Greetings from our AIHI Team!

This year the American Indian Housing Initiative tackled the design and construction of our largest building to date. In June, after a year of planning, 15 volunteers and staff set four projects in motion. The “Early crew” helped the Busby community to finish an Announcer’s Booth to accompany the new Pow Wow arbor built by tribal members. The booth was constructed and all the wiring was completed just as the opening ceremony began for the Pow Wow.

On June 27, 50 more students and alumni arrived representing the U. of Wisconsin and U. Washington, Penn State, and Colorado State to help construct a 2700SF Technology Center. Designed by Aaron West of IDG Architects, the Technology Center will house multiple teaching labs for Chief Dull Knife College, and is currently being completed with the help of Troy Cady of K-D Construction.

With the help of a high school group from the Nobles and Greenough School in Massachusetts, the AIHI team also built a unique round Sweat Lodge shelter with straw bales. With the help of PSU Professor Scott Wing, Joshua Ward (Arch ’04) oversaw the completion of this beautiful and distinctive structure. Special thanks to the folks at the Prayer Lodge for hosting our team, and supporting this project.

Led by U. Wisc professor Sam Dennis, Northern Cheyenne Artist Bently Spang, Susanne Hackett (PSU, PR ’00), and PSU professor Michael Rios, local youth constructed an arbor in the courtyard of the 2002 AIHI Adult Education Center on the Chief Dull Knife Campus.

Led by AIHI student Matt Stevenson, and AIHI veteran, Eric Hough, the team also completed electrical systems and lighting at the Muddy Hall Community Center, our home base for camping this summer. See our website for more details!

2004 Summer Highlights

• Evening dancing and songs led by Otto and Barbara Braided Hair
• Horseback riding and games with the Northern Cheyenne Trailriders and the Spang family
• Group trip to Medicine Wheel with Herman and Sandy Bearcomesout
• Tour of petroglyphs with Cheyenne artist Leroy Whiteman
• Northern Cheyenne history and TeePee raising workshop presentation by Conrad Fisher
• Group address and pizza party hosted by CDKC President Richard Littlebear, Bill Wertman, and Sis Elliot
• History of Reservation Housing tour guided by Sandy Spang
• 2 HUGE Dinners hosted by Peggy White and Northern Cheyenne Housing Authority
• Tour of Rosebud Coal Mine hosted by Westmoreland Mining LLC
• And much, much more!

THANK YOU !!!!!!!

This year over 70 students, alumni, and volunteers gave their time, energy, and hard labor to make our projects a success. We would like to say thanks to all of our 2004 participants, for their efforts and enthusiasm. We hope to see you again next summer!

PLANS ARE UNDERWAY FOR AIHI 2005

See reverse!

A Special Thanks to our devoted guest instructor, builder and advisor, Arthur Glenn. A long time devoted supporter of many Penn State programs, Art has graciously donated his time and energy to AIHI activities for the past two years. This year, Art lead the class in a discussion about leadership. Art also joined the construction team once again this summer in Montana, braving the elements and camping conditions.

"After my second experience with the AIHI sustainable housing demonstration project in conjunction with the Northern Cheyenne Nation, my respect and admiration for the dedicated faculty from Penn State, the University of Washington and the University of Wisconsin grew significantly. To bring together and manage the many diverse talents necessary and to successfully work through the unpredictable situations to give the students a real-life experience of their future requires a commitment only the most highly motivated teachers would make."
Summer 2005 Plans Already Underway!
Early Childhood Learning Center at Chief Dull Knife College, Lame Deer, MT

The AIHI Team is already working on schematic design for the Early Childhood Learning Center planned in cooperation with Chief Dull Knife College. One of the obstacles to employment on the Reservation is adequate childcare. This building will incorporate design features meant to aid in a child’s healthy development and allow the parents of about 25 to have the chance to work or take classes at CDKC. Led by UWash. alumnus and 3-time AIHI veteran Brian Zeallrear, the 2004 class of UW students has developed a schematic design that features day lighting, playful nooks and a soft, comfortable atmosphere. The project will feature a host of sustainable technologies, and will be certified by the LEED rating system for green buildings.

We are also looking forward to installing a green house and Living Machine in the back of the Technology Center which will help filter waste water from the demonstration kitchen within. We will also be helping to set up a new hands-on construction lab and building workshop in the Technology Center. This space will be used to teach home maintenance and repair skills to tribal members, and allow tribal members to gain construction skills as they help prefabricate elements of future AIHI housing projects.

Mark your calendars Summer 2005:

Week 1: June 26-July 2 – Straw bale raising
Week 2: July 3- July 9 – Stucco madness
Week 3: July 10- July 16 – Trim and finishes

To learn more about how to get involved please contact us at AIHI@psu.edu

Or visit our new website at: www engr.psu.edu/greenbuild

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