



News Release

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Powder River Correctional Facility hosts Annual Powwow

On August 1, Powder River Correctional Facility held its Annual Powwow. This year's event hosted 78 people, including inmates, guests, volunteers, and staff.

Powwows are an opportunity for Native Americans to come together with dancing and singing as well as visit with one another to maintain old friendships and make new ones.



Those in attendance dined on barbequed salmon, beef, buffalo, and chicken, which was donated by inmate families and guests. Traditional side dishes, including flat bread and fresh fruit, were also served.

A weekly Native Beading Class, coordinated and overseen by Chaplain Haefer, allows Native American inmates to create items to be given as gifts to the powwow guests in honor of their heritage. Wood-burned items fabricated in PRCF's Physical Plant were also on display.



PRCF is a minimum-security prison in Baker City that houses approximately 366 male inmates who are within four years of release. PRCF serves as a transition and re-entry facility and is focused on cognitive programming, work programs, and preparing inmates for return to the community. PRCF is home to the 128-bed New Directions (Drug and Alcohol Treatment) Alternative Incarceration Program. Individuals who successfully complete this 180-day in-prison program are released to the community for a 90-day transitional leave period. Individuals who successfully complete the transitional leave period are granted a reduction in their sentence and move to post-prison supervision. PRCF opened in November 1989.



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The mission of the Oregon Department of Corrections is to promote public safety by holding offenders accountable for their actions and reducing the risk of future criminal behavior.