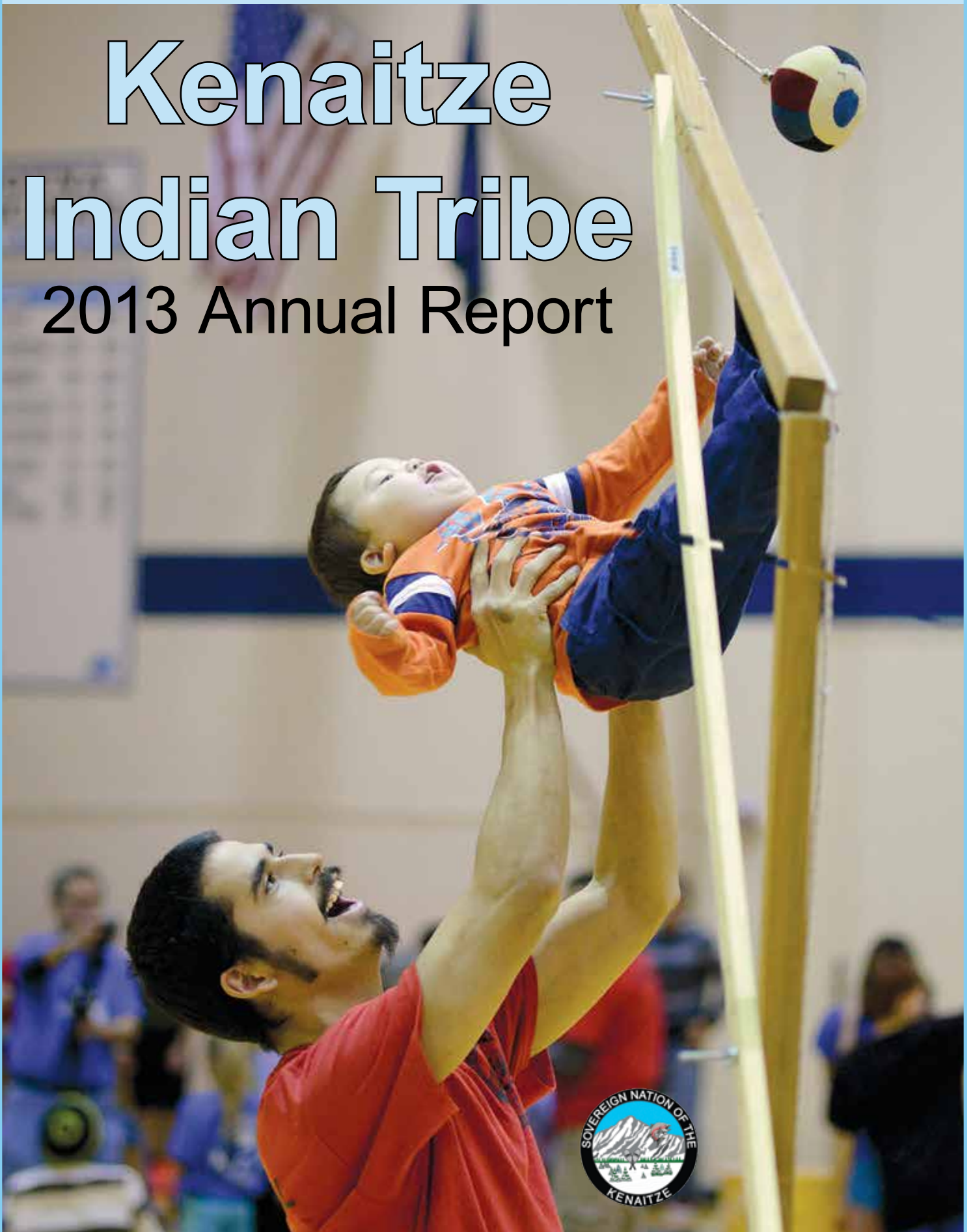


Kenaitze Indian Tribe

2013 Annual Report



About the Kenaitze Indian Tribe

Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina people have inhabited the Kenai Peninsula since time immemorial.

The Kenaitze Indian Tribe is federally recognized under the Indian Reorganization Act as a sovereign independent nation with more than 1,400 members.

During its annual meetings, the tribe elects the members of its Executive Council to serve two-year terms and govern the tribe in accordance with the tribe's Constitution, bylaws, ordinances and resolutions. The Council appoints a Chief Tribal Judge who oversees the Tribal Court and upholds tribal law.

The Council also appoints an Executive Director, who implements established Council policies and procedures and is responsible for the day-to-day operations that enhance and support the continued growth and success of the tribe.

Programs and services ensure that tribal members have access to health care, social services, justice, education, and employment services and opportunities.

Kenaitze Indian Tribe strives to both grow and improve the level of support it offers members so that each may achieve

the tribe's Mission: To assure Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina thrive forever.

The tribal organization is comprised of three divisions and four functions, which are each overseen by a director.

The directors manage Health Systems, Community Programs, Housing Services and administrative functions such as Finance, Information Technology, Human Resources and Tribal Government.



ABOVE, Northern lights fill the sky above the Russian Orthodox Saint Nicholas Memorial Chapel in Old Town Kenai. The Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina called the Kenai Peninsula "Yaghanen," – the good land. AT TOP RIGHT, David Segura hangs salmon to smoke just yards from Cook Inlet's shore, just as his ancestors have for generations. AT BOTTOM RIGHT, The Kenaitze Indian Tribe's Jabila'ina Dance Group performs at the annual Opening of the Net ceremony.

The tribe places special emphasis on the hiring and training of Kenaitze Indian Tribe members, and on increasing the awareness of Dena'ina language and culture both in the workplace and within our community.

The Kenaitze are Dena'ina people, a branch of the people who are Athabaskan Native Americans. Linguists have shown that Athabascans migrated throughout North America from Alaska's Interior to Mexico.

The Kenaitze dialect of the Dena'ina language is one of the most complex and diverse of all Athabascans. It contains both coastal and marine terminology, in addition to more than 400 Russian loan words.

Many centuries ago, Athabaskan people, nomadic hunters of the boreal forest, traveled from west of the Alaska Range to the shore of Cook Inlet. Recognizing the abundance of the Kenai Peninsula land they called Yaghanen, "the good land," they settled along the banks of Cook Inlet and its rivers. Ts'itsatna, the Kenaitze ancestors, traveled throughout Yaghanen, fishing the shores of the rivers and Cook Inlet.

All species of salmon were harvested with dipnets, weirs, dams or traps. Men, women, children and Elders all worked together to harvest and preserve this most important food.

After the fish harvest, the ancestors traveled inland to hunt bear, caribou, mountain goat, sheep and moose.

Women and children gathered berries and snared small mammals.

Winter was a time for trapping and for traveling from one village to another to share stories and to trade.

Today, Yaghanen is still "the good land" and the Kenaitze continue to prosper. By honoring family, respecting the land, respecting spiritual beliefs and through education, the Kenaitze will thrive forever.

Our Mission

To assure Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina thrive forever

Our Vision

By 2025, the Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina have enhanced and strengthened the prosperity, health and culture of their people and tribe by:

- Working toward united effort with Native organizations and other governments that impact our people
- Developing and implementing a tribal education system
- Living our traditional values and practices
- Empowering our sovereignty
- Continuing to demonstrate resiliency
- Striving for excellence in all of our programs
- Elevating the wellness of our people
- Using our talents and resources to ensure we are able to take care of ourselves and share with others

Our Values

- Family – honoring and sustaining health and happiness of family as a "first responsibility."
- Stewardship – respectful use of land, resources and all creations.
- Spiritual Beliefs – acknowledging the existence of a higher power and respecting spiritual beliefs.
- Education – passing down cultural knowledge and traditions and supporting formal education.



From the Chairperson

Greetings!

This has been an extremely busy year!

I want to take a moment to acknowledge and thank the Council for their hard work this past year - thank you for being willing to be present where needed at state and national meetings on behalf of our programs and services. You have done a great job!

I would also like to thank our many Committee members who take time out of their lives to come together and consider many issues – your strong and well thought

out recommendations are greatly appreciated!

It takes a whole tribe and community to pull together to accomplish what we set out to do – the continued support of our tribal members as we move forward toward our Mission: *To assure that Kahtnut'ana Dena'ina thrive forever.*

Our Mission, supported by our Vision and our Values, will continue to be of utmost importance!

– Rose Tepp
Council Chairperson



Council Chairperson Rosalie Tepp, right, talks to the tribe's attorney Melissa Flannery in May during the Alaska Tribal Health Compact FY 2014 Indian Health Service/Tribal Negotiations in Anchorage. Tepp was a co-lead negotiator.

Meet the Executive Council

Seven council members, elected at the annual general membership meeting each October, govern the tribe in accordance with the tribe's constitution, bylaws, ordinances and resolutions.



Rosalie Tepp
Chairperson



Mary Ann Mills
Vice-Chairperson



James Segura
Secretary



Mary Lou Bottorff
Treasurer



Liisia Blizzard
Council Member



Jennifer Yeoman
Council Member



Wayne Wilson
Council Member

Committee Charters and Members

ART AND INTERIOR COMMITTEE

Purpose: To procure art and displays for the new Dena'ina Wellness Center.

Members:

Jennifer Yeoman, Chair
Mary Lou Bottorff
Jon Ross
Liisia Blizzard
Dave Segura

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Purpose: To provide the Financial Department support in working with the audit firm.

Members:

James O. Segura, Chair
Rosalie Tepp
Jon Ross
Wayne Wilson

CONSTITUTION REVIEW COMMITTEE

Purpose: To review and consider revisions to the Kenaitze Indian Tribe's Constitution and to make recommendations to the tribal membership for adoption.

Members:

James O. Segura, Chair
Mary Ann Mills
Jon Ross
Wayne Wilson
Liisia Blizzard
Allan Baldwin

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Purpose: To work in partnership with key management staff, governing bodies, parents, and volunteers to facilitate compliance with the Head Start Performance Standards, to assist in accomplishing the program mission and to serve as an advocate between the program and the community at large.

Policy Council:

Steffani Coxwell, Chair
Aurora Hawkins, Vice-Chair
Bianca Chase, Secretary
Aimee Veideffer
Sharee Jones
Anya Kratsas
Ashley Poulin

Amber Douglas
Michelle Teates
Mary Lou Bottorff

ELDERS COMMISSION

Purpose: To provide oversight for the Kenaitze Indian Tribe's Tyotkas Elders Program.

Members:

Phyllis Bookey, Chair
James Showalter, Vice-Chair
Rita Smagge, Secretary-Treasurer
Marie Anderson
Betty Porter
Mary Ann Mills
Fiocla Wilson, Lifetime Member
Robert Fulton, Lifetime Member

ELECTION BOARD

Established by Election Ordinance No. 98-02.

Members:

Phyllis Bookey, Chair
Kathy Rodgers
Bernice Crandall

ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE

Purpose: To provide oversight for the Kenaitze Indian Tribe's enrollment procedures as defined in the Kenaitze Indian Tribe's Constitution and in Kenaitze Indian Tribe Enrollment Ordinance No. 98-01.

Members:

Kathy Rodgers
Mary Lou Bottorff
Renè Edelman-Azzara
Liisia Blizzard
Bernice Crandall
Bonnie Juliussen

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Purpose: To review and make recommendations regarding Primary Care, Behavioral Health and Dental programs at the Kenaitze Indian Tribe. The Health Committee meets the statute requirements for the State of Alaska Community Mental Health Center grant.

Members:

James O. Segura, Chair

Clare Swan
Allan Baldwin
Patsy Marston
Jeannie D. Smith
Manuel Linderman
Jennifer Yeoman

HUNTING, FISHING AND GATHERING COMMISSION

Purpose: To provide oversight for the Kenaitze Indian Tribe's traditional hunting, fishing and gathering activities.

Members:

James O. Segura, Chair
Clare Swan
Mary Ann Mills
Liisia Blizzard
Elsie Kanayurak
Micah Johnson

LAND COMMITTEE

Purpose: To research all lands presently owned by Kenaitze Indian Tribe and recommend policies that will assist the tribe in meeting its vision, objectives and strategic plan.

Members:

James O. Segura, Chair
Mary Ann Mills
Liisia Blizzard
Wayne Wilson
Jennifer S. Yeoman

TRADITIONAL HEALING COMMITTEE

Purpose: To provide oversight and planning for traditional healing in the Dena'ina Wellness Center.

Members:

Jon Ross, Chair
Dr. Tim Scheffel
Donita Slawson
Mary Lou Bottorff
Faith Allard
Sarah Smith
Nancy Nelson
Jackie Jager
Audre Gifford

From the Executive Director

Yaghali du!

I am pleased to provide you with another promising and informative annual report for the programs and services provided by the Kenaitze Indian Tribe.

In reflecting on the events and accomplishments of this past year, I am incredibly thankful for the resiliency of our staff and tribal leadership.

We are nearly complete with the construction of the Dena'ina Wellness Center – for those of you who are not within driving distance to see the facility, you may see updates on our website at www.kenaitze.org.

Our healthcare leadership staff have been working hard to prepare for occupying the building and for the new integrated system of care that serves the whole human being, in one location – body, mind and spirit. The sometimes overwhelming task of selecting furniture, fixtures and equipment has been completed by staff and the Art and Interiors Committee. Our Health Committee and Council are working in partnership with our healthcare leadership staff to set policy as we prepare for national accreditation of our programs, and for our move into the new facility next spring.

Last year, we set forth strategic goals to move forward with the formation of the Kahtnuht'ana Development Corporation. A board of



Jaylene Peterson-Nyren speaks in May at the Alaska Tribal Health Compact FY 2014 Indian Health Service/Tribal Negotiations in Anchorage.

directors has been appointed and has met several times, most recently in a strategic session to set forth an initial operating budget and to begin recruitment for a new President/CEO to lead the company. The goal remains that KDC will, in the future, offset our reliance on outside sources of funding for programs and services. KDC is an investment in our future. Many thanks to the Board of Directors of KDC for your hard work and vision!

In this year, we have completed a comprehensive needs assessment

that will assist us greatly in planning intentionally around our 2025 Vision, “by 2025, the Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina have enhanced and strengthened the prosperity, health and culture of their people and tribe.”

We will be holding a series of planning sessions to set long-term, measurable goals for the next several years leading up to 2025.

A question comes to my mind whenever discussing this vision - how old will we (Elders and adults) be in 2025? What needs do we recognize now that we will need to prepare for? How old will our children and grandchildren be in 2025? How are we preparing them for our shared future? One significant way we will meet this goal is to continue to invest in our children and youth through a tribal education system, a formal mentoring program and through succession planning – we will act intentionally and with great care around growing leadership within our tribal membership and staff. All of these goals have been set forth by the Council as we move forward into 2014.

Clare Swan said once that, “time is running by us on little children's feet.” She was right! In response, the tribe set out to embrace our children and families through our Kuya Qyut'anen Head Start program, our Jabila'ina dance group, and our Yaghanen Youth Programs.

As we look forward, we rely on the strength and leadership that has come before us. We have much to be thankful for and a bright future lies ahead of us. We are committed to our legacy, to assure that Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina thrive forever.

Chiqinik!

Jaylene Peterson-Nyren
Executive Director



From top left, Kenaitze Indian Tribe Executive Director Jaylene Peterson-Nyren, Bruce Gabriel, Secretary Gabe Juliussen, Treasurer Katrina (Dolchok) Jacuk, KDC Chairperson Wayne Wilson and Vice Chairperson Jon Ross pose for a group photo after Kahtnuht'ana Development Corp.'s first board meeting.

Tribal Government Affairs

The Council and Constitution Committee continued efforts to draft changes to our Constitution through committee meetings, mailing of proposed changes, and information meetings open to all tribal members.

These efforts included spring meetings in Lynnwood, Wash., and Anchorage. It is the Executive Council's intent to continue informational meetings in Washington state and Anchorage as funding allows.

Changing our Constitution will require an election conducted by the Secretary of the Interior. All tribal members 18 and older will vote.

In response to the motion presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting requesting absentee balloting, the Tribal Election Ordinance was revised and a process initiated allowing for voting by absentee ballot.



Diane Drake and Council Vice-Chair Mary Ann Mills share a laugh during the tribe's first meeting in Washington.

At this time only tribal members 18 years of age and older who reside in Alaska are eligible to vote in Council elections.

The proposed Constitution and the new Election Ordinance are available on our website. Printed copies are also

available by request.

Applications for tribal membership increased in 2012. The Enrollment Committee reviewed more than 70 applications. Applications that have been received throughout the year are not approved until they are presented to the tribal membership at the Annual Meeting.

Tribal Government Affairs' main focus has been to provide greater transparency in tribal operations and to engage our tribal membership to the fullest extent possible.

This focus will not change in the coming year. We will continue to announce upcoming meetings on the tribe's website. We will also use special mailings and the tribe's newsletters to keep members informed. The Council seeks and values an informed and active tribal membership.

Limited Waivers of Sovereign Immunity

Resolution 2012-45 – A Resolution Authorizing a Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity to Purchase Real Property Located at 507 Upland Street, Kenai, Alaska 11/02/2012

Resolution 2012-46 – Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity to receive grant funds under the Department of Health and Social Services' Community Initiative Matching Grant Program in State Fiscal Year 2013 11/02/2012

Resolution 2013-06 – Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity to receive grant funds under the State of Alaska, Office of Children's Services Time Limited Family Reunification Services Grant Program in State Fiscal Year 2014 03/15/2013

Resolution 2013-07 – Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity to receive grant funds under the State of Alaska, Department of Health and

Social Service Community Initiative Matching Grant Program in State Fiscal Year 2014 3/15/2013

Resolution 2013-08 – Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity to receive grant funds under the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Service's Comprehensive Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery Services Program in State Fiscal Years 2014-2016 3/15/2013

Resolution 2013-11 – A Tribal Resolution Authorizing the Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity for Title and Settlement Services Agreement with First American Title Insurance 5/12/2013

Resolution 2013-13 – Issue a Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity to receive grant funds from Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority for De-na'ina Wellness Center Construction for State Fiscal Year 2014 5/21/2013

Resolution 2013-15 – Limited

Waiver of Sovereign Immunity to receive grant funds under the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services' Community Initiative Matching Grant Program in State Fiscal Year 2014 05/12/2013

Resolution 2013-16 – Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity to receive grant funds under the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services' Comprehensive Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery Services Program in State Fiscal Year 2014-2016 5/21/2013 (supersedes and replaces Res 2013-08)

Resolution 2013-17 – Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity to receive grant funds under the State of Alaska, Office of Children's Services Time Limited Family Reunification Services Grant Program in State Fiscal Year 2014 5/17/2013 (supersedes and replaces Res 2013-06)

Dena'ina Wellness Center

The Kenaitze Indian Tribe broke ground for its new Dena'ina Wellness Center in August 2012. Most of the facility's construction occurred during the 2013 fiscal year, with the goal of opening the building in the spring of 2014.

The Dena'ina Wellness Center is one of only three projects nationwide selected in 2011 by the Indian Health Service for its highly competitive joint venture program.

Under the joint venture, the tribe designed and is constructing the new facility, and IHS will provide funding for its operation and maintenance for a minimum of 20 years.

The two-story, 52,000-square-foot

building sits on Kenaitze Indian Tribe land in the heart of Old Town Kenai and will house the entire Health Systems division.

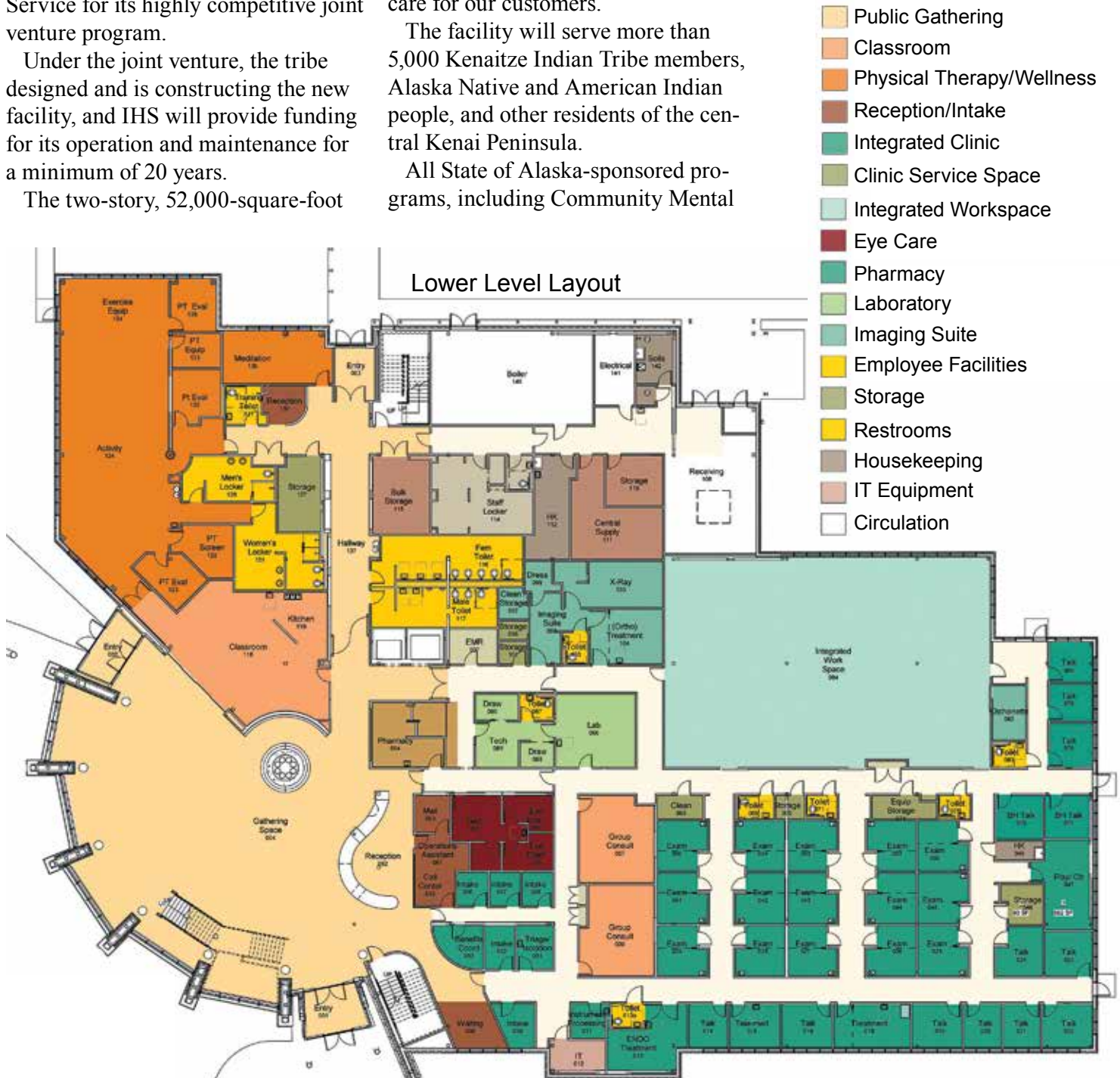
Staff will offer medical, dental, wellness, behavioral health, chemical dependency, physical therapy, pharmacy and traditional healing services all in one location – enhancing both the convenience and continuity of care for our customers.

The facility will serve more than 5,000 Kenaitze Indian Tribe members, Alaska Native and American Indian people, and other residents of the central Kenai Peninsula.

All State of Alaska-sponsored programs, including Community Mental

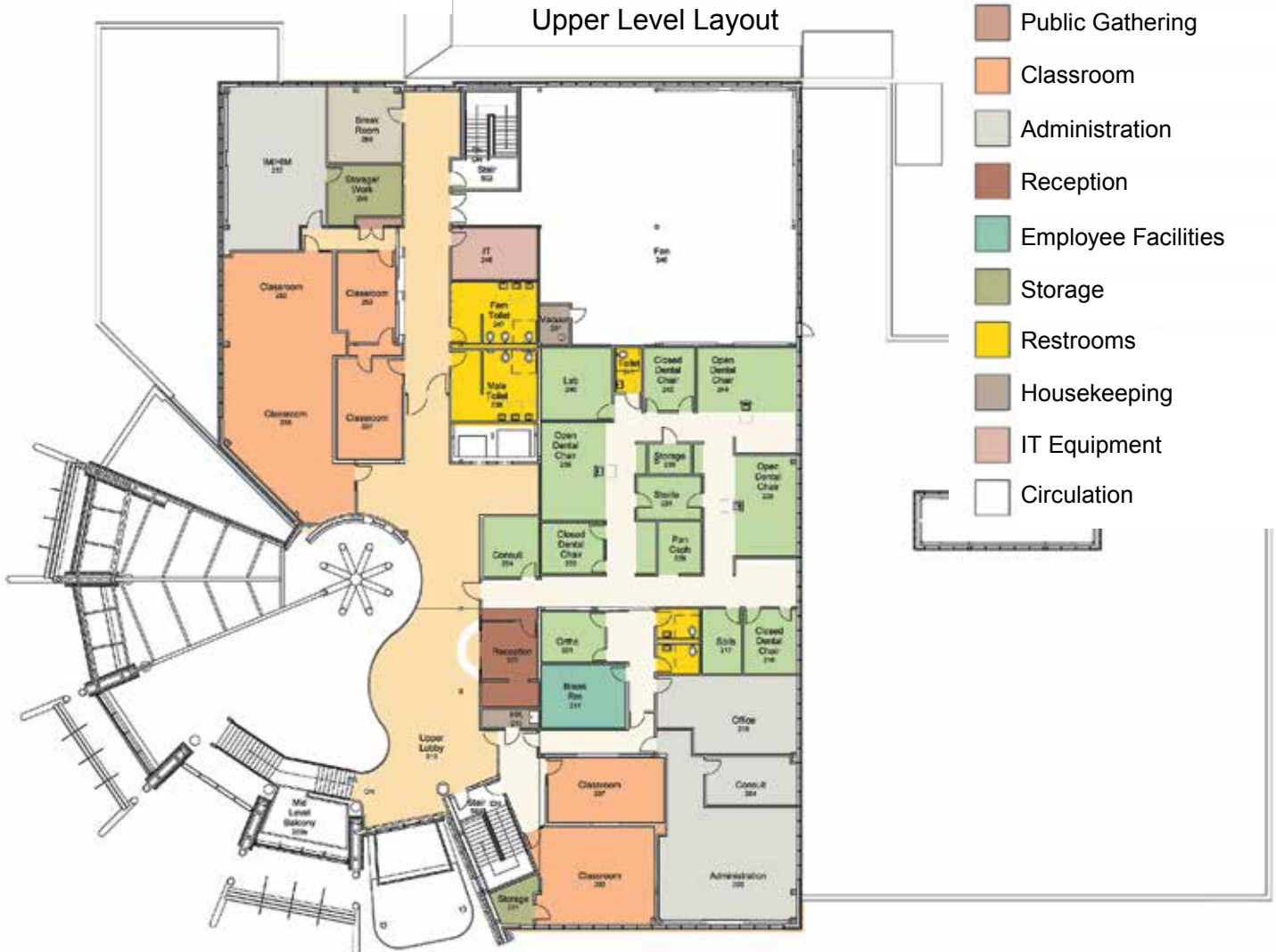
Health Services, will be open to the public.

The tribe is thankful for the help it has received from its partners on the project, which include Cook Inlet Region Inc., the M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust, the Rasmuson Foundation, The Alaska Mental Health Trust and the State of Alaska.





AT LEFT, An artist's rendering shows the new center's face. BELOW LEFT, Laborers worked all year, augmenting the local economy. BELOW RIGHT, Indian Health Service's Director of Environmental Health and Engineering Gary Hartz, second from left, listens as Director of Health Systems Dr. Tim Scheffel, Executive Director Jaylene Peterson-Nyren and Director of Operations Faith Allard look at floor plans during a construction tour.



Health Systems

“We believe ... that by incorporating our traditional values and Dene’ Wellness Model into all of the health services that we provide, we can meet people where they are in their journey to wellness and support them in taking the next step.”
– Faith Allard, Director of Operations

The Kenaitze Indian Tribe has adopted the Dene’ Wellness Model of Care recognizing that the journey towards wellness is a personal one.

All of the tribe’s health programs are joining together in the new Dena’ina Wellness Center to provide integrated services.

Our medical, dental, wellness, behavioral health, and chemical dependency professionals will work as a team to help each person achieve their wellness goals.

The last year has been a year of planning and growth as we build the new Wellness Center and prepare to transition from our existing operations, located in separate structures, to the integrated model that will be housed under one roof in our own beautiful building.

Primary care is provided by four care teams, with each team consisting

of a primary care provider, a clinical medical assistant and a case manager.

These primary care teams will work in partnership with reception, laboratory, imaging, behavioral health, a diverse wellness staff, business office, custodial and management. Everyone is working toward the same goal: quality care.

Our wellness staff offers diabetes

prevention and maintenance, tobacco cessation and support of smoke-free homes, wellness education, stress management, activity classes and fitness evaluation, nutritional counseling, and arts and crafts. There’s even a lending library with educational resources available.

The staff also works with other

dental decay and dental emergencies.

Our dental staff also partners with the Kenaitze Indian Tribe’s Head Start Program to provide annual dental exams and biannual fluoride treatments.

Staff provides assistance with referrals to the Alaska Native Medical Center, when necessary.

The dental clinic staff worked closely

with Architects Alaska and Burkhart Dental for the integrated dental clinic design.

Close attention was given to allow efficient patient care in a warm friendly environment that was designed to help reduce the anxiety of having dental treatment done. To name just one of the improvements, new private operatories will have

centralized nitrous oxide to help the anxious and pediatric dental patient.

These operatories also have a specialized vacuum system to allow for the adjustment of dentures while making it a safer environment for the dental staff. Hygiene operatories will have a patient monitor that can be used to help improve dental care.

Our behavioral health professionals

“We believe ... in health care that doing the right thing is the best thing.”
– Dr. Tim Scheffel, Director of Health Systems

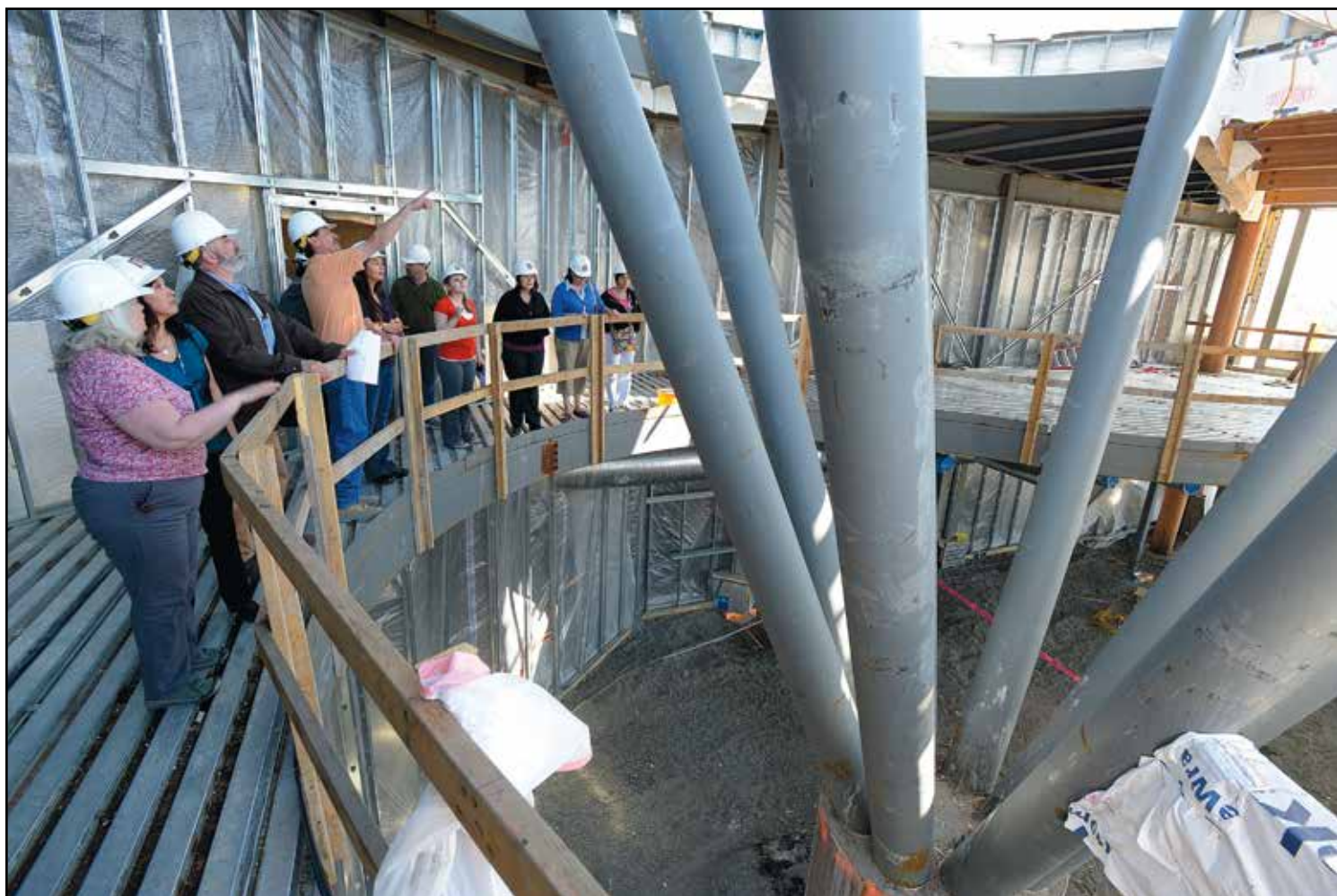


Clinic Office Manager Wendy Rice participates in a team-building exercise during an all-staff customer service training event.

tribal programs for the benefit of our patients.

Our dental professionals provide primary dental services covering a wide range of general dentistry needs, including exams, x-rays, cleanings, fillings, emergency treatment and some specialty treatments.

Emphasis is placed on prevention and education to reduce the amount of



Health Systems employees eye the oculus structure in the Dena'ina Wellness Center's gathering space during their first tour.

offer mental health and chemical dependency services to tribal members, Alaska Native and American Indian people, and the local community.

Services include individual, group, and family therapy, interactive play therapy for children, and crisis intervention.

Chemical dependency services include early intervention, outpatient treatment, relapse prevention, and continuing care. The chemical dependency team also assists clients with selection and transition to inpatient treatment when required.

Treatment is always provided in a culturally relevant environment and incorporates traditional values and activities such as arts and crafts, fishing,

drumming, and Talking Circles.

2013 Highlights

- The Cavity Free Club continues to have success. Since its inception in August 2011, the number of cavity free youth has grown. Cavity free youngsters have their picture taken and their name entered to a drawing for movie tickets.
- Eileen Sverdrup, MD, has been hired as the Medical Director.
- We have completed one full year using the RPMS electronic health record and have met meaningful use stage 2 recognition.
- Work towards meeting Joint Commission accreditation has been started.

- Two staff members have been trained in Mental Health First Aid, a national organization to reduce stigma and promote mental health awareness and support for those struggling with mental health problems. Additional training is planned for all tribal staff.
- Development of a traditional healing program has begun under the guidance of the Traditional Healing Committee.
- New equipment allowed an increase in exercise and activity opportunities. The activity space/gym was open Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 5:00 pm.

Early Childhood Center

Getting our children off to a good start is important for preserving the future of our people.

The Kenaitze Indian Tribe's Kuya Qyut'anen ("Little Children of the Kenai River") Early Childhood Center offers a Head Start Preschool program, an Alaska Native Education preschool and After School program for kindergarten to 3rd grade.

These programs use The Creative Curriculum for Early Childhood philosophy (Teaching Strategies, 1999).

The curriculum incorporates the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework, the Kenaitze Indian Tribe's traditional Dena'ina language and values, along with the Project ACHIEVE "Stop and Think" social skills/problem solving curriculum. The curriculum is also aligned with the State of Alaska Early Learning Guidelines.

The Center emphasizes family engagement and involvement and offers regular family events, trainings and

activities.

The center also works closely with community partners to provide dental and health screenings, nutrition services, daily physical activity and a variety of programs for children with special needs.

2013 Highlights

- Thirty-two preschoolers smoothly transitioned into kindergarten.
- Completion and implementation of preschool "School Readiness Goals" and a center-wide "Ongoing Monitoring" tracking system.
- The center was awarded a three year Alaska Native Education grant.
- Eighteen After School students completed the "100 Books for a Bike" program and were awarded a new bike and helmet.
- The center provided an 11-week summer camp for pre-kindergarten to 3rd grade students.
- A Head Start alumnus was hired as a student intern in the After School program.
- Monthly Story Nights and Saturday Gross Motor Play were provided during the school year.
- The center successfully completed its triennial federal monitoring review with only two minor findings out of over 2,500 performance standards.
- The 2nd – 3rd grade Summer Camp students visited the Tribal Fishery beach site and learned as Elders processed two seals that came to the tribe.
- The center continues to maintain membership with the Tribal Early Childhood Research Center Head Start Steering Committee and served on two 'Communities of Learning' to explore shared interests related to early childhood development in tribal communities.

"We believe ... today's children are tomorrow's leaders."

– Every staff member at the Early Childhood Center



TATIHANA DeHOYOS looks at a seal during an Early Childhood Center field trip to the tribal fishery site in August. Elders taught the children how to properly respect and care for food during the trip.

"I like learning about our culture and our heritage. ... It was cool seeing it because they were taking their time, they weren't rushing, and they didn't damage the seal meat."

– Tatihana DeHoyos

Tyotkas Elder Services

“We believe ... our elders are the wisdom of our tribe.”

– Bonnie Juliussen, Elder and Adult Advocate, Vulnerable Adult Advocate and Tyotkas Activities Coordinator

Tyotkas Elder Services, which means “Auntie’s Place,” recognizes that honor and respect for Elders is a central element of Dena’ina culture.

Tyotkas serves more than 125 Elders and aims to improve Elders’ lives through in an environment of quality, dignity and pride.

Tyotkas works to prevent isolation, provide healthy activities and access to healthy choices, and ensure independent living for Elders. Tyotkas also provides information and resources to family members who care for parents, grandparents or older relatives.

Services include the Elders’ lunch program, the caregiver support program, transportation to doctor appointments and other activities, home visits, abuse and neglect prevention, the Elder advocate program, exercise programs, field trips, traditional and non-traditional crafts, and more.

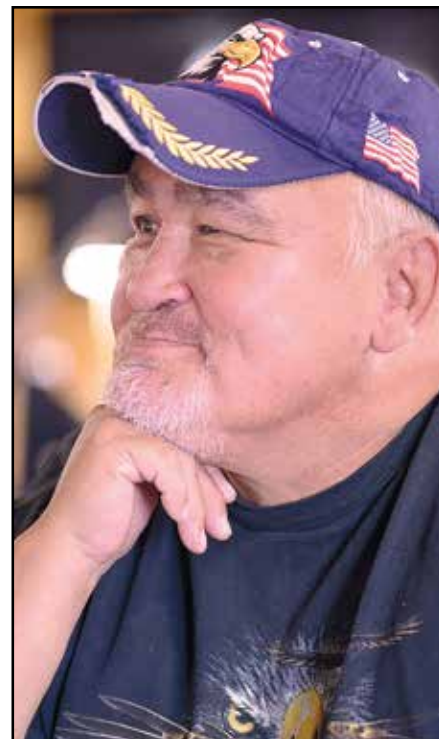
2013 Highlights

- Tyotkas held the children’s Easter party at Kenai Middle School. More than 300 people – 185 of them 12-years-old or younger – attended. More than \$260 in cash, more than 300 door prizes and 35 bikes and skateboards were distributed.
- Tyotkas hosted ten trips to the tribal net to fish, enjoy the beach, visit, potluck and enjoy grandkids around the camp fire.
- Twenty-two Elders went on a trip to Seldovia to pick berries.
- The kitchen was remodeled and staff was given training on healthy cooking techniques utilizing fresh produce and meats.



Fiocla Wilson gets help with her birthday cake candles during a celebration for her at Tyotkas Elders Center. She is the tribe’s most senior Elder.

“When I turned 55, I heard about Tyotkas and started coming. The reason I like the place is that it is very helpful and people-friendly – friendly atmosphere. I like the people that work here. They’re really great people. If I wasn’t here I’d be sitting home and not be doing much. This is a chance to get out be with other people. This is a very friendly place.” – Gary Engelstad



GARY ENGELSTAD has been coming to Tyotkas Elders Center three times a week for about six years. He lives alone and does not drive.

Yaghanen Youth Programs

Yaghanen means “A Safe Place.” It is a good description of the tribe’s youth programs.

As a prevention and early intervention program, Yaghanen helps youngsters understand our culture and develop life skills through fun activities.

Yaghanen Youth Programs include the Jabila’ina Dance Group, the Del Dumi Intertribal Drum Group and the Ggugguyni Native Youth Olympics Team.

2013 Overall Highlights

- Worked with 101 youngsters
- Hosted a Harvest Festival Carnival
- Gave cultural presentations at five central peninsula schools
- Hosted a family ice fishing day at Sports Lake
- Hosted an overnight Father’s retreat at Kelly Lake
- Hosted cultural orientations for the tribe’s new employees
- Gave cultural presentations twice weekly for the Head Start program

Ggugguyni Native Youth Olympics hosted the Peninsula Winter Games NYO Invitational in partnership with Alaska USA Federal Credit Union and the Soldotna Chamber of Commerce.

- Athletes also competed in the Cook Inlet Tribal Council Junior and Senior NYO Statewide Competition and the Seward Qutekcak NYO Invitational.
- 27 youngsters participated in Junior NYO.
- 18 participated in Senior NYO.

Jabila’ina Dancers had 19 young participants and performed at the following functions:

- Festival of Native Arts in Fairbanks
- Peninsula Winter Games
- Ida’ina Powwow in Anchorage
- Groundbreaking ceremony for the Dena’ina Wellness Center
- Kenai Fourth of July parade



JULIANNE WILSON uses a survey instrument to measure an archaeological site in the woods above the Kenai River near Cooper Landing during a Yaghanen Susten Camp. She has participated in a number of Yaghanen’s activities but said she most likes the archaeology camp.

“I like how they’re teaching us how to survey and to find cache pits and house pits. My ancestors lived here or somewhere around the Kenai Peninsula and it’s fun to learn how my ancestors lived.”

— Julianne Wilson

- Ribbon cutting ceremony for dorms at Kenai Peninsula College
- Qutekcak Healthy Community Picnic in Seward
- Stanley Ford community appreciation event in Kenai

Del Dumi Drummers had 9 youngsters participate. They performed at the following events:

- Groundbreaking ceremony for the Dena’ina Wellness Center
- Fourth of July Parade in Kenai
- Green Adventures Tour group visit
- For tribal family at the American Legion in Kenai
- Qutekcak Healthy Community

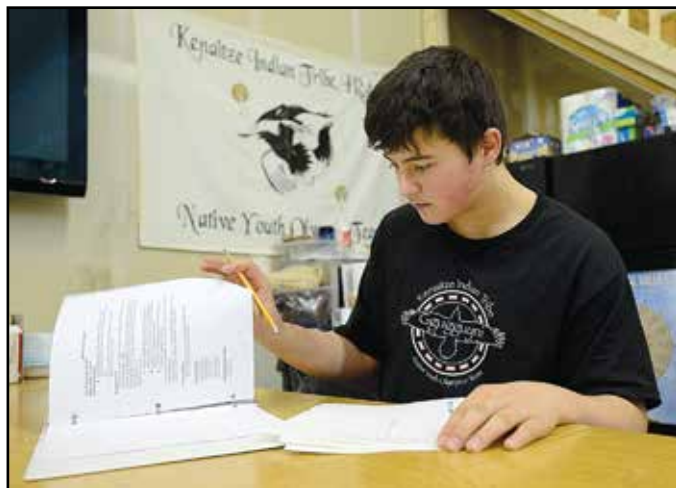
Picnic in Seward

- Stanley Ford community appreciation event in Kenai

Healthy Choices started an archery program. Twelve kids participated.

Youth Council served seven and participated in the First Alaskans Elders and Youth Conference in Anchorage and the Alaska Youth Court Conference in Homer.

Archaeology and Fish Camps reached 56 youngsters, partnering with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for Susten Camp 1 and Susten Camp 2, and with Cook Inlet Tribal Council for Fish Camp.



FAR LEFT, Kenaitze's Shane Fortune competes during the Peninsula Winter Games. AT TOP, Tristin Segura, Lucas Standfrier and Cooper Barnard cheer participants. ABOVE, Travis Stuller works on homework in the activity area. LEFT, Yaghanen archers take aim.

"We believe ... that we are successful at helping keep our kids off drugs, alcohol and tobacco. We believe that they can grow and learn here by participating in culturally-based activities in a safe and positive place."

– Michael Bernard, Yaghanen Youth Programs Coordinator

Na'ini Social Services

Na'ini (“Bravery and Courage”) programs are committed to continuously improving services to best meet the needs of the people we serve. Our reorganization of social services last year has allowed us to enhance collaboration and add continuity of care and convenience for our customers.

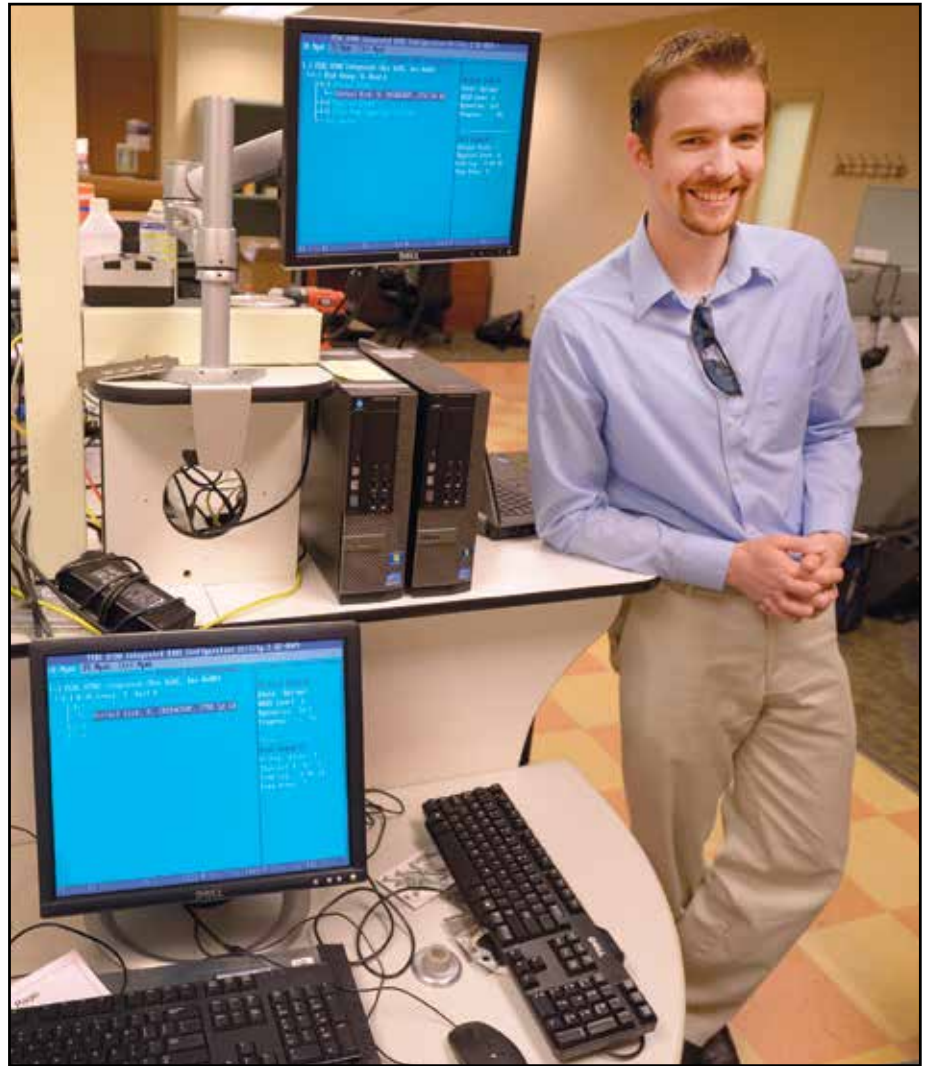
Na'ini Social Services include energy, general, burial and funeral, and emergency assistance; wild game harvest and food bank; child care assistance; services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and/or stalking; career planning, job placement, and education services; conservatorship for vulnerable adults; advocacy and case management; and the Child Protection Team.

2013 Highlights:

- Ongoing Tribal Scholarship Awards for Kenaitze Indian Tribal members totaled \$69,709 and \$27,553 for Alaska Native/American Indian students.
- Financial assistance awarded for vocational training in the amount of \$38,270 for tribal members and other Alaska Native/American Indian customers.
- Student housing awarded to 24 of our college students.
- Added ability to serve men and adolescents who have experienced sexual assault through the funding of the State of Alaska’s Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Alaska (CDVSA) program.
- Partnered with Kenaitze Indian Tribe’s Tribal Court to write a grant to assist in removing barriers for parents seeking substance abuse assessment, treatment and counseling.
- Hired a Tribal Wide Social Worker to manage cases between the tribe’s divisions and to advocate for vulnerable adults and families who utilize services between divisions.

“We believe ... everyone should be treated with respect and integrity. Everybody is a person no matter who they are or what their situation is.”

– Roberta Turner, Social Services Team Lead



KRIS FRANKE is working at CIRI in their information technology department after using Kenaitze Indian Tribe scholarships to graduate from the Alaska Vocational and Technical School’s Information Technology Program.

“I have a wife and four children. I thought it was outside of our range of being able to go back to school. ... It’s tough to make a shift like we did and without the help of the tribe and others it just wouldn’t have been possible. In my last job I was happy, but it wasn’t me. And now, you have a hard time pulling me away from work.” – Kris Franke

Tribal Fishery

The Kenaitze Indian Tribe's Tribal Fishery teaches the importance of preserving the cultural and traditional way of life established by the early Dena'ina.

The program brings together people of all ages and creates a sense of unity that helps ensure cultural and traditional values thrive for future generations.

The tribe sets two six-fathom nets at traditional fishing sites along the Kahtnu (Kenai), Ggasilahtnu (Kasilof) and Yaghehtnu (Swanson) rivers. The tribe's fishing permit allows 8,000 salmon each year. Priority for scheduling the net is given to tribal members who wish to gather their food for the year.

Kenaitze programs conduct fish camps, some of which are open to Alaska Natives and American Indians from elsewhere in the state. Participants follow a curriculum where youths and Elders

practice traditional methods of setting the net, identifying salmon species, cleaning fish and preserving fish for winter.

The Tribal Fishery is administered by the Tribal Hunting, Fishing and Gathering Committee.

The tribe recognizes that many people depend on these fish. It appreciates the sharing between families that took place this year as a result of restrictions due to low numbers of returning king salmon.

"We believe ... the return of the king salmon is directly related to our culture, our heritage, our past, and our present and our future."

– David Segura, Director of Community Programs

2013 Highlights

- This year's crew featured Kenaitze Indian Tribe members Michael Segura, Kaleb Franke and William "Billy" Segura, a tribal Elder with many years of experience with the Tribal Fishery.
- Attention was focused on communication with tribal members regarding scheduling and any closures or limitations that were put on the fisheries.
- The tribe published a tide book, a fisheries brochure and confirmation cards when scheduling for the net was done.
- Staff attempted to remind people of tides they were scheduled to fish and to give enough notice of any cancellations due to weather or Alaska Department of Fish and Game emergency closures.

Comparing Tribal Fishery Numbers

	8/29/2013	2012	2011
Kings	19	14	47
Reds	4837	3445	6873
Pinks	24	553	5
Silvers	380	140	439
Totals	5260	4152	7364



SCOTT JULIUSSSEN and his family have always fished the Kenaitze Indian Tribe's net on the shore of Cook Inlet at the mouth of the Kenai River.

"Our livelihoods depend on the fish. That's pretty much what we grow up on. People down south, they grow up on beef. This is just our way of life. ... (The tribal smokehouse) is our traditional way. Those Little Chiefs and stuff you buy in the store, that's more like baking salmon. This'll turn out just like jerky. We make some good stuff."

–Scott Juliussen

Environmental Program

Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina values include stewardship: the respectful use of land, resources and all creations. The tribe's Environmental Program lives those values.

This year, under the program agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Indian General Assistance Program, the Environmental Program held activities designed to improve health and to decrease the use and abundance of household hazardous waste.

Community outreach activities were focused on tribal members, and Alaska Native and Native American families in our service area. Outreach also included the collaboration of other tribal departments to inform people of all ages of our educational events and the dangers of household hazardous waste.

Our Environmental Assistant attended several Elders' lunch activities, and gave Head Start classroom presentations.

2013 Highlights

- Monthly Project Green Village classes attracted 80 people, passing our goal of ten families. Each participant made personal goals to decrease their carbon footprint and take steps toward a healthy home. Classes included hands-on activities for Healthy Home Cleaning and the Story of Stuff. Activities also included several field trips to learn about where our foods and medicines come from. Participants learned about household hazardous wastes associated with many items in our homes, and how to remove and replace them. The healthy kitchen and foods class included a chicken petting zoo, and the spring medicinal

class included a walk in the woods.

- Met with Kenai Peninsula Borough Solid Waste Department staff to receive updated information for the 2013 borough hazardous waste program schedule to update handouts and calendars.
- Held a Holiday Recycling Workshop and gathering, reaching about 70 people.
- Winter activities included hands

on information and a video about household hazardous waste, and our members took a pledge to reduce hazardous waste and also reduce their carbon footprints. Of the 80 participants, 11 households completed all the activities and classes. We also created an e-mail and contact list of participants to share more information about future activities.



LOIS MARSDEN, pictured in the kitchen of her Sterling home, attended many of the Project Green Village classes.

“She brought samples real often of the food that you can make yourself from stuff that’s right around here. I really liked that.”

– Lois Marsden

Housing Assistance Programs

“We believe ... that all Alaska Native people and American Indian people should have the security of safe, sanitary and affordable housing.” – Shayna Franke, Housing Representative

There are several ways that the Kenaitze Indian Tribe assists its membership with housing.

The Safe Home Program is designed to renovate and repair the homes of qualified Kenaitze and Salamatof tribal members, Alaskan Native, and American Indian people residing in tribal jurisdiction.

The program addresses weatherization, health and safety issues, and handicap accessibility.

Emergency Housing addresses the need for assistance in rental deposits, as well as financial assistance to prevent homelessness due to delinquent mortgage payments or property taxes.

The Plowing and Sanding Program is available to eligible Elders and handicapped individuals. It provides snow plowing and sanding service at no charge, helping make winters safer and a bit easier.

The Housing Assistance Program also operates Ninash Q’a, a tribal transitional home. Ninash Q’a offers a safe haven for families in need of temporary housing while in crisis. Families using this facility are expected to work

in conjunction with other tribal programs that promote self-sufficiency and healthy relationships.

Rental Housing offers affordable housing for qualified families.

Student Housing is provided for qualified, full-time students who are enrolled in an accredited college, in Alaska or elsewhere.

Soon, financial literacy classes will be available to all Alaskan Native and American Indian families and individuals who wish to learn finance basics, including setting up a budget,



Housing crew Lead Carpenter Archie Minkler works on a lead paint remediation project. Laborers seldom run across lead paint contamination on the central Kenai Peninsula but great care must be taken during the paint removal process so as not to contaminate the surrounding area or endanger the workers.

balancing checkbooks, the fundamentals of interest rates, how to purchase a home and more. Housing Representative Shayna Franke has been certified to teach the nationally accredited Pathways Home program and will be conducting the classes.



Building 100, before and after work.

Wildwood Project

The Wildwood Project is currently in its fifth field season conducting remediation work at Kenai Natives Association’s Wildwood property. The project is a joint effort between the tribe and the Army Corp of Engineers and is currently managing two Cooperative Agreements.

The objective of these agreements is to clean up environmental hazards left behind by the Department of Defense, which had operations in the area more than 40 years ago.

This summer the crew completed one of the agreements and is near-

ing completion on the second. Work includes removing contaminated soil at the Building 100 site, and removing Building 100 and its adjacent garage. The removal is done and the crew is in the final stages of removing four utility wells and preparing the site for reseeded.

The crew also started a new clean-up project this summer involving contaminated soil behind Wildwood Correctional Facility. This project is in the early stages and is expected to be completed next summer.

Tribal Court



Chief Judge Kim Sweet



Judge Mary Ann Mills



Judge Susan Wells



Judge Rusty Swan

Dena'ina Athabascan people have historically resolved dispute and conflict, maintained community peace and delivered justice among each other using traditional laws, customs and practices.

Written tribal codes give authority and jurisdiction to hear and adjudicate matters concerning child protection, voluntary relinquishment and involuntary termination of parent rights, tribal adoption, child custody, domestic violence, marriage, divorce and annulments, protection for Elders and vulnerable adults, and conservatorship and guardianship.

Today, the Nitghu k't'uch' qenashen Tribal Court (meaning "One Who Talks for Equity") aims to acknowledge and honor our traditional customs for the purpose of preserving, strengthening and ensuring justice on behalf of our families into the future.

The Court's Tribal Youth Justice Program serves Alaska Native and American Indian youth dealing with issues that have led to delinquency, or that threaten to do so. The program provides Talking Circles to allow youth, their family and community members to address core issues in an environment of respect, honesty,

responsibility and honor.

2013 Highlights

- Increased collaboration with other Alaska Native tribes, as well as community partners.
- Worked with other tribal court judges to establish the Alaska Tribal Judges Association.
- Kenaitze's Tribal Court judges represent Alaska as board representatives for National American Indian Court Judges Association.
- Tribal court offers trainings to Alaska Native tribes who are establishing their own tribal courts.

Court Appointed Special Advocates

Kenaitze Indian Tribe's CASA program is a leader among CASA programs.

Currently it is the only active tribal CASA program in Alaska. It is also the first program in Alaska to dual-train volunteers in both tribal and state court proceedings.

Through a partnership with the Office of Public Advocacy, CASA is able to serve all children in our community who have been removed from their home due to abuse and/or neglect.

CASA program recruits and trains volunteers to serve as advocates for abused and neglected children in court, speaking to the best interest of the child. Advocates are empowered and educated to speak for children with strength and understanding of tribal values and traditions.

2013 Highlights:

- CASA hired two new employees, Joy Petrie and Tyler Nichols.
- A Memorandum of Agreement between Kenaitze Indian Tribe and the Office of Public Advocacy was renewed, allowing CASA to continue to serve children in both tribal and state court.
- Through the service of five dedicated volunteers, CASA was able to serve a total of 15 children.
- CASA had its first Superhero 5-kilometer run/walk in August. A total of 69 people registered, bringing \$1,500 into the program. The money will be used to recruit and train more volunteers. This event will become an annual event for the tribe, as well as the surrounding community.



5k runners celebrate their success while adding to CASA's success.

- The program had a class of eight new volunteers go through training in August and September, more than doubling the number of children CASA will be able to serve in 2014.

K'Beq' Interpretive Site

"We believe ... K'Beq is a way to preserve, protect and promote Kahtnuht'ana Dena'ina culture and tradition."

– Alexandra "Sasha" Lindgren, Director of Tribal Government Affairs

Kenaitze ancestors, recognizing the abundance of the place they called Yaghanen, "the good land," settled in areas along the banks of its rivers and Tikahtnu (Cook Inlet).

One of these areas is Sqilantnu, meaning "the grocery store," located in the area now called Cooper Landing.

The Kenaitze Indian Tribe partners with the Chugach National Forest to preserve, protect and provide interpretation for this location at the K'Beq' "footprints" interpretive site.

At K'Beq', tribal members share traditions and culture with visitors through interpretive walks that feature an archaeological site and interpretive signs. They also teach traditional plant use from June through September.

This year at K'beq', the tribe hired two tribal members to work at the site. As of early August, 2,558 people visited K'beq'. Of those, 2,065 took time to visit with staff or to take one of the free guided tours.



Josie Jones, right, explains a traditional Dena'ina home to visitors from California.

As part of its summer camp series, Yaghanen Youth Programs brought about 60 youngsters to the site to visit, take a tour and do some drumming and dancing.

One of K'beq's highlights this past

year was being awarded a small museums grant from the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm Heritage Association. The grant made it possible for the tribe to reprint interpretive signs onto aluminum.

Russian River

The tribe works cooperatively with Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI), the U. S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to address management issues at the confluence of the Russian and Kenai rivers in Cooper Landing.

The area is one of the most popular sports fishing attractions in Alaska and is the site of a growing number of adverse interactions between people and brown bears, with both looking for easy fish.

For the past two summers the tribe



Alice Maxie and Karissa Oder work the confluence of the Russian and Kenai Rivers, where they helped keep fish waste down.

has worked to reduce the amount of human-generated fish waste lining the riverbanks. The carcasses are a major attractant for the bears.

Alice Maxie and Karissa Oder staffed the Fish Raking Project for the tribe. The majority of the costs were covered by CIRI. Training in bear and river walking safety was provided by the Forest Service.

The "fish rakers" cut the carcasses into small pieces and rake or throw them into deeper water.

They explained what they were doing and why to a large number of fishermen and answered questions on a wide variety of subjects.

Human Resources

The Kenaitze Indian Tribe's Human Resources Department oversees functions such as recruitment and hiring, employee benefits, compensation, employee relations, workplace safety and training.

The operational goals for the Human Resources Department this year centralized around the preparation for a dramatic increase in the number of Health System workers that will be needed for the new Dena'ina Wellness Center.

Human Resources expects to hire, orientate and train an additional 40 people for the facility.

2013 Highlights

- Launched a new online employment application system. Open positions, job descriptions and applications can all be found on the tribe's website.
- Increased program and service support positions by hiring a Procurement Specialist, Grant Writer and Communications Specialist.
- Implemented a new paperless employee communication system.
- Supported a tribal-wide customer service training event for employees featuring Petra Marquart, author of "The Power of Service: Keeping Customers for Life."
- Began a partnership for safety with a safety-enhancement service

known as DriverCheck. Part of the service includes "How's My-Driving" decals for tribal vehicles, and training information for applicable program supervisors.

- Implemented a new Accounting/Human Resource Information System.
- Developed a new internal website for employees to access employment-related documents.
- Increased outreach to tribal members and Kenai Peninsula resi-

dents through participation in two events, Career Day at Kenai Peninsula College and the Peninsula Job Fair.

- Another outreach has also been initiated through a recent newsletter to the tribal membership with the goal of furthering the tribe's support to its members through employment, contract work, or by providing an opportunity for members to share their hobbies and interests.

"We believe ... our human resource is our greatest resource."

– Jaylene Peterson-Nyren, Executive Director



Tribal employees listen to guest speaker Petra Marquart, right, at an all-employee customer service seminar in February. Marquart, author of the book "The Power of Service," used humor to reinforce the day's training.

Information Technology

The Information Technology Department had a busy year preparing and planning for the Dena'ina Wellness Center, while also managing the tribe's existing computer and telecommunications equipment.

IT has the tribe closer to its goal of locally owning and managing all of its information systems rather than relying on hosting from Alaska Native

Tribal Health Consortium for servers and software. Local systems improve security, give faster access to data, and preventative maintenance can be locally scheduled and controlled.

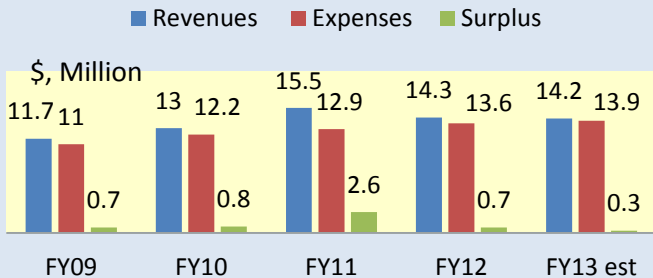
Given that the Dena'ina Wellness Center will integrate all of the tribe's health systems, IT is implementing network changes now to ease the move in spring 2014.

The tribe's network systems have been expanded and redesigned to support increased capacity and staffing. In addition, the Cultural and Housing programs are permanently connected to the tribe's wide area network. This means information services can be securely accessed from nearly all tribal buildings or programs.

Financial Information

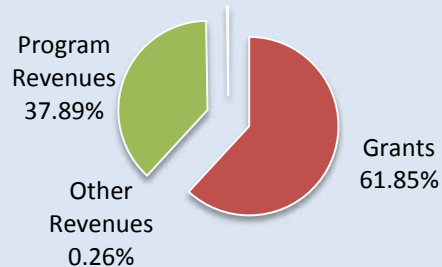
“We believe ... in strengthening Kenaitze Indian Tribe’s financial position by operating on a balanced budget and building up our savings each year. We have met this objective in FY13 and have maintained a healthy fund balance reserve to enable future investments in the tribe’s growth and development.” – Stan Mishin, Director of Financial Services

Financial Performance History



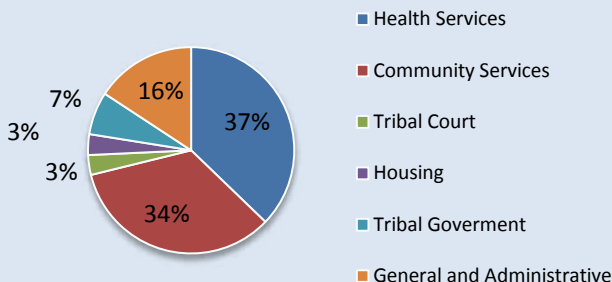
In FY13, the tribe earned \$14.2M in revenues, spent \$13.9M to provide programs and services, and saved \$300k that will be invested in future capital projects and tribal development activities.

FY 13 Sources of Revenues



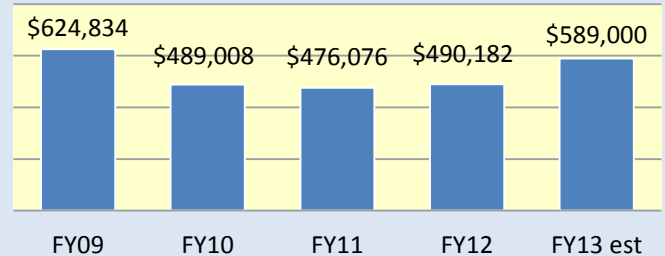
In FY13, about \$8.8M of total operating revenues were from federal, state, and private grants. Reimbursements for health services paid by Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance generated about \$5M. The balance came from program user fees, donations and interest income.

FY 13 Operating Expenses by Program



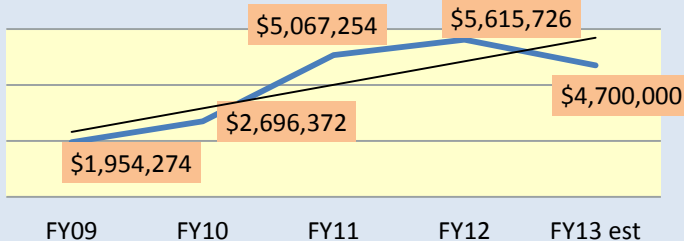
In FY13, about \$10.7M (77%) of total operating expenses was spent on direct programs and services. The balance was expended on Tribal Government activities (\$970K) and General and Administrative support of programs (\$2.2M).

Financial Assistance Payments



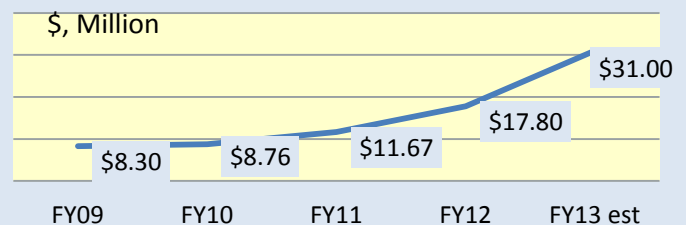
In FY13, the tribe spent about \$589k on direct payments to customers or their designees to assist with housing, education, training, transportation and emergency needs.

Unrestricted Net Assets



As of the end of FY13, the tribe has accumulated \$4.7M in unrestricted net assets (savings), which provide a reserve for working capital, equipment replacements, facility improvements and future investments.

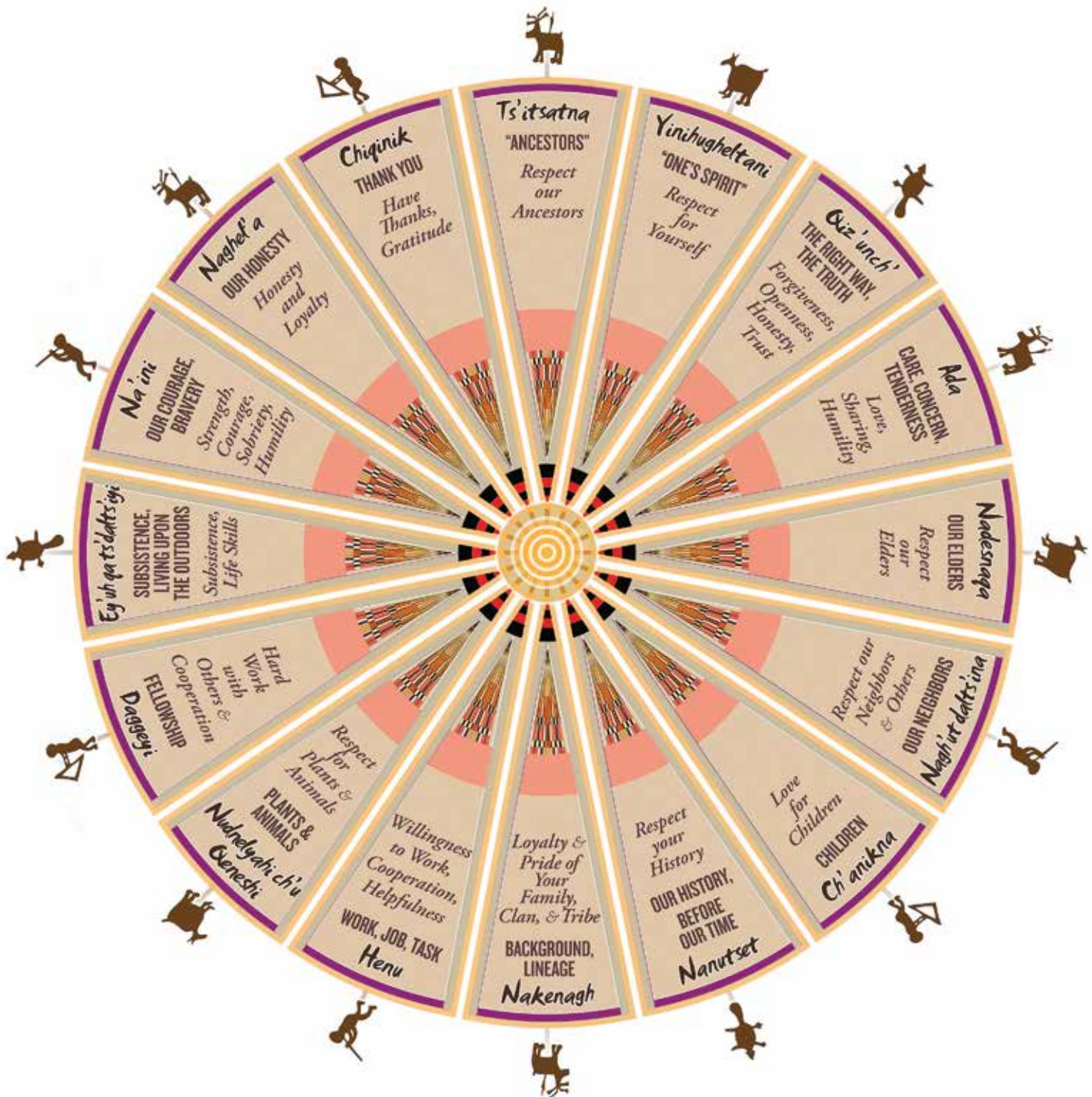
Total Assets



Over the past 5 years, the tribe’s assets (cash, accounts receivable, prepaid expenses, and capital assets) increased by \$22.7M. Investments in capital assets (the new Dena’ina Wellness Center in particular) are largely responsible for the overall assets growth.



Kenaitze Indian Tribe Traditional Values



(907) 335-7200
<http://www.kenaitze.org>
jaylene@kenaitze.org



Kenaitze Indian Tribe
150 N. Willow St.
Kenai, Alaska 99611