

November 2014

- WE and MSUM represented in Alaska-three attended the National Indian Education Association conference in Anchorage, Alaska
- WEN signs MOU with TNWR- the purpose of MOU is to continue open communication and a good working relationship, ensuring effective law enforcement, the safety of tribal and non-tribal members, and the use of refuge resources

January 2015

- WE receives grant for job training-WER as been awarded \$72,450 grant for training in welding and truck driving jobs
- Pine Point students shine at 7th annual WE American Indian Regional Science Fair-multiple winners from the school

February 2015

- WEN chosen to lead Federal project that will address drug use on tribal lands-Department of Health and Human Services' office of Tribal Justice, the FBI, and the Office of National Drug Control Policy are working together to better leverage Federal resources in Indian Country to address drug use and its consequences on tribal land

March 2015

- R2AC Awards Anishinaabe Arts Initiative grants-R2AC awarded \$3,598 for art activities related to its mission of supporting, maintaining and promoting traditional and contemporary Native American arts in North Central MN
- WOWE-recognition of school board members

April 2015

- WE Rez animals get special treatment from student vets-SIRVS put on

a wellness clinic for reservation dogs and cats March 14-17th in Rice Lake and March 18-21 in WE

- WE Chief Judge Robert Blaeser named to newly formed Tribal Issues Advisory Group-TIAG will consider methods to improve the operation of the federal sentencing guidelines as they relate to American Indian defendants, victims, and tribal communities
- Native Nations Institute conducts workshop on WER

August 2015

- Ojibwe culture emphasized in this years WE academy of math and science

September 2015

- SSC building new casino near Bagley
- WE Tribal and community college receives grant from US department of education- WETCC received two \$500,000 grants
- COLA cultural camp-50 youth attended. Aug 3-6th



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2015



***White Earth Nation
State of the Nation Report***



To preserve, promote and enhance our quality of life.

Boozhoo

White Earth Nation is optimistic with the promise of a brighter tomorrow. We continue to pursue our overall mission of preserving and promoting our quality of life, creating safer neighborhoods and allowing all tribal members a chance to prosper. This report reflects some of the hard work and success that White Earth Nation has accomplished in 2015. The focus is on our 2014-2015 fiscal year and contains some current topics of 2016.

There have been many struggles this past year, but from these struggles came new programs, ideas and achievements. The White Earth Tribal Council saw a need to face these issues directly and created a Drug Task Force Committee resulting in many successes. The first and biggest accomplishment was the creation of the Maternal Outreach Mitigation Services (MOMS) Program. This program is one of our first lines of defense to stopping the addiction of our future generations by helping the addicted mother before childbirth. You can read more about this program on page 6.

Our White Earth Public Safety Department has also battled this epidemic by starting a tip line. They have worked with agencies, locally and federally, resulting in various drug busts and arrests (please see page 23 for more details). A Community Service Officer was hired to coordinate events and community meetings providing another outlet for residents.

If you spend any amount of time with our youth, you'll notice they have an increased excitement for cultural activities that they are involved in. We have made the youth a driving factor in many of our decisions and have seen their enthusiasm increase. The Circle of Life Academy celebrated its first homecoming and the Pine Point students participated in the honorary ball drop before the Minnesota Swarm lacrosse game. Our staff also sponsored a cultural camp that had 50 youth attend.

The Tribal Council would like to thank you for your understanding and patience throughout the past year. We are blessed to have so many hard working individuals and families who continue to put the tribe and its members first. We look forward to what the next year will bring.

Miigwech,



Steven "Punky" Clark
Vice-Chairman
White Earth Nation





White Earth Reservation Tribal Council

Vacant
Chairman

Steven "Punky" Clark Vice-Chairman

Tara Mason
Secretary/Treasurer

Kathy Goodwin
District II Representative

Steven "Punky" Clark
District I Representative

Kenneth "Gus" Bevins
District III Representative

Directors

Kenneth Fox Jr.
Executive Director

Mike Fairbanks
Deputy Director

Jeri Jasken
Behavioral Health

Larry Olson
IT

Mike LaRoque
Public Safety

Ben Bement
Human Services

Elizabeth Foster-Anderson
White Earth Enterprises

Scott Omlid
Finance

Eugene Vivier
Public Works

Gail Marsh
Human Resources

Pam Fairbanks
Interim Housing

Joan LaVoy
Education

Monica Hedstrom
Natural Resources

Thomas Bement
Marketing & Communications

Michael Neusser
Economic Development

Patricia Butler
Health

Alan Roy
Strategic Affairs

Joe Plumer
Judicial Services

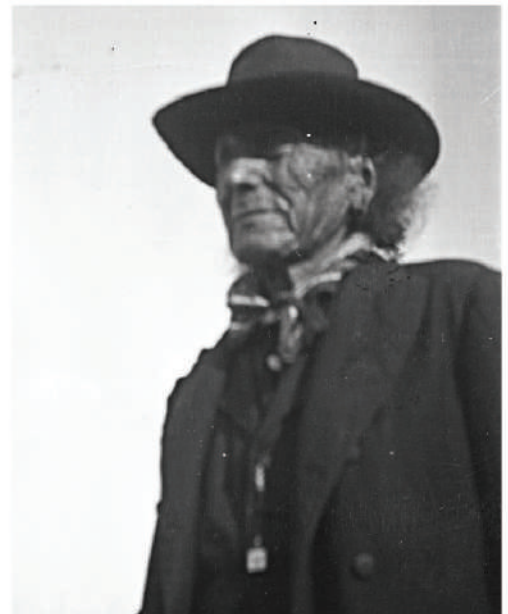
Vision: The White Earth Tribal Council will be a proactive organization that makes sound decisions promoting mino-bimahdiziwin (The Good Life). The White Earth Nation will be a safe place where all people have access to quality employment, housing, education, health and human services. While we protect our inherent right to self-governance and identity, we are a community of respect where cultural, historical and environmental assets are treasured and conserved for future generations.

History

Warren King Moorehead



In 1909, President Theodore Roosevelt dispatched Warren King Moorehead, a newly-appointed member of the Board of Indian Commissions to White Earth. He was tasked with investigating rampant land fraud and Indian Agent corruption on the reservation.



In 1910, Moorehead testified before Congress on the conditions at White Earth, advocating not only for the White Earth Nation, but for massive Indian Policy reform. Moorehead's efforts resulted in more than 1,000 lawsuits being filed against defrauders and forever changed the landscape of Indian to government relations.



These photos were part of Moorehead's Congressional testimony and were given to the White Earth Nation this past winter by the Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archeology at Philips Academy in Andover, MA. Moorehead served as the institution's first curator and director.



Old Indian Health Service Building Torn Down

In 2004, the Midwest Regional Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs did a historical review of the old Indian Health Service buildings. The report indicated that the yellow brick building on top of the hill near the Public Works garage was possibly part of the White Earth Boarding School and used for storage. It was constructed in the late 1800s to early 1900s.

The white building, shown below, was located on Highway 21, below the Congregate Housing facility. It was housing for medical staff employed at the old hospital. The original building was built in the 1920s or 1930s. The latest use was by the White Earth Health Department, which moved into new offices a couple of years ago.

Both buildings were owned by the Indian Health Service. The buildings had fallen into disrepair with lack of recent use and were demolished. The land was seeded in the spring and turned over to the White Earth Nation. The future use of these lots is unknown at this time.





Maamigan Achigaazo (The Gathering Place)



The White Earth Child Care/Early Childhood Program wrote a grant on behalf of White Earth Nation and received a \$121,224 grant from the Institute for Museums and Library Services to initiate the first tribal public library complete with a collection of over 5,000 books for children, youth and adults. In addition to the library, the WECC/ECP matched a grant from the Minnesota Children's Museum to develop a children's interactive learning Smart Play Spot. Both have strong Ojibwe culture/language incorporated. A grand opening celebration was held in August. There are also 17 Free Little Libraries that were built and placed throughout the reservation to promote reading.

People on a Mission

A mission group led by Valerie Red-Horse spent a day at Oshki Manidoo. They washed windows, cleaned rooms, dismantled three playground sets and helped White Earth elders during their week stay. Another group of youth from Hill-Murray Prep School in Maplewood, MN spent a week painting and landscaping at the Roundhouse. They also helped plant cedar trees at the White Earth Pow Wow grounds. Ron and Marilyn Mitsch generously contributed not only their time and energy to the mission trip, but were also the main benefactors. A special thank you to Sister Linda Soler who served as the mission trip coordinator.

Both groups have a personal connection to White Earth.



Valerie Red-Horse Group



Hill-Murray Group

- White Earth Urban Summer Family Picnic
- 5k Walks and Runs
- 8th Annual summer Wild Rice Roundup
- Native Alive Suicide prevention sponsored a four person team at the Fargo Marathon
- Annual Sobriety Parade
- White Earth Urban Office - Urban Council
- Men's Night Out
- Bootcamp Fitness Training Offered

- All Community Council Meeting
- 13th Annual Victim Service Collaborative Conference at Shooting Star Casino
- Take an Elder Fishing on Little Elbow Lake
- 5th Annual Wellness Conference
- 31st Annual Minnesota Indian Education Association Conference
- White Earth Elders Christmas Party
- White Earth Community Farmers Market



Your Health Matters

Substance abuse has been a sensitive topic on the White Earth Reservation. Medical director and WERAS manager taught and certified over 100 tribal employees in Naloxone rescue skills. Naloxone is also known as Narcan. Employees have saved over 12 lives because of the new Minnesota Naloxone Rescue Good Samaritan Law and the rescue teachings that we've provided. More lives continue to be saved!

White Earth Nation Public Health Services has added a new and innovative approach to client services. This broadens the opportunity to expand collaborative partnerships, which increase the health of our members. White Earth Nation Public Health Services has also received several grants to aide in this improvement.

White Earth Coordinated Assessment Resources and Education (WECARE) is a coordinated and holistic approach. WECARE goals are to increase services, referrals, resources, communication and coordination between tribal programs. Completing a needs assessment with any tribal program will ultimately decrease duplication in services, specifically targeting the needs identified by you and your family. In June, Kim Turner was introduced as the WECARE Coordinator for White Earth Public Health Services. Kim is shown here explaining the WECARE model in Dallas to one of the grant providers.

Home Health administered over 1,000 vaccines and the Dialysis Center is now fully accredited. This accreditation allows an increase in capacity and service to more local patients.

The health of our women, children and teens has increased through various programs including: Oshki Manidoo Youth Treatment Center, Women's Wellbriety Center, Circle Back Center, Dually Involved Youth and Juvenile Healing to Wellness. Each of these programs have seen increased success by providing mental health and substance abuse treatment with a holistic and cultural approach. Each of these programs can be contacted directly by calling the numbers listed on page 29.



- 10th Annual Ride for the Troops
- Elbow Lake Community Center officially opens
- White Earth Tribal and Community College has 9 graduates
- 4th Annual Hepatitis C Tribal Summit held at Shooting Star Casino
- White Earth Urban Members - Over 500 attend the Holiday Party held at Minneapolis American Indian Center
- 3rd Annual Waubun/Ogema/White Earth Holiday feast fed more than 650 people
- Elders honored at Wisdom Steps Conference
- White Earth Fisheries released 15,000 sturgeon fingerlings in Round Lake, White Earth Lake and the Wild Rice River
- Biimaadiziwiin celebrates 10 year anniversary
- Employees and community members donate to blood drive
- Dr. Karen Branden was appointed as Dean of Student Services at White Earth Technical and Community College
- Annual Caregiver Conference sponsored by White Earth Health Education and the Land of The Dancing Sky, Area Agency on Aging

DOVE

Celebrating its second year of providing services, DOVE served 65 women and 57 children for a total of 2,214 bed nights in our shelter. In the community we served 115 women, 4 men and 145 children.

White Earth Child Support

Increasing by 5% since 2014, White Earth Child Support had 820 open cases and collected \$542,222 toward current support. 72% of all current collections were collected in 2015 with case loads increasing by 8%.

Ookomisan Minawaa Oozhishenyaa Bimaadiziwin

M.O.M.S.

Maternal Outreach & Mitigation Services

Indian Child Welfare partners with MOMS program

Tribal Council approved and provided startup funding for the Maternal Outreach Mitigation Services Program (MOMS) on April 6, 2015. A Program Manager and Registered Nurse started April 22nd, with a time line of 60 days to get a program operational and serving clients. MOMS had their first client June 15, 2015.

Indian Child Welfare (ICW) partnered with the MOMS program this year to combat the number of babies being born on our reservation addicted to heroin. The MOMS program is ground breaking for White Earth because it is the first to offer medication assisted treatment.

Since the MOMS program opened, White Earth ICW had only **ONE** baby born positive for heroin compared to the 48 from the previous two years. All of these pregnant moms had healthy babies, born without ongoing heroin exposure and had no withdrawals. ICW was able to fully support the parents involved in this program and no foster care placements were made with any of those children. ICW was also able to reunite 113 other children with their parents during the year.

The MOMS Program has had 13 babies born, and every one of them have come home with their parent and has not needed medication for withdrawals. There are 32 participants involved in the program.

For more information contact Julie Williams at 218-936-2442 or julie.williams@whiteearth-nsn.gov.

White Earth Mii-gii-way-win Advisory Board

Last fiscal year the Donations Committee comprised of White Earth Nation and Shooting Star Casino employees approved 103 donation requests for a total of **\$94,355**. Some of the approvals include:

- White Earth Elders Christmas Party
- White Earth Elderly Nutrition Program
- White Earth Job and Career Fair
- Local Community Councils
- Ogema Fire Department
- White Earth Fire Department
- Waubun School
- Mahnomen School
- Circle of Life Academy
- Naytahwaush Charter School
- Sah-kah-Tay Indigenous Preservation Society (Wild Rice Camp, Maple Syrup Camp, Winter Camp and Berry Camp)
- Mahnomen/NTW JOM Program
- Mahnomen Women of Today
- Waubun Summer Rec Program
- Mahnomen Area Youth Baseball Program
- Baagosendan Program
- Local Food Shelves
- Waubun Preharvest Festival
- Ogema Community Days
- White Earth DOVE Program
- Sobriety Pow Wow
- Detroit Lakes School, Native American Awareness Week
- White Earth Indian Child Welfare
- White Earth Early Childhood
- White Earth Tribal and Community College

White Earth Urban Picnic



White Earth Fire Department receives money for radios

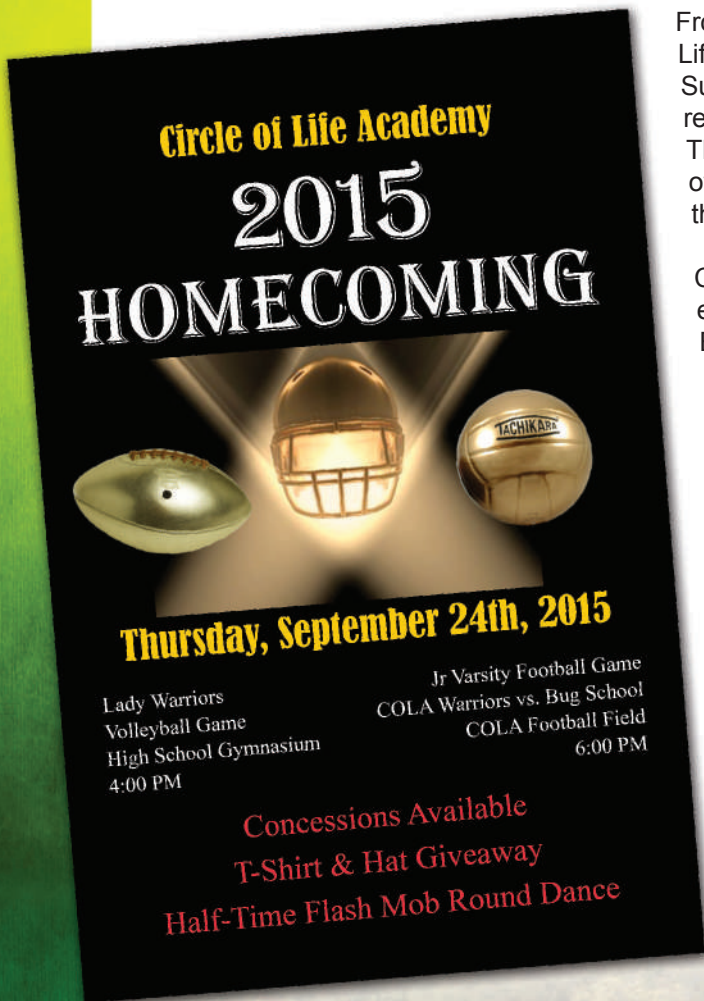


Acute Care Men's Inpatient Treatment

This facility is located on Highway 200 east of Mahnomen. It offers inpatient substance abuse treatment to adult men by offering a cultural base. Other services include: daily high intensity treatment, access to mental health services, a public health nurse and a family nurse practitioner on-site. The medication Suboxone is used as a specialty treatment practice for heroin addictions and cultural practices. Cultural practices include: a sweat lodge on site - offering weekly sweats, men's talking circles, various ceremonies, seasonal recreational and traditional activities outside of Acute Care and access to NA and AA community groups.



Circle of Life Academy Celebrates Achievements and First Homecoming



Circle of Life Academy
2015
HOMECOMING

Thursday, September 24th, 2015

Lady Warriors
Volleyball Game
High School Gymnasium
4:00 PM

Jr Varsity Football Game
COLA Warriors vs. Bug School
COLA Football Field
6:00 PM

Concessions Available
T-Shirt & Hat Giveaway
Half-Time Flash Mob Round Dance

From 2014-2015 many changes have occurred at the Circle of Life Academy (COLA). Ricky White was hired as the Superintendent for the school and helped the school apply for, receive and implement the School Improvement Grant (SIG). The Bureau of Indian Education awarded the \$2 million grant over a five-year period. Positive change and accountability in the delivery of instruction is the main focus of the SIG grant.

COLA has also seen an increase in enrollment. Ending enrollment for the 2014-2015 school year was 125 students. Enrollment for the 2015-2016 final enrollment window was 170 students. The excitement of this increase has led to other new adventures and activities.

A Check and Connect Program was implemented to help high school students with learning, emotional and/or behavioral disabilities. It pairs students with a mentor to help coordinate situations and to listen to the student.

COLA celebrated its first Homecoming. There were several activities held throughout the week, including a school wide pep fest and homecoming royalty nominations. The highlight of the week was the first ever Homecoming football game which was played on Thursday, September 24, 2015 under the lights of the newly dedicated George "Porgie" Auginaush field.



GO WARRIORS



Booster Club

The Warriors were victorious over Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig Silver Eagles with a score of 36 to 8. There were over 500 White Earth community members in attendance for this historic game. All other sporting events have seen an increase in games and participation.

COLA Booster Club was formed to help raise money for student letterman jackets. The Club's next goal is to contribute to a press box and sign for Porgie's Field.



* This jacket is not the actual pattern or color but will be similar.



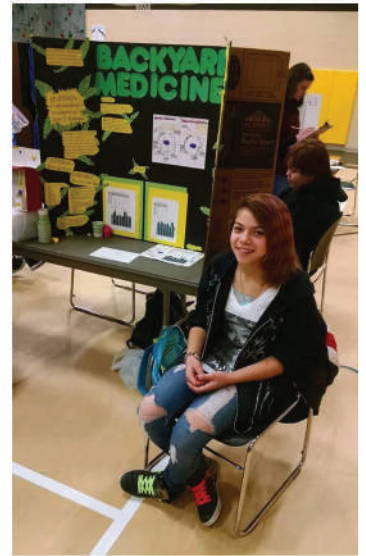
WARRIORS

Pine Point Students Shine

Two years ago, the Pine Point School had no winner in the annual White Earth Science Fair. In 2015 the school brought home seven winning projects. Students were encouraged by new teachers and administration to participate. Pictured to the right is Teresita Diaz with her award winning project "Backyard Medicine." She was also selected to attend a one-week trip to Space Camp at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

Pine Point hosted an Ojibwe Lacrosse Camp in July for youth in grades 3rd through 9th. Dan Ninham was the instructor and the event was co-sponsored by DEBWE Youth Center and Honor the Earth.

Students who helped put together the recent edition of the Pine Point Press were able to travel to Detroit Lakes to see their paper being printed at Forum Communications. You can view a full color version online at www.whiteearth.com under the Annishinabeg Today tab.



Toys for Tots



COLA Graduates



Week of the Young Child



Science Fair



- Circle of Life Academy wins Snowsnake competition
- Head Start students take field trip to Fur Shack
- Local students attend progressive Farm Safety Day
- Circle of Life Academy shines at Annual Quiz Bowl competition
- 620 attended Annual Festival for Fathers and Families
- Circle of Life Academy has 5 graduates
- Council donated \$80,000 to support toy drive
- Cops and Bobbers on Little Elbow Lake

- 220 attended Week of the Young Child held at Shooting Star Casino
- Circle of Life Academy hosts Triathlon
- Mahnomen boys golfers won 6A North Section Championship
- 19th Annual White Earth Career and Job Fair
- Golfers help raise money for Boys and Girls Club
- 15th Annual Brain Development Conference "Closing the Gap"

Ornaments on Capitol Christmas Tree

The Boys and Girls Clubs of the White Earth Reservation were honored to be asked to provide ornaments for the Capitol Christmas Tree to be displayed in Washington, D.C. The tree was from the Chippewa National Forest and had 10,000 ornaments covering its nearly 80-foot height.



Each of the club sites designed and made their own ornaments and sent 120 ornaments to the Chippewa National Forest where they began their journey with the tree to the Capitol.

Bagosendaan members



Head Start Field Trip



Annual White Earth Parade



White Earth Academy of Math and Science



Waubun Head Start kids go ice fishing



- Pine Point students hold Fun Run to raise money for stray animals
- White Earth Reservation youth attend MN Swarm game
- Naytahwaush Community Charter School students complete service learning project for local Head Start
- Circle of Life Academy quiz bowl teams square off for Midwest State Championship
- Joshua Zorns named White Earth Reservation Boys and Girls Clubs Youth of the Year

- Circle of Life Academy students perform at Holiday Feast
- 3rd Annual Youth Seasonal Berry Camp at Little Elbow Lake Park
- White Earth Child Care/Early Childhood sponsored a teen connection project at Circle of Life Academy
- White Earth Boys and Girls Clubs youth attend Cobber hockey game and meet players
- Mahnomen-Waubun Boys golf team places 2nd at State Class A Tournament



Highlights

- Former District I Representative Irene Auginaush received a plaque and Honor Song during the 147th annual White Earth Celebration Pow Wow for making history as longest running tribal council woman in White Earth history, serving 18 consecutive years
- White Earth Nation hosts DFL rally at Shooting Star Casino Event Center
- State voting precinct opens at White Earth Administration building
- Wilder Research visits to explain population studies
- Senator Al Franken fights to invest in infrastructure and increase public safety in Indian Country
- Joan LaVoy educates lawmakers on the need for more state money for Native education
- White Earth Tribal Council and staff members discuss wildlife with USFWS officials at Tamarac headquarters
- White Earth is presented with a hand drum from the Board of Trustees for Casey Family Programs



Strategic Plan

White Earth's strategic plan guides departmental activities for the next 10 years. The plan includes housing, public safety, natural resources, economic development, education, technology, health care and governance among other policy areas. As a living document, the strategic plan provides strategies and goals for the Tribal Council and its departments to better serve the public. By integrating Anishinaabe izichigewin miinawaa mino-bimaadiziwin, the strategic plan strives for transparent decisions, rigorous public policy development and pronounced public engagement. The strategic plan will be publicly available this summer.

As part of the strategic plan's public engagement directive, White Earth's Director of Strategic Affairs, Alan Roy, has consistently engaged Minnesota's Legislature to increase funding for several tribal programs this year that include:

- Health Care (HF3248, SF2668) for \$1.4 million
- Indian Child Welfare (HF3248, SF2669) for \$1.6 million
- Land Reacquisition (HF2611, SF2527) for 2,000 acres of Potlatch Corporation property
- Economic Development (HF3825, SF3459) for \$3.25 million

Because of White Earth's emphasis on stakeholder engagement, our tribal leaders have met with other public officials to foster positive relationships. Since February 20, 2016, Strategic Affairs initiatives have navigated White Earth's interests into the national spotlight and will continue this effort for the foreseeable future.

White Earth Tribal Members Voice Pipeline Concerns

The White Earth Tribal Council held a public hearing on June 4th at the Rice Lake Community Center to discuss Enbridge's plan to place the Sandpiper Pipeline through land and water areas impacting tribal lands. Approximately 40 people attended, which featured presentations as well as band members and others voicing their concerns. Lucille Silk and Michael Dahl are two members who spoke. The meeting was recorded and officials said they would be sending the recording to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to be reviewed. The 616 mile Sandpiper pipeline proposed by Enbridge subsidiary North Dakota Pipeline Co. has 300 miles that would cross north-central Minnesota's lake country.



Teens Represent White Earth in Washington, D.C.

Alexis Belland and Victoria Azure attended the historic White House Tribal Youth Gathering in Washington, D.C. in July. The gathering is a platform to provide American Indian and Alaska Native youth from across the country the opportunity to interact directly with President Barack Obama, senior administration officials and the White House Council on Native American affairs.



Generation Indigenous (Gen-I) Native Youth challenges teenagers to help improve their community or school. The girls knew that just because they are young Ojibwe teenagers in a struggling community it doesn't mean they can't make a difference. They signed the agreement to take the challenge in Waubun.

They teamed up to create a Waubun Running Group and an Annual Holiday Feast as their community projects as well as other individual ones. They worked with community and tribal donations by planning, organizing, shopping and working the events. Alexis and Victoria were chosen to attend this opportunity of a lifetime event because of their commitments to the community.



Baa-gaa-do-we Lacrosse

More than 100 kids and 22 adults participated in the White Earth Nation Youth Lacrosse Camp held July 6-9 at the Mahnommen Public School. They practiced skills, competed and finished camp with an awards ceremony. In addition to the fundamentals, the youth learned the history and the cultural significance of lacrosse. The camp was held in collaboration with the Minnesota Swarm.



Language and Culture Camp

The Circle of Life Academy Language and Culture Camp was held August 3-6 at the school. About 50 youth attended the four day event. The youth participated in several events including talking circles, making hand drums, learning to bead and quill, lacrosse, dancing and much more.



Top Left: Students learn lacrosse fundamentals from Minnesota Swarm players. **Top Right:** Students put lacrosse skills to the test. **Middle:** Pine Point 7th and 8th grade students drop the honorary ball before Minnesota Swarm lacrosse game. **Bottom:** Language and Culture Camp.



Veterans

RIPPLE EFFECT GOOD LOOK

Memorial Day

The White Earth Band's veterans gather to commemorate service past and present
by QUINTON SKINNER

The White Earth Veterans' Association and Honor Guard meets monthly at the Veterans Center in Mahanomen, Minnesota. Members enhance their military uniforms with tribal details, and their recent activities have included participating in a celebratory program with a local elementary school and marking Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day.



Bill Brown
U.S. ARMY
Historian, CPL E4
YEARS SERVED: 3
PLACE OF SERVICE:
Cambodia

Charles Wadena
U.S. ARMY
YEARS SERVED: 6
PLACE OF SERVICE:
Vietnam

Herb Roy
NAVY
Post Commander
YEARS SERVED: 4
PLACE OF SERVICE:
Vietnam

Bob Pawlitschek
U.S. ARMY
Vice Commander,
SP E4
YEARS SERVED: 3
PLACE OF SERVICE:
Germany

Bruce Goodwin
U.S. NAVY
YEARS SERVED: 4
PLACE OF SERVICE:
Vietnam

Robert Roy
U.S. ARMY
Chaplain
YEARS SERVED: 6
PLACE OF SERVICE:
Vietnam

Curtis Pawlitschek
U.S. Air Force
AIC
YEARS SERVED: 4
PLACES OF SERVICE:
Florida,
Saudi Arabia,
Korea, California

26 MAY 2015 mmo.com

TJ TURNER

Left: The White Earth Honor Guard was featured in the May issue of the Minnesota Monthly magazine.

Top: Circle of Life Academy Homecoming Game

Middle: Naytahwaush Parade

Bottom: Shooting Star Casino Contest Pow Wow



White Earth Honor Guard Remembers:



Charles Wadena
Vietnam



Tony Ovaldson
Vietnam



Joe Potter
Vietnam



Porgie Auginaush
Korean War

The White Earth Honor Guard also honors and remembers other White Earth Veterans who have passed, therefore not involved with the White Earth Veteran's Association. Your service is appreciated.



Shooting Star Casino Contest Pow Wow

White Earth Nation celebrates many pow wows through out the year in our communities.

- Honoring Our Mothers Pow Wow - Mahnomen
- Harvest Fest Pow Wow - Naytahwaush
- Rice Lake Memorial Day Pow Wow - Rice Lake
- Pine Point Pow Wow - Pine Point
- Pine Point School Pow Wow - Pine Point
- Head Start Pow Wow - Naytahwaush
- Circle of Life Pow Wow - White Earth
- Annual White Earth Celebration and Pow Wow - White Earth



Naytahwaush Harvest Fest



Pine Point

POW WOV



White Earth Nation celebrates its 147th Annual Pow Wow

June 12 - 14, 2015

Please join us for the Annual Mother's Day Pow Wow May 7 & 8

Shooting Star Casino Event Center

148th Annual White Earth Celebration and Pow Wow June 10 - 12, 2016



Circle of Life Academy



Honoring Our Mothers



White Earth Development Organization (WEDO)

For tribal governmental economic development efforts to be successful there needs to be effective use of existing resources and extensive communication and collaboration between various tribal departments, entities and communities. Successful tribal development has occurred and prospered with the separation of their business entities from day to day tribal processes; WEDO is an organizational method for channeling and developing a sensible, careful and effective approach to development. Comprised of White Earth's planning, economic development, transportation, natural resources, finance, tribal enterprises, history and culture and communications divisions the main objectives of WEDO are:

- Review proposals
- Community outreach
- Prioritize projects
- Discuss and plan the development of current and future projects
- Direct and guide projects to their completion

Economic Development Division

Planning • Business Development • Grants

Economic Development

- Creation of the Planning Department to engage and complete projects from White Earth Development Organization and approved by Executive Director and Tribal Council.
- Foreign Trade Zone – Phase II of this project has secured a firm to submit final paperwork to the Department of Commerce. This will enhance a future Business and light industrial park located on Highway 59.
- Promise Zone – White Earth Nation, in partnership with Red Lake Nation, submitted an application for this federal program.
- Minnesota American Indian Chamber of Commerce – Member and supporting Native American Businesses. Working with Minnesota tribes on consolidation of purchasing power.
- White Earth Market – Final transfer of the White Earth Wild Rice program over to White Earth Enterprises as a successful stand-alone business.
- White Earth Renewable Energy Solutions brought back to Economic Development Division to assist with infusing program with additional federal funding dollars.
- Agricultural Think Tank – Created to begin to formulate White Earth Nation's food sovereignty plan with emphasis toward: aquaponics, community supported agriculture, mobile food unit, tall tunnels, food shelf, food distribution enhancement and seed bank.
- Strategic Planning – Community consultation meetings and beginning of process of goals for White Earth Nation strategic plan.
- Grant Management System (GMS) – Researching new software systems to enable grant tracking management, accountability and increase efficiency through centralization.



Business Development Department

In 2014, the White Earth Economic Development Division recognized the need to increase assistance for local entrepreneurs. Gizhiigin, Ojibwe for “grow quickly”, grew out of that need and established itself as the business development arm of our Economic Development Division. Understanding that a large portion of our population are artists, and many artists don’t view themselves as entrepreneurs, Gizhiigin re-modeled itself in Mahnomon on January 30, 2015.

Over the past year Gizhiigin, has built relationships with the artists in our communities, listening to needs, interests and ideas. Together with the artists and local organizations, we have designed a service model to address multiple facets of the arts industry in White Earth and catalyze the growth of an economy in which artists can thrive as artists.

Gizhiigin Services

- Increase access to arts and media for our youth
- Develop the careers of those already involved in the arts
- Create market access for these artists and future artists
- Advance our cultural interest



Top Left: “Our Roots Run Deep” Mixed media piece by Judy Fairbanks.

Top Right: “Quilled Birch Bark Medallion” by Betsy May

Left: Community members enjoying the 2016 Needle and Thread Art Exhibit in February.

Grants Department

Over \$31,000,000 in grant, governmental and foundation funding

White Earth Nation Funding Contributors

- American Heart Association
- Becker County Human Services
- Boys and Girls Club of America & Twin Cities
- Child Care Award of Minnesota Northwest
- Citizens Energy Corporation
- Clearway Minnesota
- Department of Health and Human Services
- First Nations Development Institute
- Headwaters Regional Development Commission
- Mahube Community Council
- McKnight Foundation
- Minnesota Chippewa Tribe
- Minnesota Housing Finance Agency
- Minnesota Justice Foundation
- Bush Foundation
- Minnesota Tribal Resource for Early Childhood Care
- Minnesota Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
- North West Minnesota Foundation
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- State Department of Commerce
- State Department of Education
- State Department of Health
- State Department of Employment and Economic Development
- State Department of Human Services
- State Department of Public Safety
- State Department of Transportation



New Star Service Program Created

Shooting Star Casino created and implemented a new Star Service program for team members in 2015. The goal was to create a culture of service and quality by; developing, valuing, motivating and empowering team members. Team members were given new incentives, discounts and benefits to increase personal and company success. Shooting Star Casino team members continue to build strong cultural and community relationships through public relations and goodwill.

A new vision and mission statement were designed to support the program.

Vision:

Creating the most exciting entertainment and gaming experience in the North.

Mission:

Shooting Star Casino will support self-sufficiency of the White Earth Nation by providing positive financial returns.

- S - Smile & Greet
- T - Take Care of Needs
- A - Anticipate, Ask & Act
- R - Remember to Thank & Close

StarMart Liquors Opens

The StarMart Liquors held its grand opening on September 25, 2015. The first 100 customers received \$5 off gas coupons. Prize drawings and concert ticket giveaways were held all day.

Hours for StarMart Liquors are 8 am – 11 pm on Sundays through Thursdays, and 8 am – midnight on Fridays and Saturdays. For the convenience of our guests StarMart Liquors is open on holidays.



Tim Hortons Opens

The official grand opening for the new Tim Hortons Cafe & Bake Shop was held February 12, 2016 at the Shooting Star Casino (SSC).

From left to right are Nick Valentine - SSC Chief Financial Officer, Bill Marsh - SSC General Manager, Tara Mason - White Earth Secretary/Treasurer, Benjamin Brant - SSC Food and Beverage Director and Gary Litzau - SSC Marketing Director



Shooting Star Casino Plans for Two New Casinos



Shooting Star Casino Bagley



Shooting Star Casino Star Lake

Shooting Star Casino looks toward the future for White Earth Nation and announced in September 2015 its plan to open a second casino near Bagley, Minnesota. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on November 12, 2015. The new casino will be located off Highway 27, between Ebro and Bagley. Construction is currently underway and is slated to be completed in the summer.

The new Shooting Star Casino in Bagley, MN, will feature a bar and grill with outdoor seating and dining and a casino floor with 150+ slot machines as well as table games. The new 21,400-square-foot casino is expected to bring more visitors and at least 40 new jobs to the city, spurring economic growth for the Bagley region.

Plans for a third casino located on Star Lake near Dent, Minnesota was also announced in September 2015. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2016 and the projected opening is slated for 2017.

The new Shooting Star Casino project on Star Lake will offer slots, tables, a bar and grill, ballroom and a buffet. The casino property will also house a gift shop, deli, hotel and an RV Park. This endeavor will present new financial benefits for the community of Dent, Minnesota, nearby residents and for White Earth Nation. White Earth members will have new employment opportunities and White Earth Tribal government will have the means to improve its services to enrolled members.



- Jim Foster retires as the Public Relations Coordinator after serving White Earth for over 25 years.
- Hosted 31st Annual Minnesota Indian Education Association Conference
- Hosted the 13th annual Victim Service Collaborative Conference
- New sign installed at the Waubun Head Start location

- John Clark is promoted to Human Resources Director and Gary Litzau to Marketing Director
- Installs new ScentAir Technology to enhance fresh and luxurious atmosphere
- EF-1 tornado damages cars and Golden Eagle Bingo Hall
- Hotel team donates Denim Day funds to Boys and Girls club
- Annual scholarship Golf Tournament raises over \$27,000



Workforce Center Construction Begins, Nearing Completion

The White Earth RTC Employment and Training Department broke ground on September 23, 2015 for their new Workforce Center in Naytahwaush. The Giwanikimin Supportive Housing Facility and the MOMS program also held corresponding open houses for their facilities and programs.

The new Workforce Development Center will be a state of the art facility that will help with employment and training programs. The goal is to assist our participants in gaining and retaining employment while partnering with area businesses and educational institutions.

The building is scheduled to be completed this spring and will be named "Maadaadizi" Workforce Development Center at the time of its grand opening. The name is a reference to "a journey" in Ojibwe.





Drug Enforcement and Community Action

The name Operation Bricks of Steel was given to the investigation of 41 Federal Arrest Warrants. On Wednesday, May 27, 2015, those warrants were executed as a result of a lengthy multi-state heroin trafficking conspiracy targeting the White Earth and Red Lake Nations. Six arrest teams were assigned to apprehend nine of the 41 people named in the indictment on the White Earth Nation. All nine were apprehended without incident, harm or injury to anyone.

Omar Beasley was the most significant source of heroin in Indian Country. He and the 40 other members of his organization believed that federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies throughout the region were not speaking with one another and connecting the dots. The fear with these arrests was that someone else will take their place.

We have remained diligent in the task of apprehending any and all drug related crimes. We created a toll free tip line so people can anonymously leave tips on drugs and crime in their community. The tip line number is 877-410-8550. Curtis Rogers was hired as a Community Service Officer to work with reservation communities in planning events and being a personal connection to the police department.

2015 Calls for Service Information

- Within White Earth Reservation boundaries there were 15,358 calls for service. The White Earth Public Safety Division responded to 8,987 or 58.52%. *
- Motor Vehicle Department issued more than 3,627 new vehicle registration and registration renewals, 724 picture and descendant ID cards and approximately 3,485 hunting, fishing and gathering licenses.

• Total Meth off the streets	\$370,622
Total Heroin off the streets	\$107,165
Total Prescription pills off the streets	\$43,550
Total Cocaine off the streets	\$860

Total Street Value of all Drugs Seized \$522,197

Cash Seized	\$19,924
Vehicles Seized	12
Firearms off the streets	16

**non tribal authorities responded to the remainder.*



5K Walk/Run

WHITE EARTH ENTERPRISES

WHITE EARTH MARKET

HAND HARVESTED. NATURALLY ORGANIC.

White Earth Nation Wild Rice would like to thank you for being a valued customer. We would like to announce that we have been busy with some big changes. Most changes have gone unnoticed. However, the changes that you will need to take note of are as follows: White Earth Wild Rice is now being marketed as White Earth Market and is under White Earth Enterprises. Kaelyn Stalberger was hired to handle all internal and external wild rice and other product sales. Kaelyn can be reached at our new phone number **218-936-3112** or toll free **844-244-3303**. Her email address is rice@whiteearth.com.

We have also added new vendors during these changes. Wild Rice is now sold in over 42 restaurants, grocery stores and gift shops across the United States. This includes large chains such as Whole Foods and Mississippi Market. If you have any new product you would like us to consider, sales/vendor information or additional business questions, please contact Liz Foster Anderson at liza@whiteearth.com or Jessica Johnson at jessicaj@arvig.net. They can be reached at **218-473-2146**.

We look forward to continuing our business with you.

Eating Well

White Earth tribal members were featured in the November/December 2015 Eating Well magazine. The 9 page spread gave a brief description of traditional harvesting and finishing wild rice, as well as including a few delicious recipes.



Enterprises



Real Wild Rice

2015 Total revenue - \$209,340
2014 Total Revenue - \$157,825
2013 Total Revenue - \$173,736
2012 Total Revenue - \$126,666

Internet sales

\$18,427 in 2015

\$24,260 in 2014

\$16,163 in 2013

\$13,269 in 2012



Current Product Line for White Earth Market

White Earth Market supports the economic success of tribal members and maintains our cultural heritage with a sustainable approach to bringing our wild rice product into new markets.

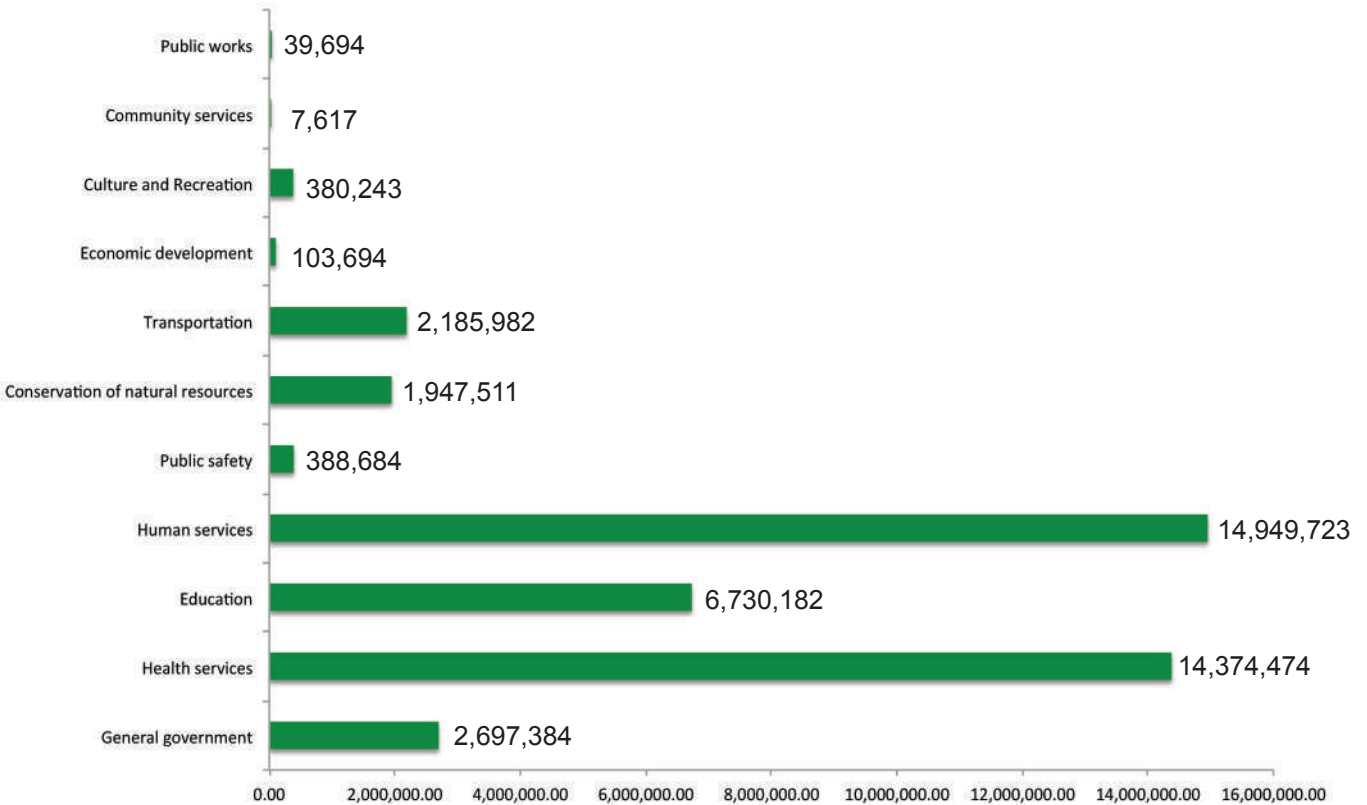
White Earth Market was recertified - organic from USDA in 2015.



realwildrice.com



Total Tribal Expenditures



White Earth Nation expenditures increased from \$63 million in 2014 to just over \$64.7 million in 2015. As our program and service offerings continue to expand, we will continue to increase our economic and social diversification with the region.

In 2014 White Earth Nation provided over \$38.1 million in payroll and benefits. This number grows to over \$68.3 million annually when coupled with our associates at Shooting Star Casino!

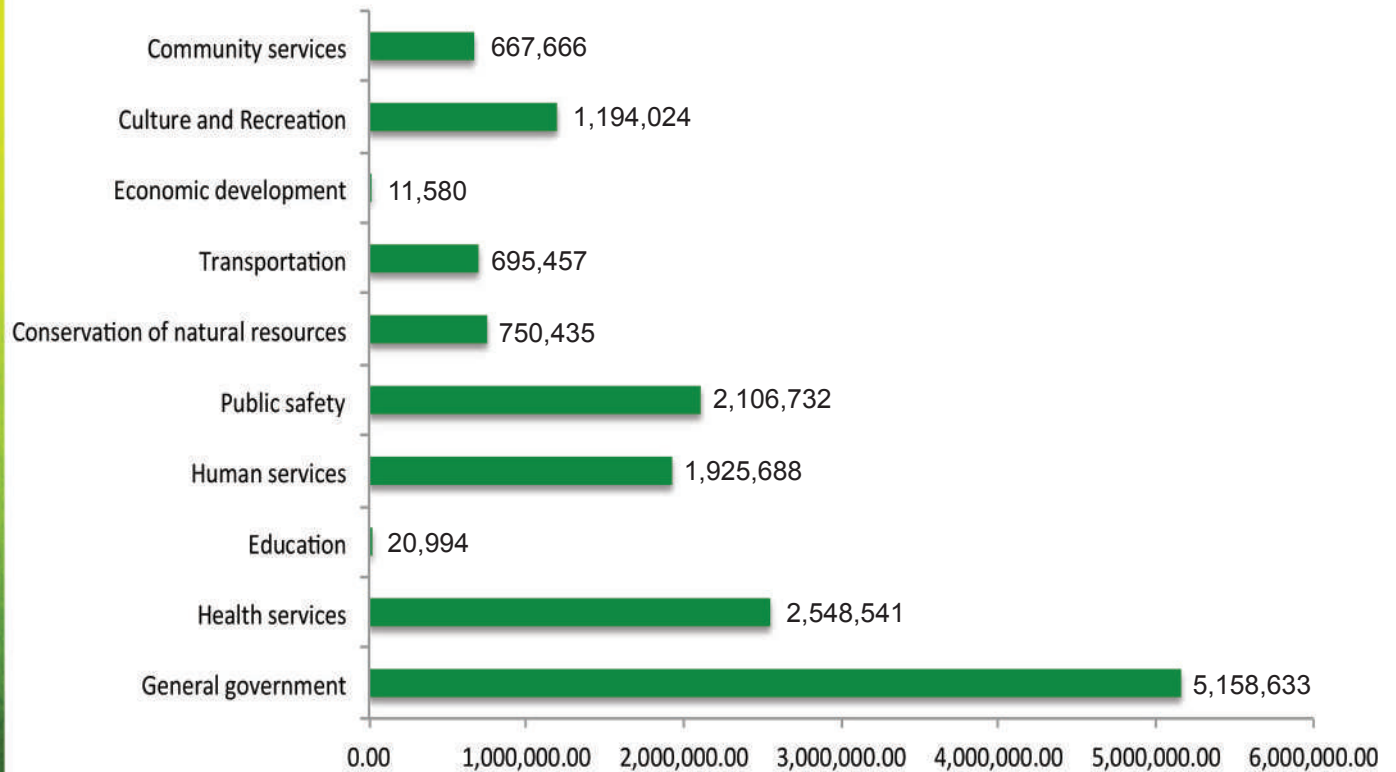
Our government



- Administration • Adult Basic Education
- Anishinaabeg Today • Ambulance
- Archives and Acquisitions • Backgrounds
- Boys and Girls Club • Chemical Dependency •
- Child Care • Community Health Representatives • Con-
- gregate Housing • Conservation • Diabetes Project • Direct
- Employment • Donations • DOVE • Economic Development
- Elbow Lake Community Center • Elderly Nutrition • Elections
- Employment and Training Programs • Energy Assistance • En-
- rollments • Environmental • Food Distribution • Forestry • Garden
- Tilling • Head Start • Home Health • Home Improvement Program
- Indian Child Welfare • JOM • Land Office • Lawn Mowing • Leech
- Lake Constituent Office • Legal • Marketing • Mental Health • Minne-
- neapolis Constituent Office • Motor Vehicle • MOMS • Naytahwaush
- Community Center • Pine Point Community Center • Pow Wows
- Public Relations • Public Works • Rediscovery Center • Rice
- Lake Community Center • Road Construction • Road Mainte-
- nance • Scholarships • Snow Plowing • Suicide Prevention •
- Summer Youth Programs • Tribal and Community College
- Tribal Courts • Tribal Transit • Veterans Services •
- Water and Sewer • Water Resources • WELSA •
- White Earth Community Center • White
- Earth Police Department • Wildlife •
- Zoning

dollars at work

Tribal General Fund



As a segment of total expenditures, the general fund makes up a significant portion of overall expenses. This fund consists of income from gaming revenue, grants, cigarette tax and sales tax, some of which are restricted to specific designated purposes. 2015 general fund outlays totaled **\$15 million** and were allocated by the Tribal Council as outlined above.

Shooting Star Casino Financials

	Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2013
SSC Revenue	\$106,190,824	\$103,821,100	\$105,724,292
Payroll & Fringe	\$32,342,989	\$30,193,378	\$29,598,146
Net Income	\$6,609,989	\$10,074,149	\$12,596,626
EBITDA	\$12,987,039	\$16,425,884	\$18,481,521
	Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014	
Revenue	\$106,190,824	\$103,821,100	
Expenses	\$99,711,369	\$93,761,696	

Programs and Services Directory

Backgrounds	218-935-2148	Human Resources	218-983-4646
Behavioral Health	218-983-3286	Human Services	218-935-5554
Acute Care	218-936-5830	DOVE	218-983-4656
Circle Back Center	218-983-3285 ext 6402	Employment and Training	218-935-5554
Mental Health	218-983-3286 ext 1284	Food Distribution	218-935-2233
Oshki Manido	218-751-6553	Homeless Program	218-983-5554 ext 3263
Substance Abuse	218-983-3286 ext 1297	Resource & Support	218-935-5554
Women's Wellbriety Center	218-936-5653 ext 6202	Vocational Rehab	218-935-5554
Business Enterprises		Housing	218-473-4663
White Earth Builders	218-473-2145	Judicial Services	
White Earth Building Supply	218-473-2145	Child Support Enforcement	218-983-4641
White Earth Business Products	218-473-2146	Court	218-983-4648
White Earth Sanitation	218-473-3222	Indian Child Welfare	218-983-4647
White Earth Market	218-936-3112	Legal	218-983-4649
Economic Development	218-983-4640	Marketing and Communications	
Gizhiigin	218-936-3100	Public Relations/Newspaper	218-983-3285 ext 5903
Education	218-983-4642	Natural Resources	218-935-2488
Circle of Life Academy	218-983-4180	Conservation	218-935-2578
Early Intervention Program	218-983-3285 ext 5306	Emergency Management	218-935-2488
Headstart	218-983-3285 ext 1353	Environmental Affairs	218-935-2488
MSUM/White Earth		Fisheries	218-573-3007
University Program	218-983-3285 ext 5301	Forestry	218-935-5967
Scholarships	218-983-4642	Invasive Species	218-935-2488
White Earth Child Care	218-983-3285 ext 1380	Land Office	218-983-4650
Boys & Girls Clubs		Pesticides	218-935-2488
Callaway	218-375-2220	Underground Storage Tanks	218-935-2488
Elbow Lake	218-734-2419	Water Quality	218-935-2488
Mahnomen	218-936-6010	Wetlands/Prairie Restoration	218-935-2488 ext 2102
Naytahwaush	218-935-5554	Wildlife	218-935-2488 ext 2102
Pine Point	218-573-3328	Zoning/Land	218-983-3285 ext 5800
Rice Lake	218-694-3539	Public Works	218-983-3202
White Earth	218-983-3174	Fleet	218-983-3292
Energy Assistance Program	218-473-2711	Transit	218-983-3283
Enrollment & Vital Statistics	218-983-4643	Water & Sewer	218-983-3202
Finance	218-983-4645	Strategic Affairs	218-983-3285 ext 5916
Health	218-983-3286	Veterans Service Office	218-983-3285 ext 5904
Community Health	218-983-3286	White Earth Land Settlement	218-751-6619
Elderly Nutrition	218-983-3286 ext 1266	Weatherization Program	218-473-4663
Diabetes Project	218-983-3286 ext 1356	White Earth Public Safety	218-983-4651
Health Education	218-983-3286 ext 1356	Crime and Elder Abuse Tip Line	877-410-8550
White Earth Ambulance	218-983-3286 ext 1263	Dispatch	218-983-3263

White Earth Nation

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 418

White Earth, MN 56591

www.whiteearth.com • www.facebook.com/WhiteEarthNation