

# ONESPIRIT



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**To:** Friends, Sponsors, and Supporters,

**FROM:** Jeri Baker and all the program staff

**Date:** March 24, 2006

**W**e want to give you the up-to-date information about our programs and also share our plans for growing these programs. The successes we report here happened because of you.

## SPONSORS

**A**t present we have 490 sponsors who are sponsoring 666 children in 439 families. We also have 617 children on our waiting list. Our sponsors and families are now supported by a program manager. If you have not had contact with the program manager for the area where your sponsored family lives, please do e-mail them and introduce yourself.

Our goal for this year is to sponsor every child and elder who is on our waiting list. Please do help by telling all your friends, acquaintances, groups, and neighbors about this program.



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Introduction	1
Sponsors	1
Propane	1
Project Share	2
The Bed Project	2
The Lakota Theater Project	3
Paypal, EBay, IGive, Our Web Site	3
What we need to do now	4

## PROPANE

**S**ince January 1<sup>st</sup>. OneSpirit and our sponsors and donors have purchased more than \$5000.00 in propane. Our money was matched by tribal funds and will also be matched by government funds. One of the people who received fuel, a grandmother who had the flu and had been without heat for a couple of weeks, was moved to tears when her propane was delivered.



*"We do not want riches, but we want to train our children right. Riches would do us no good. We could not take them with us to the other world. We do not want riches, we want peace and love."*

--Red Cloud. OGLALA LAKOTA

*"The hearts of little children are pure, and therefore, the Great Spirit may show to them many things which older people miss."*

--Black Elk (Hehaka Sapa) OGLALA LAKOTA

## PROJECT SHARE

In February we spent \$1350.00 with project SHARE and provided food for 175 people. This month (March), in our ongoing effort to provide families with nutritious meals, we are spending about \$2000.00 with project SHARE. In addition we are beginning to see families buying food for themselves through Project SHARE.

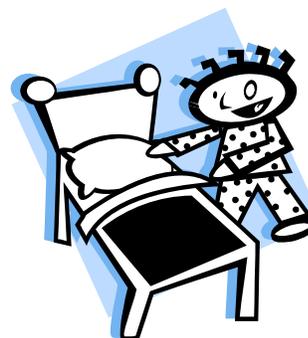


The cost of delivering the food each month is about \$500.00 plus we also buy food for families who do not have sponsors. OneSpirit has underwritten this expense in order to get Project SHARE established on the reservation.

Our purchases are now at a level where Project SHARE can begin to deliver food directly to a central location on the reservation (a huge savings for us) but we will still be paying our people to deliver to homes for those who do not have transportation. The people delivering the food are being paid for their gas and also, in the true spirit of a co-op, get food to compensate for their time.

## THE BED PROJECT

We now have \$3000.00 towards our next truck load of beds. We also have a new manager for the bed project - Lynn McLaughlin. She will be keeping us up to date on plans and progress. Rex is still with us and helping Lynn plus managing other projects.



*"We're sitting on our blessed Mother Earth from which we get our strength and determination, love and humility-all the beautiful attributes that we've been given. So turn to one another; love one another; respect one another; respect Mother Earth; respect the waters-because that's life itself!"*

--Phil Lane, Sr. YANKTON SIOUX

## THE LAKOTA THEATRE

We are writing grants and contacting organizations like Project Hoop for support for this project. We are also looking for corporate sponsors. The timeline for touring the play both in the US and in Europe is now scheduled for 2007 with 2006 being the development year. The project has received grants in Europe and we now need to provide funding here in the US. If you have thoughts, ideas or contacts that would help, please do let us know by e-mailing Jeri at [Bakers2@ptd.net](mailto:Bakers2@ptd.net) or [OneSpirit@one1.org](mailto:OneSpirit@one1.org) \$25,000.00 will allow the project to begin this year and start to create jobs and educational opportunities on the reservation.



## PAYPAL, EBAY, IGIVE, and OUR WEB SITE

Our paypal account is [OneSpirit@one1.org](mailto:OneSpirit@one1.org)

We are registered with Ebay in their charitable giving program, MissionFish, as One/OneSpirit. Through this program, people selling items on Ebay can designate a percentage of their sale to a charity. We can also help the people of Pine Ridge who do bead work or other arts to sell their products through Ebay.

One Spirit is registered with Igive at [Igive.com](http://Igive.com). Please take a look at that program as well. If you do shopping online, many stores you might order from are listed with Igive and a percentage of

every purchase you make online can be donated to OneSpirit. The organization is [www.igive.com](http://www.igive.com). Such stores as Lands End and J.C. Penny's as well as hundreds more are listed here.

All written material has been submitted to our web site developer and we are awaiting the first draft of that site. If you have photos or other graphics that you believe would be good for the web site, please do let me (Jeri) know and if possible, forward me copies. It must be photos or graphics which we have permission or can get permission to use.



## WHAT WE NEED TO DO NOW

**W**e are proud of what we have been able to accomplish in the short time that we have been OneSpirit. It is vital for the well-being of our children and families that we be able to continue to assist with the basic needs while at the same time supporting programs that bring economic development to the reservation. It will be through the economic development strategies that one day organizations such as OneSpirit will no longer be needed on Pine Ridge.

While the OneSpirit staff has been personally paying for program expenses, this arrangement cannot continue nor can sponsors be expected to meet all the needs of a family. We want to make the One Spirit Programs into a true team effort. We are writing grants and contacting both individual and corporate donors to obtain funding. We are also asking each sponsor to make a yearly donation of \$60.00 (\$5.00 per month) to help with program costs. It is our anticipation that within a year, we will have enough funds to supplement propane needs for families, handle the expense of Project SHARE, and to see the first Lakota Theatre Performance.

Donations can be sent through:

Paypal to: [OneSpirit@one1.org](mailto:OneSpirit@one1.org)

By check to:

**One Spirit**

**P.O. Box 2595**

**Chesterfield, VA 23832**

*"He [The Great Spirit] only sketches out the path of life roughly for all the creatures on earth, shows them where to go, where to arrive at, but leaves them to find their own way to get there. He wants them to act independently according to their nature, to the urges of each of them.*

--Lame Deer, LAKOTA

*"Sometimes dreams are wiser than waking."*

--Black Elk (Hehaka Sapa), OGLALA