

# Budgeting and funding work



**DENISE CHASE, DIRECTOR,  
UNIT IV**

The board of directors recently held a special meeting and passed a continuing funding authority resolution for fiscal year 2014 schedule B budgets.

The board of directors and staff are still in the process of reviewing budgets for 2014 and wanted to ensure that services are not left unfunded for a period between expiration of the fiscal year 2013 budgets and approval of the fiscal year 2014 budgets.

After a lengthy workshop and board discussion the recommendation came forward from Chairman Aaron Payment, our executive director and chief financial officer, to approve the continuing resolution until Oct. 31. This gives the chairperson and executive team a one-month time frame to come back to the board with a plan and budget projections on how sequestration will

impact government programs and services.

I absolutely supported this continuing resolution. Attached to the resolution was a list of 75 cost centers and programs which included health facilities (Manistique, St. Ignace, Munising and Sault Ste. Marie), Contract Health, ACFS (LIHEAP), Child Care, elders meal programs (Hessel, St. Ignace, Manistique); there were too many to list here. If this didn't pass, it would have had a negative impact on the 75 programs and services listed within the 2014 schedule B budgets.

## LIHEAP ASSISTANCE

The Anishnabek Community and Family Service (ACFS) Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will open up this year on Nov. 1.

To find out more information about the program guidelines or to receive an application call or stop into your local tribal office and talk to a direct services worker.

ACFS-Sault Ste. Marie: 632-5250 or (800) 726-0093

ACFS-Manistique: Viola Neadow, 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137, 5698W Highway US 2 Manistique, Willow Creek Professional Bldg-Escanaba (across from St. Francis Hospital), Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## 2 PERCENT FALL DISTRIBUTION CYCLE

As of this unit report being submitted, we have still not

reviewed any 2 percent applications for the fall distribution cycle and we have not received the final dollar amount available this cycle. Two percent applications were accepted throughout the Unit IV area. But, unfortunately, there is not enough funding available to approve all projects.

Under the current agreement with the state of Michigan for gaming revenue sharing, 2 percent of the tribes gaming revenue is set aside and made available to local units of government as determined by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Projects are awarded funding based on a number of factors; including the availability of funds at the end of each cycle, the project merit and the potential benefit to tribal as well as Governmental Communities. There may be other factors considered as well as project sustainability. I will update you further in my next unit report the total amount that will be available to distribute.

At the Munising board meeting, the tribal board was notified by staff that effective Oct. 1, the cigarette quota will increase from 10 cartons to 15 cartons per month and gas quotas will be increased from 75 gallons to 125 gallons a month. This will continue through the end of the year or until the quantity is met.

Please feel free to contact me any time.

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Denise Chase, Vice chair