



-WOHEHIV-  
The Morning Star

# NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE

## ADMINISTRATION

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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Tribal Program Directors  
FROM: Leroy Spang, President *L.A.S.*  
RE: Elderly Program Meals  
DATE: January 21, 2010

I am writing to request your support for the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Elderly Meal Program. This program provides services to the most needy and vulnerable people in our Tribe.

Although the Elderly Program provides many services, the most important is a noon meal provided to approximately 150 elders from Monday through Friday. While about 35 meals are delivered to home-bound seniors, the majority of our elders eat at the Shoulderblade Complex in Lame Deer, an important socialization opportunity for them. For many, this is the only nutritious meal they enjoy each day.

Unfortunately, the Elderly Program faces a serious shortfall in their food budget. Due to serious budget shortfalls, the Tribal Government cannot subsidize the program.

In these troubled economic times, we must be creative to meet our needs. Therefore, my office is undertaking a fundraising drive to supplement the food costs for the Elderly Meal Program. We are seeking donations to cover sixty (60) days of elder group meals. At an average cost of \$375.00 per group meal (\$2.50 per individual meal), our goal is to generate \$22,500 for the program.

A typical elder meal includes: meat, starch (potato, rice, macaroni etc); vegetable or salad; fruit, bread and dessert. The elders particularly enjoy fresh baked bread, easy-to-chew meats, diabetic-friendly fare and meals cooked from "scratch". The menus are prepared by a certified nutritionist.

To start this effort, I have personally committed to sponsor four (4) meals in FY 2010. The first of my meals was provided on December 18, 2009, prepared and served by two of my staff members and myself.

LITTLE WOLF AND MORNING STAR - Out of defeat and exile they led us back to Montana and won our Cheyenne homeland that we will keep forever.

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I am asking each tribal program to provide at least one of these meals in FY 2010. I am very pleased that the BIA Law Enforcement was one of the first to step up to the plate, volunteering to provide an elderly meal in the near future. Law Enforcement Officers, including Chief Elgin Young, will help prepare and serve the meal. I'm sure the Northern Cheyenne elders will enjoy the opportunity to interact with the officers on a social basis. My administrative staff has also pledged to sponsor a meal for the elders in FY 2010.

I strongly encourage each program to participate in this effort. In addition, it would be wonderful if your staff could assist in preparing and/or serving the meal and dining with our elders. This would be a great opportunity for our elders to personally meet you as a meal sponsor and a great public relations opportunity for your program.

Each of our meal sponsors will be listed on the Cheyenne Nation website. If you have questions or require more information, please contact me directly or my Executive Assistant, Clara Caufield at (406) 477-6284, extension 180. Clara will be contacting you in the near future to discuss the participation of your program in this effort to help our tribal elders.

In closing, thank you for your kind consideration.