

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 16, 2018

Media contact: Shawn Carlson

scarlson@saulttribe.net

(906) 635-4968

U.P. communities able to offer more amenities through Sault Tribe's latest 2 percent contributions

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Communities throughout the Upper Peninsula are benefitting from nearly \$165,000 in contributions from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians that helps villages, cities, townships, counties and universities support senior and youth services and broader recreational and cultural opportunities for area residents.

The money is part of the twice-annual payments the Sault Tribe has distributed since 1993 to U.P. communities and organizations based on 2 percent slot revenues from tribe's Kewadin Casino properties in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Hessel, Manistique and Christmas. In the past 24 years, nearly \$42.5 million has been awarded throughout the U.P. based on the tribe's 2 percent revenue.

The tribe disbursed close to \$900,000 in its latest distribution, with nearly a fifth going to support community amenities such as museums, skating programs, food pantries and adult day care.

Communities that benefitted from the latest distribution include:

Lake Superior State University's Gem of the North campaign to improve university facilities, \$52,275

Museum of Ojibwa Culture, City of St. Ignace, \$13,281

DeTour Village Community Pavilion bathrooms, \$10,000

Little Bear East Recreation Park, City of St. Ignace, \$10,000

Michilimackinac Historical Society, City of St. Ignace, \$10,000

Bay de Noc Community College for the Northern Lights YMCA, \$10,000

Kinross Charter Township after-school activities, \$6,000

Trout Lake Township Historic Community Park Building, \$5,981

County of Marquette NMU Powwow, \$5,141

Alger County Food Pantry, Munising, \$5,000

Hessel School House renovations in Clark Township, \$5,000

McMillan Township Recreation Center, \$5,000

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Marquette County, \$5,000

Superior District Library accessibility, \$5,000

Bishop Baraga Park roof replacement in Schoolcraft County, \$4,500

Alger County Adult Day Care program, \$4,141

Grand Marais Amateur Radio repairs, Burt Township, \$4,000

Mackinac County toy drive, \$3,002

City of Manistique open skate for community members, \$3,000

City of Marquette Beacon House Fresh Food Fund, \$3,000

City of Marquette Children's Museum, \$3,000

County of Marquette Meals on Wheels funding, \$3,000

Schoolcraft County Community Christmas Program, \$2,750

"Receiving the 2 percent funding from the Sault Tribe to support improvements or new projects for the community residents and visitors to our area has a big impact on how these projects are funded," DeTour Village President and Mayor Murray Fountain said after DeTour received \$10,000 to improve bathrooms at the Community Pavilion.

"The Sault Tribe's financial support and substantial contributions for improvements has made an immense difference," Fountain added. "We are very grateful and thankful for the Sault Tribe's continued support."

Marquette City Manager Mike Angeli said the tribe's contributions help provide services that are a lifeline to many in the Marquette area. "Whether it's money to help bring meals to seniors, provide a top-notch children's museum for area youngsters or make fresh food available for patients and families that travel across the U.P. to receive specialty medical care at U.P. Health System who stay at Beacon House, the Sault Tribe's financial support makes a huge difference," Angeli said.

For more information about the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, please visit [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com). For more information about Kewadin Casinos, please visit [www.kewadin.com](http://www.kewadin.com).