

Summer 2005

P4P News

Partners for Prosperity: New Beginnings for Eastern Idaho (P4P), is a non-profit organization serving 16 counties in Eastern Idaho and the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. Although not a direct-funding organization, P4P is dedicated to increasing personal and community prosperity by bringing community members together, providing technical resources and assistance and helping to incorporate solutions to the problem of poverty in our region.

<http://www.p4peid.org>

Telephone: 208-785-0059
Fax: 208-785-5866
Meeting and Event Hotline: 208-785-5865

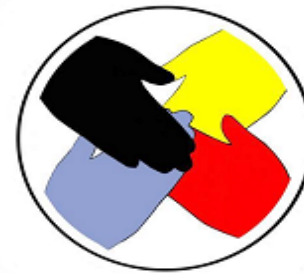
Franklin	Bannock
Fremont	Bear Lake
Jefferson	Bingham
Lemhi	Bonneville
Madison	Butte
Oneida	Caribou
Power	Clark
Teton	Custer

Partners for Prosperity serves Idaho's Eastern Counties and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation.



625 W. Pacific
Blackfoot, ID 83221

Partners for Prosperity
NEW BEGINNINGS FOR EASTERN IDAHO



P4P obtains nonprofit status as a 501(c)3

On June 9, 2005, P4P received a letter of advance determination as a 501(c)3 organization with public charity status. This was an important step for us in the implementation of our ten year plan for poverty reduction. Many of you may be wondering what 501 status means. In a nutshell there are several reasons this is an important step:

- P4P is now exempt from federal income tax
- Contributions to P4P are deductible under the Internal Revenue Code
- P4P is also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, transfers and gifts

The Northwest Area Foundation can now send funds directly to P4P and not through a fiscal sponsor such as Idaho State University

A ruling of *Advance Determination* means that P4P now has four years to prove we are a public charity and that at least one-third of our revenue comes from public sources. This will be challenging, since we cannot claim all of the funds from the NWF in order to meet this goal. Within the next month we will hire a Funding Development Specialist who will help us write grants, seek corporate and private donations and plan fund raising events.

This ruling also means that P4P is in the final steps of separation from Idaho State University as our fiscal sponsor. We anticipate a continued partnership with ISU in many areas; however, as of July 31, 2005, P4P will have finalized the separation process. We appreciate the assistance of ISU for the past three years and look forward to a continued good relationship that will help Eastern Idaho achieve prosperity.

Idaho receives IDA Grant

The United Way of Treasure Valley in collaboration with Partners for Prosperity and other regional community-based organizations from around the state was recently awarded the Assets for Independence (AFI) grant of \$500,000. The purpose of the grant is to develop a state-wide Individual Development Accounts (IDA) Program that would promote match restricted savings accounts. IDA's enable low-income families to save money for specific purpose such as postsecondary education, a down payment on a first home, or small business capital.

Michael Sherraden, Director of the Center of Social Development noted that "few people have ever spent their way out of poverty. Those who escape do so through saving and investing for long-term goals." It is

Contents

P4P Non-Profit Status.....Cover

**AFIA Grant/
IDA Program..... Cover**

**Multi-Cultural
Festival Highlights2**

**Message From
the Director.....2**

Web Site Update.....3

Fort Hall Business Assoc.3

**Up Coming Events
CalendarInsert**

2005 Multi-Cultural Festival Highlights

The third annual Multicultural Festival on Thursday evening, May 19, was a huge success. Last counts indicated a record turnout of over 2,000 happy attendees.

Partners for Prosperity (P4P) sponsors the Multicultural Festival every year in May for our service region, the 16 counties of Eastern Idaho and the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. It is a celebration of the cultural diversity among our many citizens and gives us the opportunity to share with one another and strengthen our bonds as neighbors.

Community members of our region brought tamales, enchiladas, fry bread, egg rolls, fried rice and South African sausages just to name a few of the excellent dishes everyone enjoyed ... and some of the best cookies anywhere!

The entertainment was outstanding! Sharing 10 minutes of their time and talent was everything from an 8 year old fiddle player, to a Celtic music group, to Native American drummers and dancers and much, much more. Some of the cast members of *Napoleon Dynamite* were also on hand to sign autographs.

There were information booths where people could learn about the services offered in our region, and craft booths where hand/homemade crafts were sold.

Soon, Partners for Prosperity will have a website/community page available for you to see photos of this year's festival, read more specifically about all of the events, and to sign up to be a part of next year's festival! You'll be able to log on and let the P4P staff know that you want to make food for the 2006 Festival; you would like to provide 10 minutes of entertainment; you have information that you would like to share with the region, or you would like to sell your handmade crafts. And, P4P pays for all of the food ... and the entertainment ... everything is free and without charge or obligation to our partners

in Eastern Idaho. You can also sign up as a volunteer and help our staff during the day to set everything up. Watch for the Multicultural Festival website at <http://www.p4peid.org> or call 785-0059 to volunteer for next year's Multicultural Festival! We'd love to have you!

The Multicultural Festival is held every year at the Eastern Idaho State Fairgrounds in Blackfoot.



2005 P4P Essay Contest Winnerst are Amber Van-Vooren, Annie Velasquez, and Chloe Benson . Congratulations to each of them

Did you know....

P4P has a new website URL. Update your website favorites or bookmarks folder to :

<http://www.p4peid.org>

Our Events Calendar is a great way to view upcoming events and meeting with P4P and area communities. Go to:

<http://www.p4peid.org/pcalendar>

Staff e-mail address has changed. They are now:

Jessica Sotelo	jessicas@p4peid.org
Henry Evans	henrye@p4peid.org
Bonnie Fields	bonnief@p4peid.org
Tom Putnam	tomp@p4peid.org
Judy McClanahan	judym@p4peid.org
Lori Padilla	lorip@p4peid.org
Sonia Martinez	soniam@p4peid.org
Ken Bullock	kenb@p4peid.org
Ramona Higley	ramonah@p4peid.org
Christelle Edmo	cedmo@p4peid.org
Delverne Seaman	delvernes@p4peid.org
Terry Busch	terryb@p4peid.org
Jay Reynolds	jayr@p4peid.org
Chris Guthrie	chrisg@p4peid.org



Partners for Prosperity
NEW BEGINNINGS FOR EASTERN IDAHO

IDA program con't from page 1

upon this premise in which IDA's will be used to promote savings that will lead to long-term asset accumulation among low-income families. Partners for Prosperity has pledged \$50,000 matching non-government funds to the IDA program of Eastern Idaho and will work closely with members of the Community Action Partnership (CAP) agencies in our region to assist to set local policies, promote the program, and identify the most appropriate resources to deliver IDA services. Partners for Prosperity will also have a lead role in the recruitment efforts to build relationship and financial support for the IDA Program.

For more information, please feel free to contact Delverne at (208) 785-0059.

Fort Hall Business Association Formed

Partners for Prosperity is proud to announce the newly formed Snake River Basin Business Association (SRBBA). Since October 2004, P4P has assisted the Fort Hall community of native-owned business owners and future business owners realize their dream of developing a Native American business organization that will empower small businesses and micro-businesses on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. The Fort Hall Indian Reservation is an economically-depressed nation with a high poverty rate. The business association is a way to promote economic development initiatives for the Reservation. Tribal member entrepreneurs, and individuals who support tribal member businesses, have been meeting on a monthly basis to develop a solid plan for the business association. As association president, Richard Thompson, explains, "We formed for several reasons...We want to support each other's businesses and gain support from tribal government and other governments to start using our businesses." Thompson adds, "We also hope to work as a chamber of commerce and tourism entity to bring additional resources to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and to our small businesses." Thompson is owner of *Information Incorporated*, a consulting firm that specializes in grants writing and program assistance.

The business association is the result of an effort to build a stronger self-sufficient community. According to Marcia Robles, vice-present of SRBBA and co-owner of *Bannock Pride* located on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, the idea of a Native American business association is not a new one. Marcia and her husband, David Robles, have been involved

for several years to get a native business association started. Robles believes that turning the concept of a business association into reality required commitment from people willing to make it happen. "This idea had to come from the people," says Robles, "people who are in business and struggling." As traditional casket makers, the Robles' have struggled to make their small business a success. Now, they want to help other business owners by sharing their experience in starting and managing a small business. "David and I want to help other people become self-sufficient," says Robles. Robles acknowledges that SRBBA has a lot of work ahead. "The business association is in its infancy stage. It's like a little blossom that I hope to see grow into a big tree." Marcia also serves as a board member on the P4P Board of Directors. David Robles, co-owner of *Bannock Pride*, believes the business association will help address unique issues and unmet needs of reservation businesses. "SRBBA is a tool to address these issues," says Mr. Robles. "We want to help keep dollars flowing in the Reservation and have outside businesses bring dollars into the community...We want the community to strive to be healthy and successful". Another small business owner, El Terese Broncho, also feels that SRBBA is a way to help Indian business owners succeed in operating successful businesses on the reservation and to keep dollars within the Reservation. "SRBBA is a great support system in networking, problem solving, and genuinely caring about the success of one another's businesses." says Broncho. "Because there is so much money being spent off the reservation, I would

Con't on insert

Message from the director..... Jessica Sotelo

The past few months have been an exciting time for P4P and this newsletter is filled with news of good progress in our ten year quest for poverty reduction in Eastern Idaho. Perhaps one of the biggest steps we have taken is our determination by the IRS to be a nonprofit organization with 501(c)3 status as a public charity. We have been pursuing this status since the fall of 2004, although a move in this direction has been discussed for much longer.

As part of our move to nonprofit status we are in the final steps of separation from Idaho State University, our fiscal sponsor for the past 3 years. I have mixed feelings about this. On the one hand we are excited and anxious to move forward with our work and plans; on the other hand we have enjoyed some fantastic benefits due to our partnership with ISU—the most important being the relationships we've cultivated. We've had access to tremendous resources and connections; we've had an extra layer of accountability with our finances and human resources, and we've certainly benefited as employees in a state system.

We are very thankful to ISU President, **Dr. Richard Bowen**, for agreeing to act as the fiscal sponsor for Partners for Prosperity during the strategic planning phase and for the transition period after we were awarded Venture status by the Northwest Area Foundation. We also want to thank the Dean of the College of Technology, **Dr. Ranaye Marsh**, for agreeing to "house" P4P for the past three years and provide grant administration expertise. We thank **Bessie Katsilometes**, former Director of the Center for New Directions for acting as the grant administrator through the strategic planning phase and **Dr. Geoff Dean**, Chair of the General Education Department for acting as grant administrator during the transition phase. There are many more people to thank for the time and effort: **Byron Miles**, CTECH Fiscal Officer and everyone in the CTECH Fiscal Department; **Deb Thompson**, CTECH Assistant Dean; **Margaret Jacob**, CTECH General Education Dept.; **Linda Hale**, **Esther Stapleton**, **Wanda Light**, **Angie Palmer**, and **Lana Neely**, Administrative Assistants at CTECH; **Nancy Farrens** and everyone in the travel office; **David Buck** and everyone in the Purchasing Department; **Ken Prolo**, **Roger Egan** and his staff in accounting; **David Miller**, **Karen Breeding**, **Brian Sagen-dorf** and the staff in Human Resources; **Diane Horrocks** and the staff in Sponsored Programs; Professors **Mark McBeth**, **Liz Cartwright**, and **Don Pierson**; **Paul Zelus** at the Center for Business Research; and everyone else in the communications, computing and other departments who made our time at ISU productive and enabled us to pursue this type of grant. Thank you to everyone.

With that said, we anticipate a long and productive partnership with ISU as we move forward with our work. ISU has a strong, solid commitment to the people of Eastern Idaho plus ISU provides one of the biggest keys to poverty reduction—education!

like to see SRBBA help generate new businesses to flourish and in turn keep money here in our own economy and community." El Terese owns and operates *EITees*, a promotional printing company on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation.

One of the driving forces behind the initial success of the small business association is human capacity-building and a grassroots effort. Darrell Shay, who currently serves as vice-president of the Partners for Prosperity Board of Directors and is the Economic Development Specialist for the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Planning Department, has been involved with P4P since its planning phase. He has been a strong supporter of developing initiatives to

empower tribal members to make changes from within the community instead of trying to bring in outside help. "The most lasting change comes from

within," Shay states. He adds, "For many years, we have been trying to create conditions that build the capacity of our people so they are empowered to make informed decisions." Shay believes the SRBBA members are resilient and have a deep commitment to foster positive social and economic change in Fort Hall. Other tribal members, such as Frances Roy, share in the vision of a successful community. She believes the association can provide a vehicle for business owners to achieve success. "The sky's the limit," expresses Roy. "However, we need more input from people, especially young people...We need their input and their ideas." Roy is a small business owner and currently serves as Secretary of SRBBA.

To assist the Snake River Basin Business Association achieve its goals and objectives, Partners for Prosperity recently donated seed money to help SRBBA with organizational costs. According to President Thompson, the money given by P4P is greatly appreciated and will be used develop the organization and offer more services to tribal members. He noted that the business association has a budget that includes renovation of the donated building where the SRBBA office will be located, the development of ongoing business management training programs and other resources and services to help small businesses and micro-businesses. SRBBA has already begun partnering with other organizations to offer services to tribal members. The association recently sponsored a small

business training geared toward Native-owned businesses. The training was presented by the Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute out of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Community service projects are also an important endeavor for SRBBA. Part of the mission of SRBBA is to assist with community

development initiatives that promote culture values and self-sufficiency. The organization has sponsored a community dinner and will be involved in the upcoming annual Fort Hall Festival in August.

Valda Evening-Smith, a tribal member, arts and crafts member of SRBBA and P4P board member, is glad to be

part of the momentum in Fort Hall. "It is a great honor to be part of such a go-getter group of people," says

Evening-Smith. "I am just amazed at how rapidly SRRBA formed as an organization and I know that it will be a success." In her dual-capacity as an art/crafter and P4P board member, she sees P4P as an important partner in the development of the business association. According to Valda, "P4P has been the real backbone for SRRBA...We can also thank the Northwest Area Foundation for believing in us." Evening-Smith adds, "They [P4P] are geared toward reaching out in areas of need, not only for SRRBA, but by placing our Reservation and our Native Entrepreneurs in the market as competitor vendors...Nothing should be in the way to reach the goals we have in mind for this organization and the community." Valda believes that participation from the native community will foster pride, "Our people will see that they did it themselves."

The association currently has 25 members and has appointed a board of directors. Board members include Richard Thompson, President; Marcia Robles, vice-President; Frances Roy, Secretary and Delila B. George, Treasurer. The organization is working to become incorporated and will be applying for non-profit status in the Fall. Although the Snake River Basin Business Association is dedicated to serving native-owned business, it welcomes non-native businesses and individuals to join and support SRBBA efforts. For more information or to join the association, contact Richard Thompson at 339-3092 or Christelle Edmo at 785-0059.



Partners for Prosperity shares in the vision with Snake River Basin Business Association members by presenting a check for \$17,575.00. Front row left to right-Darrell Shay, vice-President of P4P Board of Directors; Jessica Sotelo, P4P Executive Director; Marcia Robles, SRBBA vice-President, small business owner and P4P board member; Richard Thompson, SRBBA President and small business owner. Second row left to right-Christelle Edmo, P4P Fort Hall Liaison; Valda Evening-Smith, P4P board member and small business owner; El Terese Broncho, small business owner. Back row left to right-Viki Kimsal, Northwest Area Foundation representative; David Robles, small business owner; Ray Broncho, small business owner.