



**Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority**

**Housing Board of Commissioners Seeking Members**

One position open to Tribal applicants only and two positions open to Tribal and Non-Tribal applicants

The Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority Board has three Board of Commissioners seats coming open in March 2005.

Anyone who is interested in serving in one of these positions and who has housing related experience to qualify for the position, is encouraged to attend the February 15, 2005, Board meeting. The meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Housing Authority office at 28450 Tyee Road (just off Grand Ronde Road) in Grand Ronde. Please call to confirm the date and time.

This is an opportunity to: 1) observe how the board functions, 2) become acquainted with the types of issues that are regularly discussed and 3) determine if you are seriously interested in such a position now or in the future.

The open positions will each have a three year term that expires in March 2008. Interested persons should have a demonstrated interest in housing and experience in the housing field in some capacity, such as: affordable housing development, property management, residential building construction, housing finance, housing planning and other housing related areas.

The Board oversees all housing development, housing management, housing programs and housing operations for the Tribe, and is responsible for the policy decisions for the Housing Authority. The Board currently meets at 5:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Housing Authority office in Grand Ronde.

Interested persons should send a letter outlining their interest and qualifications to: Carina Kistler-Ginter, Executive Director, Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority, 28450 Tyee Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347.

All letters need to be received by 5 p.m. on Monday, February 28, 2005 to be considered. The Housing Commissioner will be selected and appointed by the Tribal Council. For more information regarding qualifications, or to confirm the Board meeting date, contact the Housing Authority at 503-879-2401 or toll-free at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2401.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENT ON GRTHA'S PERFORMANCE UNDER ITS INDIAN HOUSING PLAN**

The Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority (GRTHA) has received grants under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996. HUD will provide grants to Indian Tribes and Indian Housing Authorities for the development and operation of low-income housing in Indian areas. To be eligible for the grants, the Housing Authority must submit an Indian Housing Plan that meets the minimum requirements of the Act, and submit performance reports to HUD.

Tribal members are hereby notified that the Housing Authority has prepared its Annual Performance Report, and comments on it are welcome. All comments will be incorporated into the final report.

Copies of the report can be obtained by calling GRTHA at 503-879-2401, or 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2401. Copies can also be picked up at the GRTHA office. **Comments must be submitted in writing to GRTHA no later than 5 p.m., on March 15, 2005.**

**NWIHA Scholarship For Tribal Youth**

The Northwest Indian Housing Association (NWIHA) annually provides scholarships to Tribal youth, defined as Tribal members ages 24 years old, or younger. The intent is to provide financial awards to youth for education and training programs at schools, colleges, job training organizations, or other worthwhile organizations. Traditionally individual awards have not exceeded \$1,000.

Applications are available by contacting the Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority at 503-879-2401 or 1-800-422-0232 ext. 2401.

**COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE GRAND RONDE TRIBAL HOUSING AUTHORITY NO LATER THAN 5 P.M. ON TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2005.**



Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority

**Grand Ronde Community Resource Center Needs Your Help!**

In the GRCRC's efforts to diversify our funding base and ensure sustainability and longevity of program services, we solicited grants for an mini-endowment fund start up.

First Nations Development Institute, in Fredericksburg, VA awarded a \$20,000 matching funds for opening a mini endowment of \$40,000 (we had to raise the other \$20,000).

The Native American Hunger Program is sponsored by Altria Group, Inc., in partnership with First Nations Development Institute.

To date we have raised \$11,048.64 from endowment donations from individuals and groups and gifts in memory of Michaelle Kimsey, Lyle Buswell and Merle Holmes.

Total to date 31,048.64 raised toward the 40,000 opening goal. We still need to raise \$8,951.36 to reach our goal.

All donations are tax deductible — receipts will be provided with EIN # for tax deduction records some basic INFO about GRCRC Endowment Fund:

The future of the Grand Ronde Community Resource Center will be assured with your gift to the Endowment Fund. Endowment gifts are like sunlight and water to the stable and long-lasting growth of the GRCRC. Gifts to the endowment fund live forever, helping to provide vital services: emergency foods, senior meals, supplemental foods, garden and food preservation education programs in Grand Ronde.

The Endowment Fund will provide annual 'payout' of interest earnings to support the mission of the Grand Ronde Community Resource Center. The corpus of the endowment is kept in tact, only the interest or a portion of it is available for use.

The Endowment fund will be managed by the Oregon Community Foundation who will invest for long term stable growth of the endowment fund. The OCF has a long and distinguished history in Oregon of careful management, vision, commitment to the future of our communities.

Endowment gifts can be made in memory of a loved one (like in the case of the Michaelle, Lyle and Merle donations) Endowment gifts can be cash, property, stocks, bonds, charitable trusts, etc.

Endowment gifts can be made in any amount..... just think if every Tribal member donated \$1 we would be almost there!

Stop by the Grand Ronde Community Resource Center or email Alisa Larsen at alarson@peak.org.

**Public Information Meeting**

The Title VII grant (Native American Studies) will have a public information meeting **Thursday, February 17, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.** The meeting will be held at the old Willamina High School. Parents of Native students attending Willamina or Sheridan school districts, kindergarten through 12th grade are invited to attend. Willamina District Superintendent will discuss state testing and the most current scores. Our Parent Board President will discuss our current objectives. There will be an open question and answer period. A light dinner will be served. If you need more information, please call Wendi Spencer at 503-876-1531.

**Grand Ronde Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program**

The Grand Ronde Tribe has obtained a LIHF to assist income eligible Tribal members with payments, energy emergencies and weatheriz. This Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is an annual grant from the Division of Energy Assistance within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Four Tribes in Oregon operate this program and must serve all income eligible Indians on their Reservation or trust lands. Outside of these lands, but within the Tribes service area, Tribes can only serve households with adult members of their own Tribe. For LIHEAP the Grand Ronde Tribes service area is the Tribes' typical six-county service area (Polk, Yamhill, Marion, Multnomah, Washington and Tillamook counties) plus Clackamas County. Tribal members in these counties need to contact Grand Ronde to receive assistance instead of from the community action agency in their area. The Tribal program will allow more Tribal members to be assisted than would otherwise have been possible.



There has been a great need for energy assistance especially for weatherization. For income eligible households the program can provide energy assistance (utility bills, fire wood, etc.), crisis energy assistance and weatherization (e.g. furnace repair).

If you are interested in obtaining services please contact Social Services at 1-800-242-8196 for energy assistance and the Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority at 503-879-2405 for weatherization.