

VA Office of Tribal Government Relations

Western Region Training
Spirit Mountain Casino – Grand Ronde, OR

July 10-11, 2012



Conference Objectives:

The goal of these meetings is to invite tribal leadership from within the Western Region (OR,WA,ID,NV,CA,AK), as well as, other federal and state partners who work with American Indians and Alaska Native Veterans for services and benefits to collaborate, educate, and network to better serve this population.

Specifically, OTGR's goals are to:

- 1) Increase Veteran access to healthcare and benefits;
- 2) Economic Sustainability:
 - a. Increase utilization of Native American Direct Home Loan Program
 - b. Increase utilization of Post 9/11 GI Bill
 - c. Increase utilization of Vocational Rehabilitation Program
 - d. Increase access to Compensation and Pension
 - e. Increase access to federal employment opportunities
 - f. Facilitate greater involvement by tribes and Native American Veterans in small business development and federal contracting opportunities
- 3) Tribal Consultation

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Tribal Government Relations
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Target Audience: Tribal Veterans and those who serve or care for Veterans in Indian Country.

Registration Required: No cost for registration. However, please email your name, title, organization or tribe to: Terry.Bentley@va.gov



Conference Agenda

July 10-11, 2012

TUESDAY, July 10, 2012

Healthcare	Break out session specific to healthcare topics
Housing/Homelessness	Break out session specific to housing and homeless topics
Tribal Veteran Representatives (TVR)	Break out session specific to TVR topics

7:30 am - 5:00 pm	Registration throughout the day - Kalapuya Rooms A&B Please take individual breaks throughout the day as needed.			
8:15 am - 8:45 am	Exhibits/Vendors - Event Center Hallway	Opening Ceremonies: Welcome Address/Moderator: Jim Willis, Director, OR State Dept of Veterans Affairs Post Colors: Grand Ronde Color Guard Invocation: Steve Bobb, Sr., Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Council Member Welcoming Remarks: Reyn Leno, Vice Chair, The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde		
8:45 am - 9:15 am		Overview of OTGR & Welcome / Goals for Meeting: Stephanie Birdwell, Director, Office of Tribal Government Relations Terry Bentley, OTGR Western Region Specialist		
9:15 am - 10:00 am		Understanding American Indian Worldviews: A Beginning in Welcoming Home Our People Annette Squetimkin-Anquoe, MA - Seattle Indian Health Board		
10:00 am - 11:00 am		Panel Session: History & Benefit of the Tribal Veteran Representative (TVR) Program: Luckie Joe Boyd, TVR Suquamish Tribe Frank Cordero, Suquamish Tribe Jim Vance, Director, VBA, Boise Regional Office Cathy Davidson, VHA, Puget Sound		
11:00 am - 11:30 am		Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Portland Regional Office Overview Debora Bublitz, Asst. Veterans Service Center Manager, Portland Regional Office		
11:30 am - 12:00 pm		State DVA Director Panel Jim Willis, Director, OR State Dept of Veterans Affairs Steve Gill, Administrator, WA State Dept of Veterans Affairs David Brausell, Administrator, ID State Dept of Veterans Affairs		
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm		Lunch Break (on your own) Afternoon Workshops (see specific agenda's on pages 3-5)		
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm		<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e1f5fe;">Healthcare Kalapuya Room A</td> <td style="background-color: #e1f5fe;">Tribal Veteran Representatives Kalapuya Room B</td> </tr> </table>	Healthcare Kalapuya Room A	Tribal Veteran Representatives Kalapuya Room B
Healthcare Kalapuya Room A		Tribal Veteran Representatives Kalapuya Room B		
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm		Evening Reception / Entertainment by West Coast Boys - Molalla Rooms A&B		

Co-sponsored by the following:



The Suquamish Tribe, Suquamish, WA



WA State Department of Veterans Affairs



OR Department of Veterans Affairs



Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

WEDNESDAY, July 11, 2012

8:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration - Kalapuya Rooms A&B	
8:30 am - 12:00 pm	Continue Workshops (see specific agenda's on pages 3-5)	
8:30 am - 12:00 pm	Healthcare Kalapuya Room A	Housing / Homelessness Kalapuya Room B
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch Break	
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Field Trip to West Valley Veterans Memorial located on tribal grounds of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde	
2:00 pm - 2:30 pm	Facilitators of Breakout Sessions Provide an Update/Overview to General Assembly	
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Exhibits Open	<p>Listening Session with Tribes and other Attendees Question & Answer with Panel Members: Stephanie Birdwell, Director, VA Office of Tribal Government Relations Michael Fisher, VISN20 Deputy Network Director Dean Seyler, Director, Portland Area Indian Health Service Debora Bublitz, Assistant Veterans Service Center Manager, VBA Portland Regional Ofc Jim Vance, Director, Veterans Benefits Administration, Boise Regional Office Jim Willis, Director, Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs Steve Gill, Administrator, Washington Department of Veterans Affairs David Brasuell, Administrator, Idaho Department of Veterans Affairs Frank Cordero, Suquamish Tribe</p>
4 : 0 0 p m		Wink Soderberg, Veterans SEB - Closing Prayer Retire Flags
4:15 pm - 5:00 pm		VHA, VBA, NCA staff available for one-on-one questions and Veteran assistance

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Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS:

Spirit Mountain Casino, Phone: 800-760-7977, - \$69.00 for deluxe room. Rooms are reserved under: Veterans Regional Conference, Website: <http://spiritmountain.com/>.

No shuttle transportation is available from the airport (Portland International Airport) to hotel is approximately a 1 hour 45 minute drive from airport.

TUESDAY, July 10, 2012 - Healthcare Workshop
Conference Room - Kalapuya Room A

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Healthcare WORKSHOP
1:00 pm - 1:15 pm	Terry Bentley, OTGR Western Region - Co-Facilitator Jodie Waters, VISN 20 Planner/Rural Consultant - Co-Facilitator Round Table Introductions
1:15 pm - 2:45 pm	Recognizing Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Understanding PTSD, Trans-Generational PTSD, Effective Tools for Managing PTSD: Bonny McCormick, Licensed Professional Counselor, PTSD Team, Portland VA
2:45 pm - 3:15 pm	Insight into VA & VA/IHS MOU: Stephanie Birdwell, Director, Office of Tribal Government Relations
3:15 pm - 3:45 pm	OEF/OIF/OND Reintegration - Unique Differences - TBI, PTSD Cindy Houston, OEF/OIF/OND Transition Patient Advocate, Roseburg VA
3:45 pm - 4:15 pm	Diabetes Management: TBA
4:15 pm - 5:00 pm	Overcoming Barriers in Serving AI/AN Veterans Shilo R. Tippett, Ph.D., Wasco/Tlingit, Clinical Psychologist, Warm Springs Community Counseling Center & Shelia M. Danzuka, M.A., Marriage & Family Therapist, Warm Springs Community Counseling Center, Warm Springs Tribal Veteran Representative

TUESDAY, July 10, 2012 - Tribal Veterans Representatives
Conference Room - Kalapuya Room B

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Tribal Veteran Representatives (TVR) WORKSHOP
1:00 pm - 1:15 pm	Luckie Joe Boyd, TVR, Suquamish Tribe, Co-Facilitator Frank Cordero, Suquamish Tribe - Co-Facilitator Jim Vance, Boise VBA Regional Director - Co-Facilitator Round Table Introductions
1:15 pm - 2:00 pm	Social Security Administration (SSA) 101: Brandi Keeth, Asst. District Manager, SSA, Salem, OR
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm	How to Request a Headstone, Marker, Medallion: Tom Mullen, Willamette National Cemetery, Portland, OR
2:15 pm - 2:45 pm	Vet Center Programs & Services: Jason Thilges, M.Ed., LMFT, Salem Vet Center
2:45 pm - 3:15 pm	VA 101 Healthcare - Eligibility/Enrollment/Billing Overview: Craig Carter, Asst Chief, Accounting & Finance, Portland VA
3:15 pm - 5:00 pm	Veterans Benefits Q&A: Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment Program Richard Breunissen, Voc Rehab Counselor, Portland Regional Office Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQ)'s E-Benefits/Submitting Veterans Benefit Claim & Appeals Luckie Joe Boyd, Jim Vance, Debora Bublitz

**WEDNESDAY, July 11, 2012 - Healthcare Workshop
Conference Room - Kalapuya Room A**

8:30 am - 12:00 pm	HEALTHCARE WORKSHOP
8:30 am - 8:45 pm	Terry Bentley, OTGR Western Region - Co-Facilitator Jodie Waters, VISN 20 Planner/Rural Consultant - Co-Facilitator Round Table Introductions
8:45 am - 9:15 am	Suicide Prevention: David Dickinson, MA, Regional Administrator, Region X, SAMHSA
9:15 am - 9:45 am	Women Veterans: Nancy Sloan, Women Veterans Program Manager, Portland VA
9:45 am - 10:15 am	Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): David Dickinson, MA, Regional Administrator, Region X, SAMHSA
10:15 am - 10:45 am	Telehealth Paulette Channon, Telehealth Coordinator, Portland VA
10:45 am - 11:30 am	Substance Use Disorders/Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs: Mike O'Malley, SATP Coordinator, White City VA
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	Blind Rehabilitation Program / Visual Impairment Services Team Don Felthouse, VHA American Lake, WA & Paul Thomas & Jodi Roth, VIST Portland/Vancouver

**WEDNESDAY, July 11, 2012 - Housing / Homelessness Workshop
Conference Room - Kalapuya Room B**

8:30 am - 12:00 pm	Housing / Homelessness WORKSHOP
8:30 am - 8:45 pm	Frank Cordero, Suquamish Tribe - Co-Facilitator Eileen Devine, VISN20 Network Homeless Coordinator - Co-Facilitator Round Table Introductions
8:45 am - 9:15 am	HUD: HUD/VASH & Section 184 Financing Iris Friday, Section 184 Coordinator, NW Office of Native Programs Michele Hensel, BIA Northwest Regional Office Gina Eastman, BIA Northwest Regional Office
9:15 am - 9:45 am	Native American Veteran Direct Loan Program: Jim Vance, Director, VBA Boise Regional Office
9:45 am - 10:15 am	VHA Caregiver Support Leah Christensen, Caregiver Support Coordinator, Portland VA
10:45 pm - 11:30 pm	Employment/Job Training: Compensated Work Therapy Program/Vocational Rehabilitation Program Bud Dickey, Vocational Rehab Specialist, VHA Roseburg, OR
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	VHA Services for Housing / Homelessness / Treatment / Preventions: Eileen Devine, VISN20 Network Homeless Coordinator