



STATE OF WASHINGTON

Guidance for Conducting Culturally Appropriate DCR Evaluations/Investigations

June 22, 2026, from 1pm-3pm

Hosted by the Health Care Authority Office of Tribal Affairs

Consultation Attendees:

<i>Entity</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>
Chehalis	Thomas Trott	Council Member
Chehalis	Kimberly Coombs	Health Director
Cowlitz	Emily Gardner	BH Director
Lower Elwa	Becca Sampson-Weed	Social Services Director
Lummi	Rene Ramirez	Program Sponsor
Lummi	Cheryl Sanders	Council Member
Lummi	Sybil A. McLean	Crisis Program Manager/DCR
Muckleshoot	Lisa Crawford	Business Office Manager
Muckleshoot	Tina Moore-Boettcher	Adult Therapist
Nisqually	Heidi Petersen	Tribal Attorney
Nisqually	Lorena Mize	Recovery Health Manager
Puyallup	Dave McLeod	Executive Director of Native American Reentry Services
Puyallup	David Tonemah	Executive Director, PTHA
Quinault	Coleen M. Chapin	Wellness Center Clinical Director
Shoalwater bay	Cyndi Coma	Assistant Health Director
Squaxin	Kym Huston	Director of NWITC
Swinomish	Sarah Sullivan	Health Policy Director
Tribal Organizations/non-Tribal Indian Health Care Provider Attendees	• Vicki Lowe, AIHC Executive Director • Kathryn Akeah, AIHC Tribal Health Consultant • Danica Brown, Consultant, Whitecrane Consulting LLC	
State Agency: Healthcare Authority	• Annette Squetinkin-Anquoe, HCA OTA Tribal Grants and Contracts Manager • Aren Sparck, HCA OTA Administrator • Christine Winn, HCA OTA Deputy Administrator • Hannah Sloan, HCA OTA Tribal Mobile Crisis Response Coordinator • Henry Roy, HCA OTA Tribal Affairs Contracts Portfolio Manager • Jaron Heller, HCA OTA Tribal Liaison South Cascades, South Sound, and King Region • Johanna Larson, HCA OTA Administrative Assistant • Julie Hutchinson, HCA OTA Primary Care Case Management Entity Specialist • Kara Panek, HCA DBHR Behavioral Health Strategic Advisor • Lisa Wilson, HCA OTA Tribal Liaison North Sound • Lisa Westlund, HCA DBHR Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) Administrator	

- Lonni Rickard, HCA OTA Tribal Affairs Communications Consultant
- Lucilla Mendoza, HCA OTA Tribal Behavioral Health Administrator
- Luke Waggoner, HCA DBHR Involuntary Treatment and Crisis System Supervisor
- Maddie Wrolson, HCA OTA Tribal BH Crisis Response Coordinator
- Mike Longnecker, HCA OTA Claims and Billing Technician
- Nakia DeMiero, HCA OTA Tribal Opioid Response Coordinator
- Nicole Earls, HCA OTA Tribal Liaison Peninsula and Coast Region
- Raina Peone, HCA OTA Tribal Liaison Eastern Washington Region
- Ryan Hill, HCA OTA Tribal Program Specialist
- Stacy Swan, HCA OTA Billing Program Specialist

Welcome, Acknowledgement, and Blessing

Welcome and Introductions: Aren Sparck

Blessing by: Vick Lowe

Opening statement HCA: Aren Sparck spoke about the importance of this work and the collaboration with the tribes.

Opening statement Tribe: Cheryl Sanders provided opening statements

Opening statement Tribe: Thomas Trott provided opening statements.

Opening statement HCA: Kara stated she reports to Teesha and is here as her delegate. Outlined her background, her work with David Reed on the Tribal Centric Advisory Board, and how important this work is to her and the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery.

Purpose of Consultation: To review updates made to the Guidance for Conducting Culturally Appropriate DCR Evaluations/Investigations guidance document and evaluation tool after the Tribal Roundtable. We are looking to get a consensus from Tribal leadership to move this document forward to finalization and publishing.

Background of Documents, and Available Funding for Tribal DCRs, by Maddie Wrolson, HCA-OTA

- House Bill 1877 requires HCA to establish written guidelines for DCRs conducting culturally appropriate evaluations
- Created by AIHC, Danica Brown, and HCA in collaboration with Tribal DCR Staff, Tribal BH Staff and Tribal Crisis Staff.
- The guidance document and evaluation tool are designed to support Designated Crisis Responders in building trust, acknowledging historical trauma, and connecting individuals with culturally appropriate resources that affirm their inherent strengths and resilience.
- Designed for county DCRs
- Created by AIHC, Danica Brown, and HCA in collaboration with Tribal DCR Staff, Tribal BH Staff and Tribal Crisis Staff.
- The guidance document and evaluation/investigation tool are available on the [HCA Consultation and Meetings webpage](#).

Overview of Guidance Document and Evaluation Tool, by Dr. Danica Love Brown, Whitecrane Consulting

Danica introduced herself and provided a background for the process to develop the guidance and tool. Danica walked attendees through the updates to the guidance document and evaluation tool.

Tribe Question: Can we send a copy of the presentation slide deck?

- HCA Response: HCA sent a copy of the slides by email after the meeting.

Guidance Document Review by Dr. Danica Love Brown, Whitecrane Consulting

Danica gave an overview of the guidance document pointing out the main points of each section and the examples. Danica specifically mentioned wanting the Tribe's feedback on section 6 in particular, as this is the section on "Key Cultural Considerations."

Guidance Document Discussion:

AIHC Statement: Danica explained the lack of follow up or even communication with tribes following a DCR investigation.

HCA Statement: Maddie clarified that for individuals with an ITA investigation including being involuntarily detained, they cannot opt out of tribal notification.

AIHC Statement: Vicki expressed that the follow up section was the best part and it was surprising that there was not follow up requirement resulting in DCRs only interact with people in crisis and during an ITA investigation.

Tribe Question: Is this usable by Tribal DCRs?

- AIHC Response: Yes, this is designed to work for any DCR and Tribal DCR's are welcome to use/review this guidance.
- HCA Response: This is a comprehensive document that can be used in a variety of ways and may have a broader impact beyond being used by only county DCRs. There may be some Tribal DCRs that are not Tribal members themselves, and this document may be helpful for providing education and context.

Evaluation Tool Review by Dr. Danica Love Brown, Whitecrane Consulting

Danica gave a rundown of the DCR evaluation tool, discussing the specific sections, providing examples, and discussing the content's integration with the applicable RCW requirements around Tribal notification during involuntary crisis continuum.

Evaluation Tool Discussion:

Tribe Question: Question how does [notification requirements] this work with out of state residents?

- HCA Response: Notification is required for Tribes in Washington State. Maddie provided link to the document "Navigating a Crisis without a Tribal Crisis Coordination Protocol, which provides guidance for coordinating with individuals Tribes outside of WA, however notification to Tribes outside of WA is not required.
- AIHC Statement: Vicki posted the [RCW 71.05.153](#) language regarding DCR petition notification to Tribes in the chat that specifically mentions "Tribes within this state."

Tribe Question: How do tribes coordinate with each other for the codes?

- AIHC Response: Recommend MOUs.
- HCA Statement: If tribes want to only do this in the state superior court they can and this could be done totally through the state system. Tribal DCR's would follow the MOU or the RCW, whatever is the covering code. Maddie reminded everyone that there are funds available to assist with setting up Tribal DCR's. Please contact us.

Tribal Leader Consensus to Publish this Document and Begin DCR Training Plan

HCA Statement: Is there a consensus on moving on to publishing this?

Tribe Request: Councilwoman Sanders said that she would like to follow up on the Reef Net model before agreeing to publication. Councilwoman Sanders mentioned she wants to follow up on the reef net model after speaking with Julie, but this is great work and a long time coming.

Tribe React: Thumbs up in the chat from Councilman Thomas Trott from Chehalis Tribe.

Tribe Statement: Council member Cheryl Sanders – know Marilyn is with us – finishing this work is important to the figure and acknowledge the work that Marilyn.

AIHC Statement: Vicki stated in reviewing the 2013 key recommendations report to the legislature, this work had been a long time coming.

Tribe Statement: Kim Coombs stated she would follow up with Chehalis BH Director. Chehalis would like Thomas Trott or Caytee Cline to make a decision to move this guidance and tool to the next steps for finalization and publication.

Tribe Statement (chat): Thank you for your input and perspectives!

Next Steps:

Please share if anyone has concerns about us moving forward to finalization and publication of the guidance and tool.

- No concerns were mentioned. Tribes want check with their Council to provide an answer.

Consultation Closeout Decision: We will follow up with a DTLL with the meeting notes, a link to the documents, and a request for an agreement to move forward with finalization and publishing. HCA asked anyone who is reporting back to council to please let them know that this email request is coming.

Closing/Next Steps Statements:

No Tribal leadership closing statements

Vicki Lowe: This has been 13 years in the making. Thank you everyone involved.

Aren Sparck: Provided reminder to Tribes to reach out to us to access funding for Tribal DCRs. We will follow up by email. Thank you everyone.

Meeting Adjourned by: Aren Sparck, Tribal Affairs Administrator, OTA