe, Muckleshoot Bingo and Muckleshoot Casino payroll staff.</p> <p>Wesley maintains updated contact list for Muckleshoot Enterprise payroll staff.</p>	Improved collections on Muckleshoot Tribal cases	<p>State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175 Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James 253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us</p> <p>Target Date: 6/30/2025</p>	The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and the Division of Child Support have a longstanding informal agreement that Income Withholding Notices are honored by the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and its enterprises.
6) Obtaining Muckleshoot Tribal Court orders directly from Muckleshoot Tribal Court	<p>Reach out to clients to obtain Muckleshoot Child Support Court Orders.</p> <p>Reach out to MCFS caseworkers to request specific Muckleshoot</p>	Improved relationships between DCS and Muckleshoot Tribal Court to	<p>State: Wesley Sales (206) 341-7175 wesley.sales@dshs.wa.gov Tribe: Alexandra Cruz-James</p>	In May 2014, the previous tribal liaison discussed obtaining court orders affecting paternity and/or child support directly from Muckleshoot Tribal Court with Bobbie Jo Norton, Muckleshoot Court Administrator. Bobbie Jo advised that it is currently the responsibility of the parties

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	<p>Paternity Orders when the Tribe has established parentage for a child on a DCS case.</p>	<p>benefit Tribal Muckleshoot members</p>	<p>253-876-3261 Alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us Target Date: 6/30/2025</p>	<p>to a court action to provide DCS with the resulting order and that there are no provisions in Muckleshoot Tribal code to allow sharing Muckleshoot Tribal Court Orders with the State of Washington. The tribal liaison shared with Bobbie Jo that even if Muckleshoot is not able to provide orders to DCS that if Muckleshoot were to provide paternity orders to Washington State Department of Health that the Department of Health may be able to update a child's birth certificate to include the child's father at no cost to the parties; this would allow the child to receive many types of dependent benefits from the state and/or federal government. As of June 2014, Bobbie Jo advised she had not received any indication from the Muckleshoot Tribe that the Tribe is considering changing the current process. In Feb 2020 DCS and the Muckleshoot Tribe began discussions with regards to coordinating efforts on paternity establishment between Muckleshoot Child and Family Services, the Division of Child Support, and the King County Prosecuting Attorney's office.</p>

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR STATE OF WASHINGTON

Staff	Position	E-mail	Phone number
Wesley Sales	Tribal Liaison	Wesley.sales@dshs.wa.gov	206-341-7175
Ethan Cassady	Tribal Liaison Backup	Ethan.cassady@dshs.wa.gov	
Chris Franks	DCS Sr. Manager of Tribal Relations	chris.franks@dshs.wa.gov	360-338-2917

CRITERIA USED FOR CASES TO BE INCLUDED IN DCS TRIBAL CASELOAD

- Non-custodial Parent (NCP) is a member of the Muckleshoot Tribe
- NCP is an employee of the Muckleshoot Tribe
- NCP lives on the Muckleshoot Reservation
- Child Support is set by a Muckleshoot Tribal Court Order

Historical/Completed/Tabled Items

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Completed Items (Date: Action completed)

2009: Support Enforcement Management System (SEMS) onsite at Muckleshoot Resource Center

2010: Find relief for Tribal Members who are subject to high fees while using DCS services through US Bank Card.

2012: Introduced Sylvia Flores as the new District Manager of Seattle DCS, and Christopher Tabor as the new Tribal Liaison Back-up

2013: Paternity interviewing is now available at Muckleshoot Resource Center in combination with outreach. In June 2013, Seattle Division of Child Support conducted Child Support 101 training with the Muckleshoot Fatherhood program per a request from the April 2013 7.01 meeting.

2014: Per discussions in May 2014 it was decided that it is the responsibility of the parties to Muckleshoot Court Orders to provide DCS with copies of their court orders as there is no Provision in Muckleshoot Tribal Code for sharing orders with DCS.

2020: In February 2020 DCS met with Alexandra Cruz-James, the Acting Director of Human Services with the Muckleshoot Tribe and introduced new Tribal Liaisons Wesley Sales and Ethan Cassidy and new District Manager Christine Servin and Child Support Program Manager Van Nguyen. Discussions also began regarding the process of coordinating efforts on paternity establishment between KCPA, DCS and Muckleshoot Child and Family Services.

2023: In March Wes resumed in person outstation at the Muckleshoot Resource Center once a month. In December Wes attended a meeting with the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office and relayed concerns expressed to him by MCFS social workers regarding the paternity establishment process.