I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish how inmates who adhere to and practice the tenants of the Christian Science religious tradition may obtain help with health related issues from a Christian Science Practitioner who is a Department volunteer.

II. DEFINITIONS

A. Christian Science Practitioner: A person recognized and approved by the Christian Science Church to provide help with health issues to those who practice the Christian Science traditions.

III. POLICY

A. Christian Science Practitioners who volunteer with the Oregon Department of Corrections may be on an inmate’s phone list and accept phone calls to assist inmates with their medical and health related concerns. The practitioner must first be approved by the facility chaplain to be placed on the inmate’s phone list. The chaplain must update the practitioner’s position description to include this responsibility.

B. The practitioner will provide a phone number to the inmate. The inmate will follow the normal process of adding someone to their phone list.

C. The DOC rule on Telephones (Inmates), OAR 291-130 applies to phone calls made by inmates to practitioners.

1. Telephone calls may be placed to practitioners as collect, prepaid (paid by the called party), or through an inmate debit account.

2. Practitioners may not deposit monies in an inmate trust account or inmate debit account.

3. Phone calls to 800, 866 or 888 (toll free) numbers are prohibited and blocked.

4. Phone calls may be recorded and monitored.

D. Phone calls must be about the inmate’s health issues.
E. Phone calls that contain personal conversation may be considered inappropriate or nonprofessional.

F. An inmate may send a written request to Health Services asking that the practitioner’s phone number be added to their health record and that the practitioner be informed if the inmate has a medical emergency. In the case of a medical emergency, Health Services will notify the practitioner as soon as possible, but priority will be given to the life/limb saving emergency response.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

This policy will be adopted immediately without further modification.