

J3 Group concludes hearing protection research study in Siletz with great success

The J3 Group, a Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians (CTSI) Tribal member-owned company, is partnering with researchers from the federal government, academia and industry to conduct safety and health research and intervention in our community.

J3 Group conducted a hearing protection fit-test study to evaluate the effectiveness of their patented Sert-A-Plug (SAP) insertion tool in collaboration with the Siletz Community Health Clinic in April and August of 2024. Altogether more than 1% of the Tribal membership joined the research study.

Sixty-seven Tribal members participating in the study that aimed to examine the difference in the personal attenuation rating (PAR) between naive and experimenter-assisted fit and those inserted using the SAP tool.

The study also asked participants to rate the comfort and ease of use as well as duration of time spent using the SAP tool. Ninety percent of partici-

pants rated Sert-A-Plug as easy to use and 87% reported a “better fit” with Sert-A-Plug.

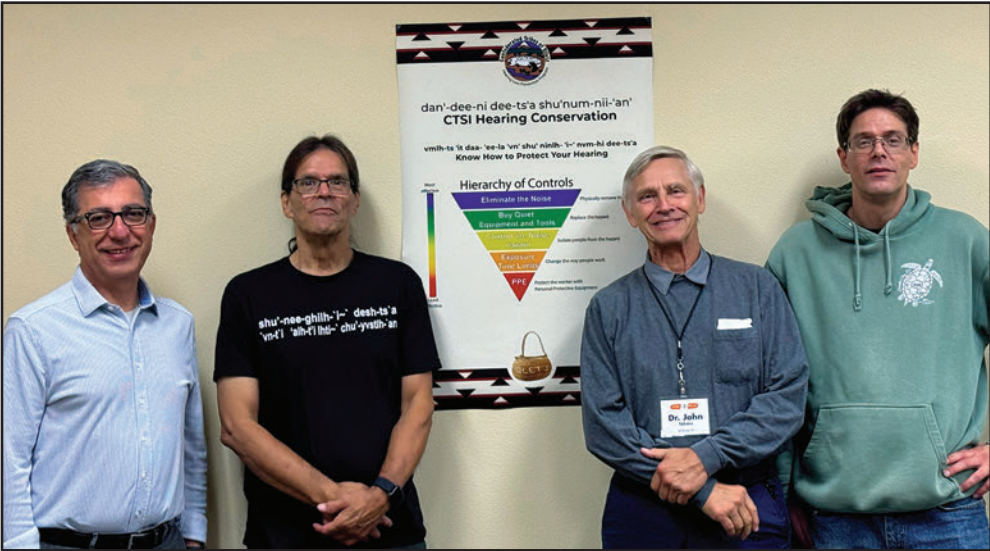
Overall, the PAR studies were a resounding success garnering great results and receiving excellent support from Tribal members and officials, and the Siletz community. The studies provide the scientific community and hearing loss prevention researchers with important and critical new findings and information as the Department of Defense gears up to use Fit-Testing as a requirement for protecting its servicemembers from high levels of noise.

The J3 Group wishes to thank all participants and Tribal officials who welcomed us with open arms, without whom these studies would not have been possible.

Courtesy photos

Below: Shawn Johnson (left), John Johnson and Chucri (Chuck) Kardous by the Tribal readerboard in Siletz

Left: Chucri (Chuck) Kardous (left), John Johnson, Dr. John Takacs and Shawn Johnson at the Siletz Community Health Clinic



Significant homeowner assistance funding still available through HAF Program

The Siletz Tribal Housing Department is pleased to announce that funding remains available to provide significant mortgage and utility assistance through the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) Program.

The purpose of the HAF Program is to mitigate financial hardships associated with the coronavirus pandemic by providing funds to prevent homeowner mortgage delinquencies, defaults, foreclosures, loss of utilities or home energy services and displacements of homeowners experiencing financial hardship after Jan. 21, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The HAF Program provides emergency assistance for the payment of mortgages and utilities for low-

income Siletz Tribal households who have disproportionately suffered from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The HAF Program is designed to assist Siletz Tribal households with incomes at or below 150% of median income who face potential foreclosure or homelessness because they are unable to pay mortgage and utility payments due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Applicants who want to participate in the HAF Program need to complete a written application provided by STHD. The HAF application can be obtained by contacting STHD at 541-444-8310 to have one emailed or mailed to their home address.

Applications are also available at the STHD office at 555 Tolowa Ct., Siletz, OR 97380.

Any questions regarding the HAF Program can be directed to:

K.C. Short, Financial Services Manager/ HAF Program Processor  
Phone: 541-444-8310  
Email: kerrys@ctsi.nsn.us

Election Board Application

Qualified Tribal members interested in serving on the Election Board are encouraged to fill out this application. The Election Board consists of three regular and two alternate members (this year’s appointments will be staggered terms for one, two and three years and thereafter each year’s appointments will be a three-year appointment).

**Compensation:** Election Board members are compensated at an hourly rate set by the Tribal Council in its annual budget for their time spent performing the duties as a member of the board.

**Return applications to:** Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Attn: Executive Assistant to Tribal Council, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549; or email [celestal@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:celestal@ctsi.nsn.us)

**Deadline:** Applications for consideration will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Oct. 9, 2024.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you participated in

Peacemaking/Peer Court

in K-12 schools serving

Native American students?

You could qualify for this study if you are:

1. 18 years old

2. Have 6 months of experience or more with peer court/peacemaking

3. The K-12 school served Native American/ American Indian/Indigenous students

Participants will receive a \$100 gift card after the interviews are completed. Questions, Tiffany Stuart - [tstuart2@arizona.edu](mailto:tstuart2@arizona.edu).

This study will be conducted by Tiffany for her dissertation at the University of Arizona. Interviews can be conducted via Zoom, phone or in person.

An Institutional Review Board responsible for human subjects research at The University of Arizona reviewed this research project and found it to be acceptable, according to applicable state and federal regulations and university policies designed to protect the rights and welfare of participants in research.

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