

U.S. Small Business Administration



Your Small Business Resource

SBA's Portland District Office works with Native American Business Owners and Tribally Owned Business Enterprises to Increase Economic Development

Ms. Barbara Allen, Business Development Specialist, works with 8(a) and Small Disadvantaged Business firms for SBA in the Portland District Office. She is also the Native American Business Officer and works with both Tribal Entities and Native American owned firms in Oregon and SW Washington. This is a collateral duty she takes to heart! Barbara is from North Dakota's Three Affiliated Tribes.



Currently she is working with two 8(a) tribally owned firms at Warm Springs Reservation with a third starting their application. Likewise, there is a resubmission of Yaka Energy for the Umatilla Tribe and another new tribal entity for the Siletz Tribe.

In April 2008, several Tribal members from Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Northern California met at the Klamath Tribes Headquarters in Chiloquin, Oregon. At this summit, a concentrated effort was made to get firms registered into the Federal Contracting databases (such as CCR), to assist registration as Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone) certification, and to provide information about SBA's 8(a) Business Development and Small Disadvantaged Business program opportunities. Federal and State procurement representatives were also present conducting potential bid match-making opportunities.

Currently there are only 126 Native American owned firms in the SBA Portland portfolio of which only 11 are in the current 8(a) BD Program and just 21 firms are HUBZone certified firms. We know we can do better to get them registered into the business development programs. We ask you to "send them our way" when you work together with our Native firms.

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