Office of Tribal Government Relations

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Welcome from the VA OTGR Director

Hello and welcome to the June edition of our monthly VA Office of Tribal Government Relations (OTGR) National Monthly Newsletter.

Let me begin by acknowledging the families and victims of the recent tornados and storms in Oklahoma and the Midwest. We are inspired by the resilience and strength of the people and communities who joined forces to rebuild and recover after a particularly devastating storm season. Our thoughts are with them today and in the days ahead.

Speaking of days ahead, our VA Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, Dr. Tommy Sowers will follow up on a successful visit to Alaska recently profiled by NPR, "Searching for Veterans on Alaska's Remote Edges" by visiting with tribal leaders and Veterans in Tuba City, Arizona (located on the Navajo Reservation and adjacent to the Hopi village of Moenkopi) to listen first hand to the concerns and priorities of our Veterans in Indian Country. Tuba City is also where our tribal government relations specialist for the Southwest Region, Homana Pawiki collaborated with a local planning committee to organize a Veterans training summit to be held at the Moenkopi Legacy Inn June 19-20. The summit provides an opportunity for attendees and presenters to collaborate, educate, network, and build relationships to better serve Veterans and their families. This meeting also will serve as an education session on VA benefits and services.

All of our specialists have plans underway for an informative and productive summer season working for our Veterans. Our tribal government relations specialist for the Southern Plains Region, Mary Culley, is working in collaboration with the local Oklahoma City VA Medical Center, local tribal governments and the State of Oklahoma to host the first Inter-Tribal Veterans Stand Down focused on reaching American Indian Veterans who are homeless or in over-crowed living conditions to be held in Shawnee, Oklahoma at the Gordon Cooper Vo-Tech on June 27. Western and Central Region specialists Terry Bentley and Peter Vicaire will be joining VA colleagues in presenting updates and briefings to committees during the National Congress of American Indians Mid-Year Conference in Reno, NV. If you have questions or need copies of agendas for these sessions, check out our website at www.va.gov/tribalgovernment.

We also have a Native American Direct Loan Live Meeting training call, open to all who are interested in learning more about the program, in the works (date and time to be announced on the www.va.gov/tribalgovernment website). Last but not least, we have been in communications with the US Department of Interior, Office of Justice Services and the VA/VHA Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO)

Program about how to increase awareness of VA's VJO program as a potential resource for Indian Country's justice involved Veterans.

Our Executive Officer, Erika Moott, has been working diligently with senior VA officials to put the finishing touches on the 2012 VA Tribal Consultation Report. The Report will be sent directly to tribal leaders and made available on the www.va.gov/tribalgovernment website the last week of June.

I want to take a moment to recognize and thank Ms. Moott for coordinating a very successful training summit held on the Eastern Band Cherokee Reservation during the month of May. We're also very appreciative of the support of the VA Medical Center Director Ms. Cynthia Breyfogle and her team, the Cherokee Indian Hospital, Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143 and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians whose efforts made the event a success.

We hope you'll find many news worthy and informative items within this edition. If you have suggestions for content, please don't hesitate to email Peter: peter.vicaire@va.gov. As always if you have questions about how to strengthen your community's relationships with the VA or want to connect with our office, please email us at: tribalgovernmentconsulation@va.gov.

We extend sincere thanks to our Veterans for your service and ask everyone to please take a moment to honor and recognize Veterans in your family and community in your own personal way. Happy reading and Warm Regards - Stephanie

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June, 2013 National News

Native American veterans hope for memorial on DC's National Mall
"About 200,000 Native Americans have served in the U.S. armed forces, fighting in every conflict from the American Revolution to Afghanistan. But there isn't a monument for these heroes along the National Mall in Washington, D.C., an omission that Hawaiian Sen. Brian Schatz hopes to change. Schatz has proposed legislation that would allow the National Museum of the American Indian to start raising funds for an appropriate memorial. But Schatz's proposal would place the monument on the museum grounds; others want it to be with the other military memorials instead. "We want to instill in [our children] that they're important members of the American community," Navajo and Vietnam vet Jeff Begay said. "And they should be proud of that." Read the story here.

Veterans Treatment Court Conference
The nation's first conference dedicated to Veterans Treatment Courts and justice-involved veterans suffering from substance abuse and trauma will take place December 2-5 in Washington, DC! Justice For Vets has assembled an unprecedented cadre of experts who will be presenting over 75 sessions making up over 100 hours of training and education. You can register here and book your room here. Highlights at this year's conference include: Best practices to make your Veterans Treatment Court the best it can be; how to identify and manage volunteer Veteran Mentors to improve outcomes; how to connect veterans to the benefits and services they've earned; how to help your community identify justice-involved vets; how to treat trauma; and more. For more information, click here. Questions? Email conference@nadcp.org.

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HUD announces $563 million to support affordable housing in hundreds of Native American and Alaskan Communities: **HUD ANNOUNCES $563 MILLION TO SUPPORT AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN HUNDREDS OF NATIVE AMERICAN AND ALASKAN COMMUNITIES**

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development today awarded $563 million to 353 American Indian and Alaskan Native entities that represent 539 tribes across the U.S. Provided through HUD's *Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Program*, these funds are distributed annually to eligible Indian tribes or their tribally designated housing entities for a broad range of affordable housing activities (see local grants). "Hardworking American families in tribal communities should be able to live in communities where they have a fair shot to reach their potential," said HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan. "The resources provided today will give these tribal communities the tools to maintain quality housing, prevent overcrowding, improve public safety and provide other basic building blocks of security and success."

IHBG funds primarily benefit hardworking families, living on reservations or in other Native American communities, who don't have the financial resources to maintain good homes, schools, or other key contributors to economic security. The amount of each grant is based on a formula that considers local needs and housing units under management by the tribe or designated entity.

Indian communities can use the funding for a variety of housing activities, including building affordable housing; providing assistance to existing housing that was developed under the Indian Housing Program authorized by the U.S. Housing Act of 1937; or other activities that create new approaches to provide more affordable housing for Native Americans. The funding is also used to offer housing services to eligible families and individuals; and establish crime prevention and safety measures.

NATIONAL VETERAN SMALL BUSINESS Conference and Expo

St. Louis to Host National Veteran Small Business Conference Aug. 6-8
National Veteran Small Business Conference — August 6-8, 2013
This year's National Veteran Small Business Conference will be August 6-8, 2013, in St. Louis. Veterans will have the opportunity to discuss business and contracting issues with key decision makers from the federal government and private sector. Participants can attend a wide variety of classes and breakout sessions on how to start and grow a business and successfully compete for federal contracts — including information on how to get the veteran-owned business certification. For more information or to register, **click here**.

CDC 24/7 Saving Lives. Protecting People. Saving Money Through Prevention. cdc.gov/24-7

Center for Disease Control - Tribal Health Funding Opportunity

CDC Tribal Support, housed in the Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support, is pleased to announce the availability of funds to strengthen and improve the infrastructure and performance of tribal public health agencies and tribal health systems through the provision of capacity building and quality improvement. Initiating tribal-specific programs will allow awardees to accelerate and expand the reach and health impact of tribal public health infrastructure. See the **full announcement** for this FOA—Tribal Public Health Capacity Building and Quality Improvement **(CDC-RFA-OT13-1303)—**for more information.

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Federal Transit Administration – Funding Opportunity

FTA has published a FY 2013 discretionary **Notice of Funding Availability for the Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program** (Tribal Transit Program). This discretionary competition makes $5 million available for Fiscal Year 2013. The Notice includes FTA's response to comments solicited in the November 9, 2012 Federal Register Notice, and program structure for both the formula and discretionary program. Proposals for the discretionary competition must be submitted by Monday, July 8, 2013.

ORH VHA Office of Rural Health

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is pleased to announce that Ms. Gina L. Capra, MPA has been selected as the new Director of the Office of Rural Health (ORH) in Washington, DC. Ms. Capra joined the VA in April 2013 following 16 years of Federal service with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

From 2007-2013, Ms. Capra served as the HHS Director of the Northeast Division in the Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) with responsibility for the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) program. In this role, Ms. Capra managed 42 federal staff and an $800 million annual budget

providing funding to 300 community health center organizations operating 900 clinic sites serving over 5 million patients. The FQHC program assures basic, integrated health service delivery to diverse, underserved patient populations in rural and urban areas through strong working relationships with state-wide associations and other private-public partnerships.

As Director of ORH, Ms. Capra will be responsible for oversight of the $250 million portfolio of VHA projects to improve access and quality of care for Veterans residing in rural and highly rural areas. Ms. Capra will also oversee ORH's participation with regards to the coordination of VA-IHS Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) initiatives to improve the care and services provided to American Indian (AI) and Alaska Native (AN) Veterans. Since its inception in 2007, ORH has supported several projects and programs serving AI/AN Veterans, such as the Tribal Veterans Representative (TVR) program and the *Native Domain*, a website which serves as a national resource on healthcare issues for Native rural Veterans. http://www.ruralhealth.va.gov/native/index.asp

Left to-right: Nelson Red Hawk Bell, Kristen Wing (VRHRC-ER), Gina Capra (ORH), Allen Wood

On Ms. Capra's recent visit to the ORH Veterans Rural Health Resource Center – Eastern Region (VRHRC-ER), she met with Nelson Red Hawk Bell and Allen Wood to tour outdoor space at the Lake City (FL) VA Medical Center (VAMC) to be used for Native American ceremonies and healing purposes. Mr. Bell and Mr. Wood are members of the local Native Veteran Council of Elders, led by Ms. Patricia Davis, Native American Special Emphasis Program Manager for the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System (NF/SGVHS). The council worked with Dr. Jay Shore of ORH's Native Domain, and Lake City VAMC leadership and Chaplain Service, to secure the space on the facility grounds. In November 2012, this grassy, tree-lined area served as the site of the fifth annual Flags and Feathers Native American Festival, a cultural and educational event celebrating American Indian/Alaskan Native Heritage Month and honoring Veterans.

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Nov. 2012 Flags and Feathers Native American Festival at the Lake City VA Medical Center

BATTERED WOMEN'S JUSTICE PROJECT

The Battered Women's Justice Project is pleased to announce the release of module 5, Military and Veteran Cultural Competence, of the e-learning course, Safety at Home-Intimate Partner Violence, Military Personnel, and Veterans. The course is designed for advocates (military and civilian) who provide services to military-related families experiencing intimate partner violence. The course will also be helpful for other practitioners who are working with these victims and their families. The course is an excellent resource that pulls together information about military and combat-related issues and intimate partner violence. **Click here** for more information and the link to access the course

JUSTICE FOR VETS

FREE Webinar for Veterans Treatment Court Personal

Here is an Army OneSource FREE webinar, *Veterans Treatment Courts: Best Practices*. This webinar is for Veterans Treatment Court professionals and anyone interested in starting one of these lifesaving programs. Additional information is attached, to register Click Here. [Note: You will need to create an account with the U.S. Army OneSource Resource Center]

VA for VETS
YOUR GATEWAY TO VA CAREERS

VA For Vets Job Service – Apply for Open Federal Jobs: You can search available civilian positions in the federal government through the *VA for Vets* Job Search. Veterans are encouraged to apply to the opportunities below. Select the position title to view the entire job posting.

Medical Support Assistant
Department of Veterans Affairs/Multiple locations (see below)
The Medical Support Assistant schedules patient appointments, updates demographic data at each patient visit and collects medical insurance information. He or she also performs clerical work in support of the care and treatment given to the patients. Other duties may vary. Select a city below to view Medical Support Assistant positions in each location:

- Perry, GA; La Grande, OR; Lewiston, ID; Yakima, WA; Walla Walla, WA; Lexington, KY; Great Falls, MT; Hot Springs, SD; Anchorage, AK; Albuquerque, NM

Information Technology Specialist
Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Ashburn, VA - The Information Technology Specialist develops plans and techniques to improve programs and policies. He or she performs as a contributing specialist or team leader for small projects under the limited direction of a manager, project/program manager, or team leader.

Supervisory Information Technology Specialist
Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Arlington, VA - The Supervisory Information Technology Specialist develops and implements a coordinated national approach to protect the transportation sectors' critical cyber infrastructure by providing best practices in cyber security to private and public sector transportation modal representatives. He or she also develops, executes, and maintains a TSA-wide IT Security Awareness and Outreach program that encompasses all TSA employees, particularly those with Security Specific Responsibilities (SSR).

Interested in other career opportunities at TSA?
TSA is hiring Veterans for positions nationwide. Current open positions include Transportation Security Specialist, Security Assistant, Logistics Management Specialist, Program Analyst, Budget Analyst, Human Resource Specialist, among others. Learn more by visiting the website, calling 1-877-872-7990 or texting 95495.

The Veteran Employment Services Office (VESO) oversees ***VA for Vets***, a

comprehensive career management program that enables Veterans to successfully join the civilian workforce. Take advantage of the ***VA for Vets*** **Career Center** tools: translate military skills, build your resume, and search open positions. If you need assistance, work with a ***VA for Vets*** career coach by calling 1-855-824-8387 (TTY: 1-855-824-8833) or sending an email. To learn more, visit **www.VAforVets.VA.gov**.

Native PTAC

Native Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) annual conference on September 9-10, 2013 at the Tulalip Resort Casino.
Opening Doors in Indian Country and Government Contracting to Small Businesses. Helping businesses form a solid foundation for government contracting and find ways to nurture strong growth. This is our 5th Small Business Conference and Tradeshow focusing on Native owned businesses including tribal owned and ANC owned. Also highlighting veterans in these communities! **Click Here to Register for this Event** or Print and mail registration form - Accepting Sponsorships and Advertisements
The current Early Bird Rates end July 31st. Registration for Dinner and advertisement ends August 26th. We look forward to hearing from you!
Thank you, Phone: 206.816.6596

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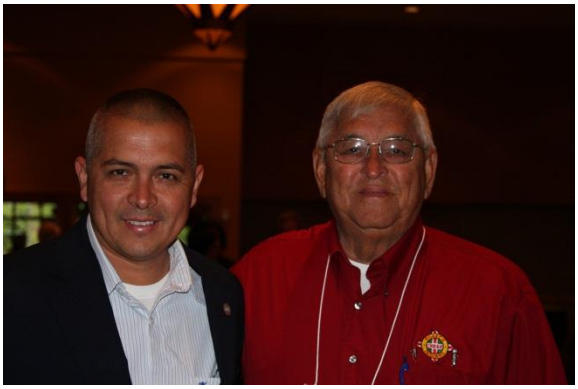
Southern Plains and Southeast Region

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians hosts Eastern Region Training Summit, Veteran's Affairs - Cherokee, NC – This week, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) hosted the Department of Veterans Affairs Eastern Region Training Summit in Cherokee, NC. More than 100 attendees learned about the services and programs available to tribes by Veterans Affairs programs. The event was opened by Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee, Mr. Michell Hicks and EBCI Tribal Council member, Mr. Perry Shell. The two day event featured presentations by government and representatives including the EBCI's Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority and the Charles George Veterans Affairs Medical Center who discussed their collaboration to provide services to tribal veterans. The event was co-sponsored by the Charles George VA Medical Center, the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority and the Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143.



Principal Chief Michell Hicks (l) welcomed Eddie Tullis tribal council member from Poarch Creek Band of Creek Indians.

The Office of Tribal and Government Relations present a carved Veteran's seal to Mr. Casey Cooper, CEO at Cherokee Indian Hospital for their involvement and partnership in improving services for Veterans.

Central and Northeast Region

On May 14/15 there was a Compensation and Healthcare Enrollment Benefits Event/Stand down organized by the Fargo VAHCS & Fargo VBA which took place in New Town, ND (Three Affiliated Tribes). There were a total of **80** veterans who registered at the event and **100**+ individuals were seen. This included children of veterans, spouses, relatives and widows. There were: **49** Disability inquiries; **47** Medical Benefits Inquiries; **45** Elderly attended the event; **17** Women attend the event; **13** ID card pictures were taken; **12** Women veterans participated in the Women's Program; **12** "other" inquiries; **11** Home loan inquiries; **8** OEF/OIF inquiries; **7** Veterans were enrolled in healthcare; **6** Compensation claims were taken; **5** Compensation ratings were completed; **4** Vesting examinations were completed; **4** Education inquiries; 3 Veterans were registered, however were rejected due to high income and no SC disability; **2** Congressional representative was present on the second day; 2 Disability awards were granted/increased; **2** examination tables were needed. 1 was borrowed from the Vet Center mobile unit and the other was transported up from the Fargo VA hospital in the Dual Utility Vehicle (DUV); **2** representatives from the Tribal health hospital (Elbowwoods) attended and were able to meet with Kelly Kukowski and ask her questions in regard to benefits and healthcare eligibility; **1** Veteran updated means test; **1** Veteran is pending (need to verify military dates). Thanks to Harold Lindsay for providing this info.

Michigan Tribal Veteran Representative (TVR) Training
From Mary Kay Campbell (VISN 12 Rural Health Consultant - MaryKay.Campbell@va.gov) "The second session of the Tribal Veteran Representative training has been scheduled for **Monday, August 19 through Thursday, August 22, 2013**! The training will again be facilitated by W.J. 'Buck' Richardson who has extensive experience in doing these outreach trainings for VISN 19, Rocky Mountain Network. He is passionate about helping all Veterans become aware of the benefits available to them and family members and is a strong proponent about helping Veterans getting this information.

The intent of the program is for tribes to designate staff to be trained as TVRs who will act as a liaison between the VA and tribal Veterans to assist them in knowing what benefits are available, assist them with communications between the VA, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), and the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), and serve to provide information at tribal meetings, etc. The August training will include

presentations by the VBA, NCA, and VA and will allow adequate time for questions and interactions with the presenters.

The first training in April laid the groundwork for developing the TVR program. Although a lot of information was covered during that training, there is more to learn! We want all TVRs to feel comfortable in their roles and this training will help to accomplish that objective. We encourage you to send TVRs trained in April as more in-depth information will be covered, as well as, sending other staff you may want to designate who will assist your Native American Veterans. We welcome your participation!
Event: Tribal Veteran Representative (TVR) Training
Dates: August 19 – August 22, 2013
Location: Clare/Farwell American Legion Post 558, 400 E. Ludington Drive, Farwell, MI 48622

Battle Creek, MI VAMC
Here is some information on Veterans who will be automatically be paid through EFT. It's a letter from Mary Beth Skupien, Medical Center Director, Battle Creek, Michigan.

"Dear Veteran,

As part of our commitment to providing you world class healthcare and services, and to comply with Department of Treasury requirements to process payments by electronic funds transfer (EFT), the VA Medical Center in Battle Creek, Michigan, has begun implementing Treasury requirements for EFT payment processing, including payments for beneficiary travel and Compensated Work Therapy. This change will improve services, provide significant savings to your time by eliminating waiting in long lines, minimize delays associated with check processing, and ensure a safe and efficient way to receive payments.

To avoid the line and save your time, here is what you will need to do:

1. Read through all enclosed documents.
2. Complete the Direct Deposit Enrollment Form. This form, once completed, will enable the VA to register your bank account information in the VA payment system so that your future claim submissions can be processed and sent to your bank account. Please be sure to fill the form out completely. Note: You must submit this form to the Agent Cashier any time your bank information changes.
3. Turn the completed Direct Deposit Enrollment Form into the Agent Cashier or mail it to: VA Medical Center, ATTN: Agent Cashier (04)
   5500 Armstrong Road, Battle Creek, MI 49037

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Once your information has been received and the direct deposit goes into effect, you will be able to fill out a voucher form at the Beneficiary Travel window, turn it in to the agent cashier window, and payment will be electronically deposited into your bank account within 14 business days.

To help explain this improvement in service, we have included a 'Frequently Asked Questions' sheet. If you have any questions in reference to EFT that have not been answered, we encourage you to contact Fiscal Service between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at (269) 223-5253 or (269) 223-5252. Thank you.

Sincerely,

MARY BETH SKUPIEN, Ph.D.
Medical Center Director"

Western Region

Tribal Veteran Representative Training - Oregon: The Oregon State Department of Veterans Affairs and the VA Office of Tribal Government Relations are co-sponsoring two-day Tribal Veteran Representative Training, hosted by the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians at the Chinook Winds Casino Resort on August 6-7, 2013 in Lincoln City, Oregon. There is no cost for the training, but TVR's would have to pay for their travel costs. Those interested can register with Terry Bentley at terry.bentley@va.gov See attached agenda for the two-day event. Space is limited.

Veteran County Service Officer Training, including Tribal Veteran Representatives: The Idaho Division of Veterans Services is hosting their annual VSO/TVR training on August 7-9, 2013 at the Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Boulevard, Boise, ID. Tribal Veterans Representatives are invited to attend this training event. See attached agenda for the event. For further information, please contact Jennel Binsky at 208-429-2145 or Jennel.binsky@veterans.idaho.gov

Native Veterans Event: On July 9-12, 2013, Grand Ronde and the Native Wellness Institute will be hosting an event for Native Veterans. Click **here** to see the flyer and to register online. Meals will be provided and it is free to all veterans, families of Veterans, and service providers. Lodging arrangements can be made for Spirit Mountain Casino and Resort by calling 503-879-2350. It will be a drug and alcohol free event and will include: workshops; talking circles; AA meetings; health/dental care; veteran benefit information and coordination; a healing village; and traditional games.

Idaho Women Veterans Conference – Save the Date – August 10, 2013 – Riverside Hotel, Boise, ID. A great opportunity to meet and network with fellow women veterans. The conference and luncheon are free: however, registration is required. For more info or to register, visit www.veterans.idaho.gov; email: womens.conf@veterans.idaho.gov; or call (208) 577-2310

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Sweat Lodge Dedicated at American Lake VAMC: The Inipi (Sweat Lodge) is one place to seek help. Whether you are inside the Inipi Lodge or a part of the ceremonial gathering, you will find purpose and it will be meaningful and full of truth. (Blackfeet Elder). The Sweat Lodge on the American Lake campus hosted its first ceremony on Wednesday, April 24, 2013. This event marked the culmination of a long journey, as well as a new beginning, after work to offer a sweat lodge began in 2004. Credit for completion goes innumerable dedicated people whose strong belief and hard work made it possible. Future ceremonies will be conducted on Tuesdays (see schedule below) are open for staff as well as Veterans. All interested participants are required to complete a waiver form, available at the sweat, validating they are medically and psychologically cleared to partake in a ceremony. Staff also need supervisor approval. Required dress for sweat lodge participants at all times is shorts & t-shirts. Sweat suits are optional. Veterans are asked to bring their own towels. The schedule for cleared participants for Sweat Lodge Ceremonies is as follows:

- The 1st Tuesday of each month will be for Men (Male staff are included); the 2nd Tuesday of each month will be for Women (Female staff are included); the 3rd Tuesday of each month will be for both Men and Women (Staff are included); The gate will open between 8:15am – 8:30am; fire will begin at approximately 10:00am; the ceremony will start at approximately 12 noon; The ceremony will end between 3:00pm-3:30pm

Further information, please contact: Cathy Davidson at 253-589-4147 or email: cathy.davidson2@va.gov

Rebuilding Together Seattle

Rebuilding Seattle Together: Program to help low-income Veteran home owners with free home repairs, please see attached application. For more information contact Caleb Marshall at cmarshall@rtseattle.org

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

Annual Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians- August 9-11, 2013: For further information contact Buddy Lane, Cultural Education Director at 541-444-8230.

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2012 Siletz Pow Wow with Tracy Molina carrying the Oregon Flag

Paddle to Quinault – Honoring our Warriors – August 1-6, 2013
22nd Annual Canoe Journey 2013 Paddle to Quinault

Invitation: The Quinault Indian Nation and the Quinault Canoe Society will proudly host the Paddle to Quinault 2013 during the dates of August 1st-6th, 2013. Please consider this your invitation to this great event.

History: Back in 1989, Emmit Oliver, a Quinault Tribal elder organized the "Paddle to Seattle" as a part of Washington State Centennial Ceremony revitalizing a tradition of Tribes that was lost for many years. We now know this event as the *Canoe Journey*. The Canoe Journey has become a symbol of cultural revitalization on a local, regional and national level; we are expecting 100+ Canoe families and Tribes from many USA Tribes, Canadian First Nations, Hawaiians and New Zealand to join this year's celebration. And we are anticipating 3,000 to 10,000 guests per day!

The Canoe Journey's initiated an annual event where the Canoe Families from Hawaii, California, Oregon, Washington to Alaska come together traveling to celebrate and share traditional cultural protocols, songs and dance. The Canoe Journey is a three to four week experience as the canoe pullers and support teams make each year's journey to visit the host Tribe. The Canoe Journey creates opportunities for tribal members to strengthen the families, and enhances survival leadership skills on the ocean and land.

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This experience builds courage, tenacity, a strong sense of appreciation and respect for all tribal cultural traditional values as we develop a team spirit and partnership to protect our way of life.

Both young and old participate in this physically demanding and culturally rewarding annual expression of cultural identity. Many of the participants will paddle for hundreds of miles and several weeks in traditional tribal canoes. In the evening the Canoe Pullers will camp and prepare traditional foods. During this time they will practice their traditional ceremonial protocol spiritual songs and dances for presentations at the six day celebration on the Quinault Reservation. This is a drug & alcohol free event and open to the public.

Above all, American Indians, Alaska Natives, Canadian First Nation and Hawaiian Veterans will be honored as warriors. Each branch of the U.S. Military will be recognized. Traditional protocol spiritual song and dances will focus on our **Appreciation of all Veterans** who have protected our sacred lands in America and Canada. For this reason, this year's theme is "**Honoring Our Warriors**" who have served our nations and continue to protect the equitable rights of all people in many forms of our government services.

Request for Support: The Quinault Indian Nation is privileged to share the indigenous lands of the Quinault with visiting tribes and all guests of the Paddle to Quinault. To make this event successful, but it takes the entire community, the support of our NW Tribes, Indian organizations, foundations, businesses and individuals who support the continuation of the Canoe Journey goals. For this reason we are requesting your support to help pay for the meals, water, cook and meal and program related supplies, first aid stations, security, rental of large tents, sanitation services such as portable showers & toilets, twice daily removal of garbage, and related potlatch costs.

The Quinault Indian Nation will host 10,000 to 12,000 guests for the Canoe Journey during the week of August 1-6, 2013 and we will appreciate any type of support that you can provide. Please take this Invoice and present to your Tribal Council for support for the 2013 Canoe Journey. Appreciate your support. Thank You.

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Make Check Out To: Quinault Indian Nation "Canoe Journey"
PO Box 189, Taholah, WA 98587

Attention: David Montgomery, Budget Officer. 360-276-8215, ext. 263 dmontgomery@quinault.org or call Julie Law, Grants Management. 360-276-8211. JLaw@Quinault.org

Grant Request:
Amount Requested: $ _____

Tax ID Number: 91-0760952

Approved by: _____
Date: _____

Accounting Office: _____Check # _____
_____

Contact Persons: Fawn Sharp, President of the Quinault Nation. 360-276-8211. **www.paddletoquinault.org** -All Quinault Tribal Council Members. 360-276-8211. Pearl Capoeman Baller, Quinault Ambassador. 360-276-8211 x 206. PBaller@Quinault.org. Andrea Alexander, Development Consultant. 425-501-0042. Aalexander895@gmail.com - Julie Johnson, Volunteer Consultant. 360-640-0222. Juliejj2012@gmail.com . The Quinault Nation appreciates the opportunity to apply for a donation from your Tribe. *Fawn Sharp, President*