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# 2014



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



***To preserve, promote and enhance our quality of life.***

# Boozhoo

As in the past, we were challenged again this year, yet we are filled with opportunities and promise. 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. The following pictures and articles contained in this report reflect some of the hard work and success that White Earth Nation experienced in 2014.

White Earth continues to increase the human services we offer to our tribal members and their families as we finalize the transfer of services from the counties to the tribe. We strive to work toward successful collaborative efforts with counties and the State in order to enhance human services throughout the White Earth Nation. We also began to introduce an easier and more efficient process to improve delivery of health and human services to our membership through the WECARE system.

This past year White Earth Nation continued to strengthen our sovereignty through several initiatives. We worked to protect our wild rice lakes and rivers at the State level by defending against invasive, genetically engineered rice. We have been in partnership with several other groups in protesting the Enbridge pipeline. Construction of the pipeline would endanger our right to clean water, affect wildlife and cut into the heart of the Mississippi Headwaters. We have continued to work on implementing the new Constitution. We have to remember, Constitutional Reform will take patience, training and ongoing support. If we are to remain on the course of building up our nation and people, we must stay true to our path. Finally, we strive to demonstrate our sovereignty with steady support for our 1855 Treaty Authority.

We are living in very challenging and dynamic times. We share in the struggle to improve our lives, retain our identities, and keep our children safe; as your government, we strive to work with you to make this a reality. We are blessed to have so many hard working individuals and families who continue to create places where our children can grow into their future roles within our tribe. I would like to thank all of the White Earth families for your continued support.

Miigwech,



Erma J. Vizenor  
Chairwoman  
White Earth Nation



# White Earth Reservation Tribal Council

**Erma J. Vizenor**  
Chairwoman

**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

**Brent Gish**  
Interim Behavior Health

**Joe Plumer**  
Judicial Services

**Patricia Butler**  
Health

**Ben Bement**  
Human Services

**Larry Olson**  
IT

**Randy Goodwin**  
Public Safety

**Eugene Vivier**  
Public Works

**Elizabeth Foster-Anderson**  
White Earth Enterprises

**Scott Omlid**  
Finance

**Joan LaVoy**  
Education

**Lois Edwards**  
Human Resources

**Donna Fairbanks**  
Housing

**Michael Neusser**  
Economic Development

**Monica Hedstrom**  
Natural Resources

**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

The sun shined on the lush, green lawn of the Crow Wing County Jail at the southwest corner of Front Street and Fourth Street in Brainerd. This setting was not even remotely close to what happened at that site more than 142 years ago. On July 23, 1872 two American Indian brothers, and members of the White Earth Nation, tragically lost their lives in Crow Wing County. The men were accused in the disappearance of a 22-year-old woman from Crow Wing Village. They never stood trial and were hung at the site where the county jail now sits for allegedly murdering the woman.

As part of Brainerd History Week, the White Earth Nation Indian Honor Guard presented its flags during a pipe ceremony on June 18, 2014 at the site where the tragic hanging occurred hundreds of years ago. Terry Tibbetts began the reconciliation event by smudging and praying for the two men during the ceremony. He noted that justice was not served and offered a tribal blessing. Brainerd Mayor James Wallin took part in the pipe ceremony, and stated, "It is quite an honor to be here. Of my 72 years on this earth, this is the most momentous occasion I've ever been a part of." Mayor Wallin said the tragic event should have never happened in 1872, but is blessed that the city and the tribal nations can work together to host the reconciliation event. Mayor Wallin read the proclamation before organizers unveiled a replica of a reconciliation plaque that will be placed at the site.

Chairwoman Erma Vizenor said, "We stand here today as relatives, as brothers and sisters, as human beings, whom we all were created ... and we come together. We cannot undo history of what had happened, but we can change what is happening today." Chairwoman Vizenor then shared some history with the crowd to clarify why those men and other Native Americans were in the fur and logging community of Crow Wing Village near Fort Ripley. She said many White Earth Indians came to the Gull Lake and Mille Lacs lake areas during that time when tensions were high with the European settlers. She said all they wanted to do was sell blueberries, and that was how the so-called Blueberry War got its name. Chairwoman Vizenor declared we are all on a journey together, and every derogatory word is hurtful to all people. Brainerd Council Member Mary Koep said the June 18, 2014 reconciliation was the one event of all the Brainerd History Week activities that is most dear to her heart, and the one that she really wanted to make possible. "We wanted to have this so bad," Koep said. "We had a few setbacks, but I'm so happy that it is here. It's a good thing to see people come together. If no one remembers this week, I hope they will remember this reconciliation. We can't change history, but how can we bring us all together as one family, one nation? This is a day that will go down in history. We all came together with love and friendship."



# Giwanikimin

Giwanikimin Supportive Housing in Naytahwaush



## Giwanikimin (we live in harmony) supportive housing

We live in harmony is the translation of Giwanikimin. The Giwanikimin homeless housing complex was built in Naytahwaush. It is located just north of the Community Service Center. The hope is to lower statistics of homelessness by 1 in 3.



There are 20 units in this complex that provide 2, 3 and 4 bedroom units built in a townhome configuration. Many different services are available to tenants. Some of the services include: case management, mental health, chemical dependency, child protective services, health services, employment services, dv/sa services, disability services, therapeutic child care and services that are individualized for the consumer.

- White Earth Urban Members - Holiday Party held at Minneapolis American Indian Center
- Mobile food drop a success
- Native Alive Campaign aims to reduce suicide/depression
- White Earth Urban Office - Urban Council
- 12th Annual Victim Service Collaborative Conference at Shooting Star Casino
- Take an Elder Fishing on Little Elbow Lake
- Annual Sobriety Parade
- 30th Annual Minnesota Indian Education Association Conference
- White Earth Elders Christmas Party
- White Earth Community Farmers Market
- 5k Walks and Runs
- 4th annual Wellness Conference
- Gaawiin Giiyaabi – No More talking circles offer an opportunity to share ideas



## White Earth Tribal & Community College

### Tribal college welcomes Terry Janis as the new president

White Earth Tribal & Community College has had a very productive and busy year. Terry Janis was welcomed as their new president on April 21, 2014. Terry is Oglala Lakota from the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. He comes to the college after working as the Project Manager for the White Earth Nation Constitution Reform process and eight years as Program Officer at the Indian Land Tenure Foundation in Little Canada, Minnesota.

The college also brought back alumni to campus for festivities honoring them as former graduate students. Commencement ceremonies for 15 graduates was celebrated on May 17th. These 15 graduates received their AA degrees and more than 35 students received their Adult Basic Education/GED's.

During the summer session, students were offered new hybrid classes online. Additional classes offered are culturally based. For more information on how to register please go to [www.wetcc.org](http://www.wetcc.org) or call 218-935-0417.



- 4th annual Grandma's Teachings
- Big Elbow Lake Village opens new community center
- 9th annual Ride for the Troops
- 1st Annual Coat Drive
- WE Urban Summer Family Picnic
- 7th annual summer Wild Rice Roundup
- Public Transit began Tuesday shopping route to Detroit Lakes
- Rice Camp teaches boys and girls tradition and culture
- Native Alive Campaign presents safeTALK training
- Acute Care Treatment facility opened at Midway Lakes
- White Earth CARE receives a \$10,000 Stratis Health Building Healthier Communities Award
- White Earth Indian Child Welfare program earns top state honors
- Beading projects help elder women
- The first Citizen Award was presented to Leonard "Sonny" McDougall
- White Earth gets grant for new library



## Gaawiin Giiyaabi

In the year of 2014 the Gaawiin Giiyaabi (No More) has been doing community meetings within White Earth Communities. The topics have been cultural and spiritual in nature to address the Substance Abuse issues that affect all of us as Anishinnaabe people of Turtle Island. The goal is to incorporate more of Minobimaadiziwiin in to our daily lives. We as Anishinnaabe need to remember our roots that our elders have sacrificed for us in the 7th Fire from the 7 Prophecy. We are moving forward with upcoming community events along with beading, drumming, language tables and lacrosse.

## Court

The BIA recently evaluated and found that our court was not only fair in handling large volumes of cases but was well respected for providing fair process by both local attorneys and the community members that participated. Our court statistics for 2014 are 1,104 new cases filed with 3,250 hearings.

## DWI Court

White Earth and Mahnommen County currently have an operational DWI Court that is available for offenders who are cited for an alcohol related DWI. Currently have 5 participants in the program. A Tribal Court Judge and a 9th District Court Judge preside over the Court together. White Earth is in the planning phase of developing a DWI Court with Becker County.

## Juvenile Wellness/Dually Involved Youth Program

During FY14 there were 45 juvenile clients, average age of 15, participating in the JHTWC/DIYP. Out of the 45 clients, 33% of the juveniles required in-patient treatment prior to participating in the specialty court process. In comparing statistics from 2013 to 2014, the need to refer participants to inpatient treatment was reduced by 19%. Of the drug testing performed on the clients, 84% of the tests were negative. The statistic show the programs are successful in providing the much needed services to our youth.

## White Earth Child Support

Has 869 open cases, collected \$486,447 toward current support and \$33,219 toward past due support for a total of \$519,666.



## 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 109 donation requests for a total of **\$100,000**. 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



## New Dialysis Center Opens

**White Earth Nation in partnership with Sanford Health**

The new dialysis center had its grand opening celebration on April 7. The dialysis center is brought to White Earth in partnership with Sanford Health. Treatments are now available closer to home for many patients. In conjunction with the dialysis center there is a community fitness center. Community members are invited to use the facility between 6 am and 10 pm Monday through Friday and 6 am to 6 pm on Saturday. You can obtain a keycard pass by stopping in during normal business hours.





## White Earth Nation Kindergarten Readiness Guide

A Kindergarten Readiness Guide has been developed by the White Earth Pre-K to Grade Three Leadership team. Local reservation schools, child cares, head starts and other educational programs are represented. The purpose of this guide is to support a child's first teachers; parents, families, Head Start, Child Care, ECFE, with key Kindergarten readiness concepts. It reflects local, state and national standards. This Guide respects and values the cultural tradition and ways of our families and students.

The child must accomplish various listening, speaking, reading, writing, social/emotional, mathematical, science, art and physical and motor development skills for their age capabilities.

## Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)

On November 19, 2014, President Obama signed the CCDBG Act of 2014 into law. This reauthorizes the child care program for the first time since 1996 and represents a historic re-envisioning of the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program. The new law makes significant advancements by defining health and safety requirements for child care providers, outlining family-friendly eligibility policies, and ensuring parents and the general public have transparent information about the child care choices available to them. The law also changed the language for tribal set-aside from up to 2% to no less than 2%. White Earth Nation worked with Minnesota's Senator Al Franken and Representative John Kline's offices on inclusion of tribal language in the new bill.

White Earth Child Care Director Barb Fabre was one of six Minnesotans that received the 2014 Virginia McKnight Binger Award in Human Service. She also helped her staff celebrate the 50th anniversary of Head Start.



## Henry Boucha visits Circle of Life Academy

Henry Boucha, Ojibwe Olympic Medalist and former pro hockey player, visits Circle of Life Academy



## BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

Boys & Girls Club presented a check in the amount of \$12,000 to the Northwest Minnesota Foundation for the Boys & Girls Clubs of the White Earth Reservation's Endowment Fund.



## Crazy Horse Memorial

Twenty-seven teen members and seven staff of the Boys and Girls Clubs of White Earth Nation left July 13th on an educational field trip to Crazy Horse, South Dakota. They presented a donation check to further the carving work of the National Monument.



## Little Free Library

White Earth Education held its first Little Free Library competition. The little free library is a “take a book, return a book” system. This event showcased ten newly constructed libraries made by White Earth RTC staff and community members. Each library and their location will now be registered with the National Little Free Library organization.

The winners were as follows:

**Most Creative:** Dream Catchers

**Most Traditional:** Shooting Star Casino

**Best Theme:** Doug and Carol Fabre

## Toys for Tots



## White Earth Math & Science release Golden Winged Warbler



## Youth Visits Harlem Globetrotters



- Circle of Life Academy 7th Annual Science Fair
- Circle of Life Academy takes home 2014 Traveling Snowsnake Trophy
- Circle of Life Academy hosts and wins annual quiz bowl competition
- Naytahwaush and Community Charter School celebrates significant academic turnaround
- Naytahwaush and Community Charter School students blasting off to Space Camp
- Youth attend Minnesota Swarm lacrosse game
- Detroit Lakes School District wins championship trophy in annual Drum and Dance Competition
- Annual festival for fathers and families
- Naytahwaush and Community Charter School recently named a Celebration school by the MN Dept of Ed
- Circle of Life Academy graduation
- Joshua Zorns named White Earth Reservation Boys & Girls Clubs youth of the year
- Toy Drive

## Cops N Bobbers



## Sturgeon Release



## Cops N Bobbers



## Learning to bead at Camp



## Snowsnakes



## Festival for Fathers and Families



- Pine Point Press students work to publish school newspaper
- Pine Point School receives \$1,000 gift from Sam's
- Naytahwaush and Waubun students complete 2-day STAR team training
- Cops and Bobbers on Little Elbow Lake
- Pine Point youth attend Harlem Globetrotters game
- Waubun students named award winners for 2014 Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge Photo Contest
- Circle of Life Academy students among first in the state to receive specialized training

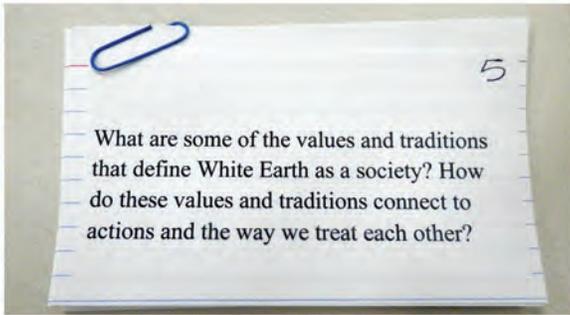
- Week of the Young Child held at Shooting Star Casino
- Circle of Life Academy hosts first ever Triathlon
- White Earth Natural Resources staff offer firearms, ATV safety classes
- 14th Annual Brain Development Conference
- Gaawiin Giyyaabi sponsored a New Year's Eve Dance
- Youth attend National Boys and Girls Clubs Conference
- Pine Point students learn how to make maple syrup at Sugar Bush
- Mahnomen Golfers go to State



## Highlights

- Inauguration for three new Council members: Tara Mason - Secretary/Treasurer, Steven "Punky" Clark - District I Representative, Kathy Goodwin - District II Representative
- Outgoing Tribal Council members honored
- Senator Tim Johnson continues to advocate for affordable housing in Indian Country
- Chairwoman meets with Kevin K. Washburn
- Minnesota Capitol plaque honors American Indian veterans
- Senate makes history on May 14 when it confirms first-ever Native American woman as federal judge
- Minnesota Lt. Governor candidate visits White Earth
- Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton appoints White Earth Chairwoman Erma J. Vizenor to MnSCU Board of Trustees
- White Earth Nation signs MOU with TNWR
- Chairwoman honored at Shakopee Mdewakanton pow-wow
- White Earth Nation hosts DFL rally at Shooting Star Casino Event Center
- Voting precinct opens at White Earth Administration building
- Terry Tibbetts lets House Committee know White Earth is off limits for wolf hunting
- White Earth Nation welcomes MnDOT Commissioner
- Bush Foundation visits White Earth
- Tribal officials honored with ceremonial puck-drop at Native Nations Night
- White Earth Tribal Council and Education Division hosted a dinner and listening session with Minnesota Department of Education Commissioner (MDE) Brenda Cassellius





## Constitution

- Bush Foundation funds first phase of the White Earth Nation Constitution implementation
- White Earth Constitutional Transition Team deals with complex issues
- Wilder Research visits White Earth to explain population studies. The purpose of the research was to help MCT better understand the declining population and projected population trends for the future.
- The first Citizen Award was presented to Leonard “Sonny” McDougall



## Human Service Transfer

### Strengthening our sovereignty by demonstrating our capabilities:

The Minnesota Health Care Programs transfer to the White Earth Nation strengthens our sovereignty by demonstrating our rights to serve our people.

The White Earth Band of Ojibwe Human Services Project has accepted the legal responsibility for providing human services to tribal members early in 2013. Passed by the Minnesota legislature in 2011, this transfer occurred first with tribal members living in Mahnomen County. The Human Service Financial Service Department -Niiwijiigonann (We Assist Each Other) is now doing eligibility determination for Minnesota Health Care Programs as we have accepted the legal responsibility for these programs: MA, SNAP, MFIP, GA, MSA, DWP and GRH for White Earth families.

Over the past two years, Niiwijiigonann has been able to provide services to more than 2,000 members living in Becker, Clearwater and Mahnomen Counties whose services have been transferred to the White Earth Nation.

In 2015, Niiwijiigonann will continue to expand services to members and their families within the defined service area. This means any family who has a White Earth member and non-member in their families will be eligible for services through the tribe. Today we provide services to over 1,800 cases through the White Earth Nation! Our offices are located in Naytahwaush, Detroit Lakes, Mahnomen and Bagley.

## The Traditions, Language and Culture (TLC) Committee:

The Traditions Language Culture (TLC) Committee has been implementing Lacrosse, Language Tables, and a Culture Camp at Circle of Life Academy (COLA). The TLC has been using White Earth Elders for implementation of all Cultural events. The TLC is in support of keeping our Traditions Language Culture and way of life alive. We are always going to follow Minobimaadiziwiin



## 1855 Treaty Authority - Opposing the Enbridge pipeline

White Earth celebrated Earth Day at the Mississippi Headwaters in Itasca State Park. They held a peaceful demonstration opposing the Enbridge oil pipeline project in which the 1855 Treaty Authority is currently against.



## Baa-gaa-do-we - Lacrosse

Over 150 youth learned the traditional game in the first annual lacrosse camp. The camp was sponsored by the Minnesota Swarm and TLC Committee and was held July 28th - July 31st at the Mahnommen High School.

### Camp Awards Given:

**MVP Boys:** Jim Hvezda

**MVP Girls:** Teresita Diaz

**Spirit Award Boys:** Micah Clark-Burnette

**Spirit Award Girls:** Navaeh Fairbanks

**Leader Award Boys:** Jacob Ehnert

**Leader Award Girls:** Star Norcross

**Most Improved Boys:** Jameson Beckman

**Most Improved Girls:** Shayla Potter

**Swarming Awards Boys:** Zach Wolfe

**Swarming Awards Girls:** Corra Zephier & Cora Wadena

**Grow the Game Awards:** Erma J. Vizenor,

Joan LaVoy, Mary Otto, and Michael Neusser

Join us for the 2nd annual lacrosse camp **July 6 - July 9**. Online registration starts Monday, May 4 more details coming soon.

# Veterans



White Earth Honor Guard remembers George "Porgie" Auginaush



American Indians volunteer for the U.S. military in higher percentages than any other ethnic group, and now Minnesota officially recognizes that accomplishment. At the conclusion of a ceremony on May 22, 2014 in front of the State Capitol, Chairwoman Erma J. Vizenor unveiled a plaque in the Capitol's Court of Honor. The memorial plaque is dedicated to all American Indian veterans who have served in peacetime and in war.

Brothers from White Earth Nation reunite in Kuwait





Pine Point

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

- Honoring our Mother Pow Wow - White Earth
- Harvest Fest Pow Wow - Naytahwaush
- Native American Heritage Pow Wow - Naytahwaush
- Callaway Pow Wow - Callaway
- Rice Lake Memorial Day Pow Wow - Rice Lake
- Pine Point 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



## White Earth Nation celebrates its 146<sup>th</sup> Annual Pow Wow

June 13 - 15, 2014

## Please join us for the Annual Mother's Day Pow Wow May 9 & 10

Shooting Star Casino Event Center

## 147<sup>th</sup> Annual White Earth Celebration and Pow Wow June 12 - 14, 2015



Rice Lake Memorial



Rice Lake Memorial Demo Derby

## Promise Zone

White Earth seeks Promise Zone designation in collaboration with Leech Lake and Red Lake Tribes.

In his 2013 State of the Union address, President Obama announced that he would designate 20 Promise Zones nationwide: urban, rural, and tribal communities where the Administration would partner with local leaders to create jobs, increase economic activity, improve educational opportunities, and reduce violent crime. The first urban, rural, and tribal Promise Zones were announced on January 9, 2014, in a ceremony at the White House. Locations are in: San Antonio, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Southeastern Kentucky, and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

The federal government will partner with selected communities to help the Promise Zones access the resources and expertise they need. There are currently twelve federal agencies working in close collaboration to provide resources and expertise to urban, rural, and tribal Promise Zones to expand economic mobility and opportunity in their communities. The four main agencies are pictured below.



## Foreign Trade Zone

White Earth in conjunction with the Carlson School of Business researches feasibility of White Earth Nation and foreign trade zone status. An effort to expand economic development opportunities.

## White Earth Wild Rice

White Earth Nation begins plans to move the wild rice packaging, sales and distribution to a new location and start the process of creating a new LLC; White Earth Market. White Earth Market will continue to be the main selling force behind wild rice sales. Along with wild rice, additional products including maple syrup, honey and native crafts, have provided diversification and growth.



## Business/Art Accelerator:

The White Earth Nation art accelerator was given the name Gizhiigin, which means grow fast. This venture was made possible through funding by White Earth Nation, USDA, First Nations Development, and the City of Mahanomen.

Gizhiigin offers a unique opportunity for artists to establish the skills necessary to excel and allows them to continue to pursue their passion for the arts.



## Community Sustainable Agricultural Project

An initiative to improve food systems in our communities and to address some of the well-documented and interrelated negative conditions impacting our communities through a project that unifies food, health, youth, and community toward more positive outcomes based upon food system change. The Project engages youth in local food system change through positive youth involvement within their local food systems and their communities. It is an effort to build the local food system as a community unit tied to a tribal network.

The project offers community youth a structured opportunity to learn about food systems through hands-on learning about agriculture such as high tunnel technology, and wild orchard development. Learning and hands on growing, and food systems development is complemented with Elder leadership within their own communities.





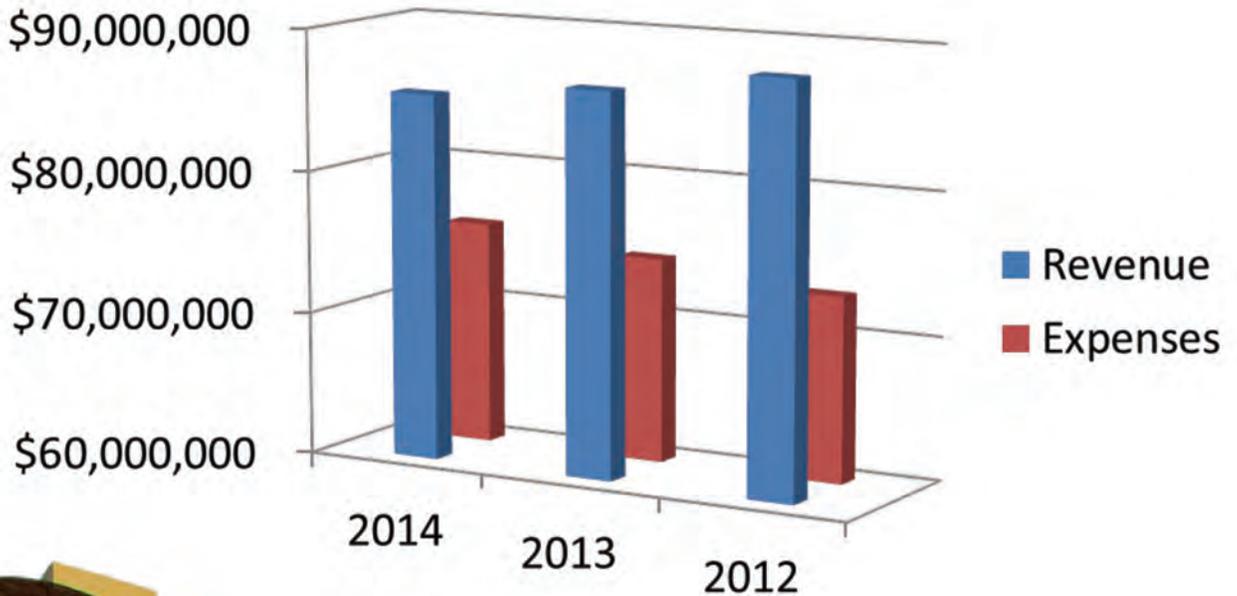
## Mino Wiisini Grand Opening

A Grand opening celebration was held at the Shooting Star Casino for Mino Wiisini (Eat Well Cafe) on August 15th, 2014. Gathering for the ribbon cutting was Jim Foster, Mindy Iverson, Tara Mason, Bill Goodman, Steven "Punky" Clark, Bill Marsh and Kim Benson.

An added feature of Mino Wiisini is the outdoor patio that patrons can sit back and relax in.



## SSC Financials



## Shooting Star Casino Installs New Signage

Shooting Star Casino, Hotel and Entertainment unveiled a brand-new, state-of-the-art pylon exterior sign, complete with a four-beam promotional searchlight system that can be seen from 10-15 miles away from the north, south, east and west elevations, showcasing the casino to all of Highway 59. The sign also consists of halo- and face-lit channel letters, two electronic message centers, exposed electric blue LED accent lighting, faux brick stonework to complement the casino's exterior architecture, glass bead epoxy texturing, and a precision-carved and painted tribal logo and plaque.

Construction began in early March 2014 on new the signage designed and created by Indigo Signworks which headquarters is based in Fargo, ND. The sign was designed to be assembled in eight separate pieces.

Production of exterior signage completed in November 2014 with the removal of the old signage structures and installation of the new signs at all exterior entrances, including the main casino entrance, hotel and event center entrance, rear casino entrance and associate entrance.

- Nearly 200 attend the 12th annual Victim Service Collaborative Conference at Shooting Star Casino Event Center
- StarMart officially opens
- Hosted 2014 MnUSA Winter Rendezvous
- New General and Assistant General Manager announced

- Hosted 3rd annual Scholarship Golf Tournament June 6 at Mahnommen Country Club and raised over \$28,500
- Hosted 30th Annual Minnesota Indian Education Association Conference
- Installed an improved customer kiosk system
- Upgraded the TV system to digital with HD in the hotel



## White Earth Enterprises, LLC

White Earth Builders, White Earth Sanitation and White Earth Renewable Energy Solution had revenues of \$3,286,681 while expenses totaled \$3,590,030.

White Earth Business Products, LLC has shown a significant increase in revenue growth financially, largely attributed to increased promotional sales, increase net profit of \$84,272.



White Earth Builders had their first General Contracting project for the Elbow Lake Community Center.

Final construction shows the Elbow Lake Community Center dining area to the left.

Completed Elbow Lake Community Center kitchen pictured to the right.





## 2014 Calls for Service information

- You Are “Gi aawi” program implemented in all Rez schools
- Within White Earth Reservation boundaries there were 15,878 calls for service. The White Earth Public Safety Division responded to 8,975 or 56.50%. \*
- Within Becker, Clearwater and Mahnommen counties there were 42,740 calls for service. The White Earth Public Safety Division responded to 9,431 or 25%. \*
- Motor Vehicle Department issued more than 700 new vehicle registrations, 4,500 vehicle registration renewals and approximately 2,000 hunting, fishing and gathering licenses.



*\*non tribal authorities responded to the remainder.*

# WHITE EARTH WILD RICE

FROM OUR CANOE TO YOU

HAND HARVESTED. NATURALLY ORGANIC.

Wild Rice is now sold in over 33 restaurants, grocery stores, and gift shops across the United States. This includes large chains such as Whole Foods and Mississippi Market.

The [realwildrice.com](http://realwildrice.com) website has seen consistent consumer growth. To aid in this growth we have added products like maple syrup, honey and gift baskets.

We have also increased advertising outside of our reservation communities through Google Adwords, Direct email campaigns and for the first time in a national magazine.

Pictured here is the December/January cover of the Country Living magazine issue our advertisement ran in.



Enterprises

 Real Wild Rice

2014 TOTAL REVENUE - \$157,825  
 2013 TOTAL REVENUE - \$173,736  
 2012 TOTAL REVENUE - \$126,666  
 2011 TOTAL REVENUE - \$78,022

**WE DID NOT PURCHASE ANY GREEN WILD RICE FROM TRIBAL MEMBERS IN 2014 FOR ORGANIC SALES.**

\$142,000 IN 2013      \$139,924 IN 2014      \$121,879 IN 2012      \$94,763 IN 2011

\$16,163 IN 2013      **INTERNET SALES**  
**\$24,260 IN 2014**      \$13,269 IN 2012      \$5,143 IN 2011



**New Products added in 2014**

White Earth Wild Rice 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. In a continued effort we will be adding additional products to reach that goal.

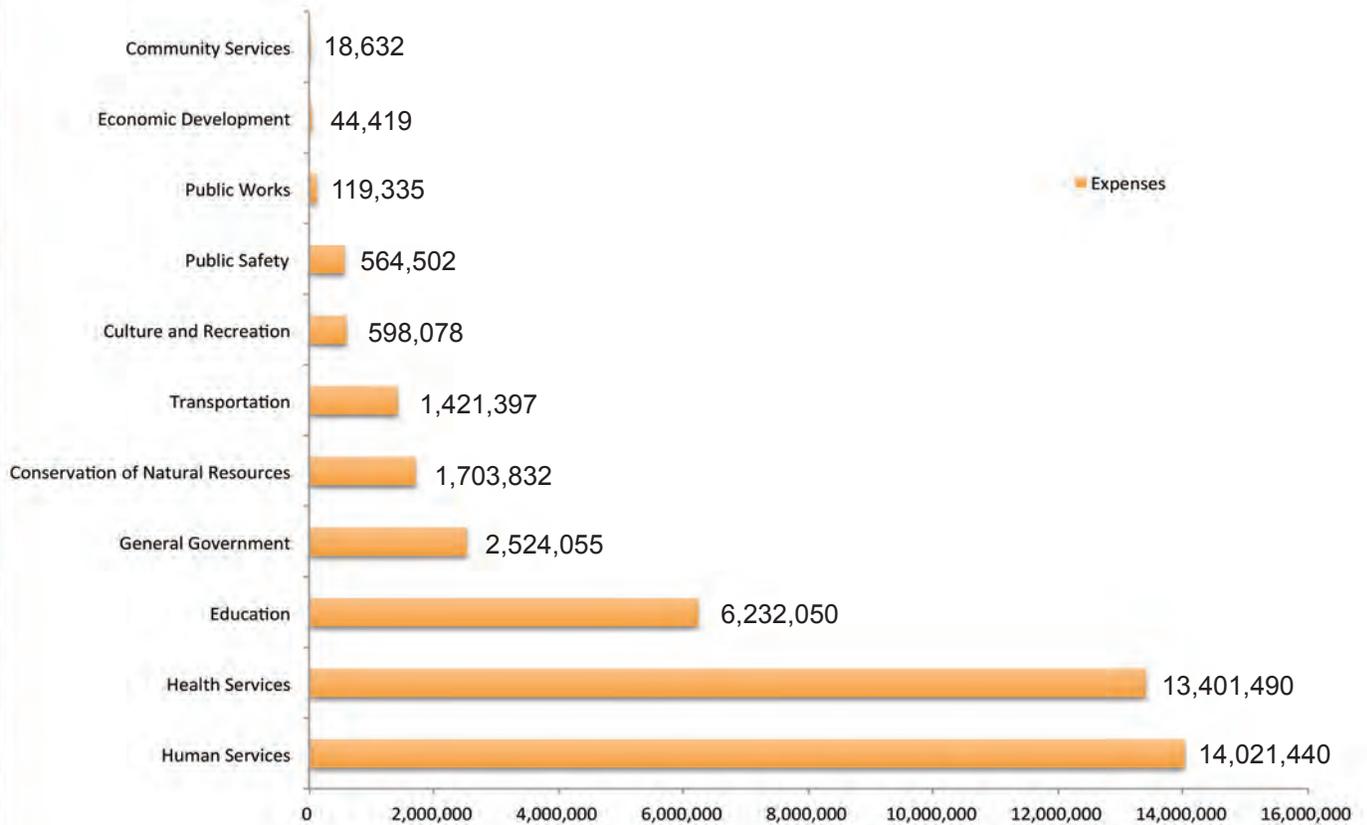
*White Earth Wild Rice was recertified - organic from the USDA in 2014.*



**realwildrice.com**



## Total Tribal Expenditures



White Earth Nation expenditures increased from \$58 million in 2013 to just over \$63 million in 2014. As our program and service offerings continue to expand, we will continue to increase our economic and social diversification with the region.

In 2013 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!

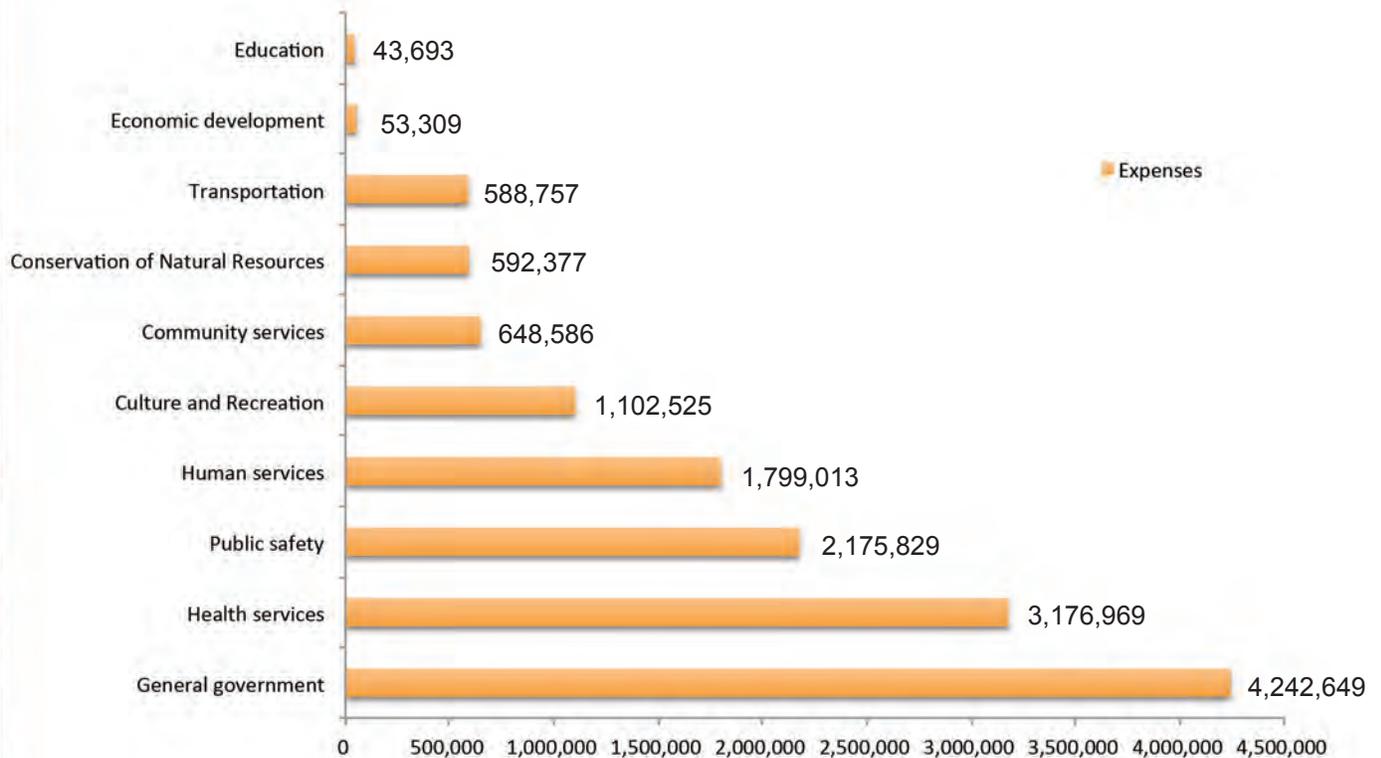
Our government



- Administration •
- Adult Basic Education •
- Ambulance • Backgrounds • Boys and Girls Club • Chemical Dependency • Child Care • Community Health Representatives • Congregate Housing • Conservation • Diabetes Project • Direct Employment • Donations • DOVE • Economic Development • Elbow Lake Community Center • Elderly Nutrition • Elections • Employment and Training Programs • Energy Assistance • Enrollments • 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 • Mental Health • Minneapolis Constituent Office • Motor Vehicle • Naytahwaush Community Center • Pine Point Community Center • Pow Wows • Public Relations • Public Works • Rediscovery Center • Rice Lake Community Center • Road Construction • Road Maintenance • 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 Veterans Services

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. 2014 general fund outlays totaled **\$14.4 million** and were allocated by the Tribal Council as outlined above.

## 2014 Grants Awarded -

<i>Funding Source/Project</i>	<i>Amount</i>
City of Mahnomen EDA proposal	\$20,000
Bush Foundation Constitutional Reform Implementation Grant	\$514,786
MN Dept Health Safe Harbor/Regional Navigator	\$71,101
USDA Community Facilities	\$26,044
USDA – Community Facilities – PD vehicles	\$28,600
USDA – RBEG - - White Earth Enterprises building expansion	\$200,000
USDA- Elbow Lake Community Ctr. Equipment	\$13,000
Bush Community Innovation Grant	\$145,360
USDA – RBEG - - White Earth Enterprises building expansion	\$200,000
USDA – RBOG – White Earth Sustainable Agricultural Feasibility Study Project	\$50,000
IHS/Bemidji Environmental Sustainability WE Food Desert Reduction Project	\$7,500
USDA – Transfer Station	\$863,000
Employment and Training Administration	\$142,170
Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation	\$1,185,235
First Nations Art Capacity Grant	\$30,000
MHFA	\$407,750
MN Accountable Health Model/e-Health	\$75,000
MN Juvenile Healing Wellness Court Expansion	\$300,000
MNDEED Women & High Wage, High Demand, Nontraditional Jobs Grant	\$72,450
Tribal Transportation Safety Grant	\$7,500
Bush Foundation Community Innovation Prize	\$10,000

Total grants awarded were **\$4,369,496**.

# Programs and Services Directory

<b>Health</b>	218-983-3286	Wildlife	218-983-3285 ext 5804
Circle Back Center	218-983-3285 ext 6404	Zoning/Land	218-983-3285 ext 5800
Women's Wellbriety Center	218-936-5653 ext 6202	<b>Economic Development</b>	218-983-4640
Substance Abuse	218-983-3286 ext 1297	Gizhiigin	218-936-3100
Elderly Nutrition	218-983-3286 ext 1266	<b>Public Relations/Newspaper</b>	218-983-3285 ext 5903
Mental Health	218-983-3286 ext 1284	<b>White Earth Public Safety</b>	218-983-4651
White Earth Ambulance	218-983-3286 ext 1263	<b>Public Works</b>	218-983-3202
Community Health	218-983-3286	Water & Sewer	218-983-3202
Diabetes Project	218-983-3286 ext 1356	Fleet	218-983-3292
Health Education	218-983-3286 ext 1356	Transit	218-983-3283
Oshki Manido	218-751-6553	Solid Waste	218-473-3222
<b>Human Services</b>	218-935-5554	<b>Finance</b>	218-983-4645
Homeless Program	218-983-5554 ext 3263	<b>Education</b>	218-983-4642
Food Distribution	218-935-2233	White Earth Child Care	218-983-3285 ext 1380
Vocational Rehab	218-935-5554	Early Intervention Program	218-983-3285 ext 5306
Employment and Training	218-935-5554	Scholarships	218-983-4642
Resource & Support	218-935-5554	Headstart	218-983-3285 ext 1353
DOVE	218-983-4656	MSUM/White Earth	
<b>Judicial Services</b>		University Program	218-983-3285 ext 5301
Court	218-983-4648	<b>Boys &amp; Girls Clubs</b>	
Legal	218-983-4649	White Earth	218-983-3174
Indian Child Welfare	218-983-4647	Rice Lake	218-694-3539
Child Support Enforcement	218-983-4641	Pine Point	218-573-3328
<b>Natural Resources</b>	218-573-3007	Naytahwaush	218-935-5554
Land Office	218-983-4650	Mahnomen	218-936-6010
Invasive Species	218-935-2488	Elbow Lake	218-734-2419
Conservation	218-935-2578	Callaway	218-375-2220
Emergency Management	218-935-2488	<b>Housing</b>	218-473-4663
Environmental Affairs	218-935-2488	<b>Enrollment &amp; Vital Statistics</b>	218-983-4643
Fisheries	218-573-3007	<b>White Earth Land Settlement</b>	218-751-6619
Forestry	218-935-5967	<b>Human Resources</b>	218-983-4646
Pesticides	218-935-2488	<b>Veterans Service Office</b>	218-983-3285 ext 5904
Underground Storage Tanks	218-935-2488	<b>Gaming</b>	218-935-2148
Water Quality	218-935-2488	<b>Energy Assistance Program</b>	218-473-2711
Wetlands/Prairie Restoration	218-935-2488 ext 2102	<b>Weatherization Program</b>	218-473-4663

## White Earth Nation

### Mailing Address

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White Earth, MN 56591

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