

PROMISES MADE TO OUR ELDERS

Our alternative to per capita payments is simple...

Invest in the future.

In 1996, the Tribe's Board of Directors voted to invest \$6 million in trust fund accounts and use the annual interest earnings to fund current and future member services.

That is our per capita plan—invest today's dollars for a better future . Today, we have invested about \$36 million on the Self-Sufficiency Program, which generates enough interest to annually fund the following programs:

Elderly Dividend Program: *\$20,070,902 invested.*

This program has funded \$6.8 million in Elder dividend checks since 1997.

Educational/Vocational Program: *\$7,358,802 invested.*

This program has distributed a total of \$1.2 million to college students.

Elderly Employment: *\$1,078,789 invested.*

This program has distributed \$99,690 in wages to Tribal Elders.

Elder Medical Program: *\$3,445,731 invested.*

This program has distributed \$96,595 for medical equipment for Tribal Elders.

Funeral Assistance Program: *\$4,464,651 invested.*

This program has distributed \$930,217 to help families cover the cost of burying a loved one.

The figures show that we can fund services from investment earnings.

Our investments represent a renewable resource that members can count on for generations. It is important to remember, the money we put into these trust fund accounts remains intact.

Planning for the future

Per capita payments rob tribes of their financial resources at a time when they should be taking action to secure the future welfare of their communities.

Our financial plan is simple...increase our investments, grow our economy and invest more revenues in our Self-Sufficiency Program. By doing that we create a tribal trust that can protect us from economic downturns, and fund an even wider area of member services.

In 1999, our businesses contributed just over \$45 million to our economy. More than \$31 million was earmarked by the Board of Directors to fund member services, with \$2 million invested in trust accounts to grow our Self-Sufficiency Program.

Income from Operations 1999	\$45,950,721
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Tribal Support (programs & services)	\$31,055,207
Addition to Self-Sufficiency Program	\$ 2,040,836

- In the future, we plan to invest even more of our revenues. The Board has already approved a \$10 million increase to the fund once our Greentown casino opens.

In the near future, our investments will grow large enough to fund even more services, but that will take time. Presently, member needs exceed our resources.

We are closing the gap, however, and today the Tribe offers members more than 80 member services, which include growing health care programs, new housing projects and increasing education programs.

Tomorrow we plan to do more, but in order to do that we need to continue on our present path.

Our recent economic growth provides the resources to shape our future. By planning and investing our revenues we create a long-term source of funds that members can count on for generations.