

Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa Donates \$40,000 to Commemorate 15th Anniversary



Property President Steve Bonner (center) presented the checks to the DeBartolo Family Foundation, Metropolitan Ministries, the Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts and Julie Weintraub's Hands Across the Bay.

Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa recently marked its 15th anniversary by donating \$10,000 each to four Tampa Bay charities. Property President Steve Bonner presented the checks to the DeBartolo Family Foundation, Metropolitan Ministries, the Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts and Julie Weintraub's Hands Across the Bay.

Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa announced during its 10th anniversary celebration in 2014 that it would be giving away a total of \$100,000 each to these four designated charities. The money was to be distributed in increments of \$10,000 a year for 10 years.

Cypress Bayou Casino Hotel Celebrity Hole-In-One Challenge Names Fifth Winner

The Cypress Bayou Casino Hotel 5th Celebrity Hole-In-One Challenge teed off on March 17 at Le Triomphe with representatives from local media outlets and local businesses taking a swing for their favorite charities. The event was part of the kickoff for the 28th Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by Mistras. While none of the participants made the 145-yard hole-in-one to win \$5,000 for the charity of his or her choice, Bryan Lee of Our Lady of Lourdes hit the shot that landed closest to the hole and won \$1,500 for Lourdes Foundation.

Bryan Lee of Our Lady of Lourdes was proud to make the shot for the Lourdes Foundation. The monies donated will help the continuation of its mission to provide healthcare to those most in need.

"We appreciate the participation of our partners who came out and had fun for a good cause for this annual event. It was a little windy and cool, but the crowd was great and our local celebrity participants were really great sports and tried their best for the charity of their choice," said Richard Picard,



L-R: Jaqueline Junca, Secretary Treasurer of Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana; Melissa Darden, Chairman of Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana; Jack Darden, Assistant General Manager of Cypress Bayou Casino Hotel; Bryan Lee, Chief Executive Officer of Our Lady of Lourdes; Mike Howard, General Manager and CEO of Cypress Bayou Casino Hotel.

Director of Public Relations and Advertising for Cypress Bayou Casino Hotel. "We look forward to continuing this tradition to kick off the Chitimacha Louisiana Open and giving away even more money to charity as part of our commitment to the people of Acadiana."

Snoqualmie Casino Donates \$10,000 for the Advancement of the Jimi Hendrix Park in Seattle's Central District

Snoqualmie Casino President and CEO, Brian Decorah, recently presented Janie Hendrix, Executive Director of the Jimi Hendrix Park Foundation with a \$10,000 gift to further the expansion of the Jimi Hendrix Park.

Originally opened in 2017, the park pays homage to one of Seattle's brightest stars and serves as an inner city nature preserve enriching the community culturally and socially. The park's design from both a structural and aesthetics standpoint, reflect the musician's spirit and passion. The park itself takes the form of a guitar with lyrics from Hendrix's hits "Angel" and "Little Wing" adorning the pathways.

"The Jimi Hendrix Park is a truly meaningful way to honor Jimi's legacy in his own home town," said Hendrix. "We are grateful to Snoqualmie Casino for supporting our mission to create and enhance a space within the inner city where the community can reflect on his monumental contribution to our culture. It's a contribution that resonates through the decades and from each successive generation that has been touched by his magic."

Representatives from Snoqualmie Casino recently toured the Jimi Hendrix Exhibit at the Northwest African American Museum and learned more about Jimi Hendrix's Cherokee lineage. After hearing about the expansion plans for the Jimi Hendrix Park and seeing Jimi's Native American roots represented within the current design, Snoqualmie Casino President and CEO, Brian Decorah, researched the project



Brian Decorah, CEO of Snoqualmie Casino with Janie Hendrix, Executive Director of the Jimi Hendrix Park Foundation.

further. “I knew this was something special,” he commented. “The Snoqualmie Tribe and Snoqualmie Casino are proud to support such a meaningful project for a legend of rock and roll, both through Native American education as well as the use of outdoor, natural spaces.”

Snoqualmie Casino’s gift allows the Jimi Hendrix Park Foundation to move one step closer to realizing Janie’s dream of entering into the next phase of development.

Tachi Palace Community Breakfast Raises More than \$4,000 for Natives Nationwide Networking Group



Members from Natives Nationwide Networking Group (L-R) Simon R Jones, Lupe Lopez-Donaghey, Sioux Swanson, Maria Rodriguez Coplin, and Mike Shorty accept a donation from Tachi Palace Interim Marketing Director Rojelio Morales (far right).

Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino recently hosted its monthly community breakfast and presented a check for \$4,178 to Natives Nationwide Networking Group, whose mission is to network and partner with organizations interested in working together to bring awareness and solutions to ongoing issues in Indian Country.

More than 400 people attended the fundraising breakfast. A total of \$2,089 was raised at the door and Tachi Palace Hotel & Casino and the Santa Rosa Rancheria Tribe matched

the amount bringing the grand total of the donation to \$4,178. Interim Marketing Director Rojelio Morales was on hand to present the check to Maria Rodriguez Coplin from Natives Nationwide Networking Group.

“On behalf of the Natives Nationwide Networking Group, it is an honor for our non-profit organization to be recognized as the first Indigenous recipient of the Tachi Palace Community Breakfast,” said Rodriguez Coplin. “The money raised will assist in raising awareness and outreach for the indigenous people. It will also be used to support the upcoming Missing Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP) conference this summer.”

GLI Gives Back to Local Community with Donation to Preferred Behavioral Health Group of Lakewood, NJ



Gaming Laboratories International (GLI) has contributed \$30,000 to help fund the transformation of the Preferred Behavioral Health Group (PBHG) facility, located next to GLI’s world headquarters campus in Lakewood, NJ.

“Giving back is built into GLI’s culture, and we strive to impact and support the health, welfare and educational needs of the local communities where we live and work. We are proud to support PBHG in its mission to meet the needs of local families in Monmouth and Ocean Counties, on behalf of all of our employees,” said James Maida, President and CEO of GLI.

“We are extremely grateful to GLI for their generous contribution towards the renovation and expansion of our facility that will augment the advancement and quality of our services,” said Mary Pat Angelini, CEO of Preferred Behavioral Health Group. “Their support enables us to continue to provide services to over 30,000 children, teens, adults, and seniors through more than 70 comprehensive programs. It’s with GLI’s generous donation that we can continue this important work.”

Oklahoma City Indian Clinic Participates in Give Kids a Smile Day

Oklahoma City Indian Clinic (OKCIC), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit clinic providing health and wellness services to American Indians in central Oklahoma. The OKCIC dental department recently participated in Give Kids A Smile Day.

“We provided 40 children with dental health care during our Give Kids a Smile Day,” Monica McKee said, OKCIC Dental Director. “Over half of them received cleanings and all but one received sealants.”

The ADA Foundation’s Give Kids A Smile program was launched nationally in 2003 by the American Dental Association to provide free dental visits for children. Thousands of dentists and volunteers collaborate at Give Kids A Smile events to help provide dental care to underserved children. Today, more than 5.5 million children have been cared for throughout the nation.

February is Children’s Dental Health Month, a month to bring awareness to the benefits of starting oral health care at a young age. According to the Academy of General Dentistry, developing an early habit of visiting a dentist can prove medically beneficial as a child ages into adulthood. Early dental visits increase the chances of detecting minor problems before they become major issues.

Additionally, 19 fillings, one tooth extraction were provided, and 28 children received either a comprehensive or periodic exam and radiographs. The remaining patients received oral screenings or were offered comprehensive exams at a later date. At the end of the appointment, the child received a dental goodie bag to take home, which included a free spin brush to help keep their teeth clean.

“OKCIC is proud to partner with Give Kids a Smile,” McKee said. “This event provides our younger patients treatment in a fun and inviting way, and teaches the fundamentals of daily oral healthcare.”

OKCIC Receives Donation From Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma

Oklahoma City Indian Clinic (OKCIC) recently received a generous donation of \$15,000 from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma Healthy Kids, Healthy Families initiative.

Asthma is one of the most common chronic conditions in children and affects more Native Americans within the State of Oklahoma. According to the State’s Health Report from the Oklahoma State Department of Health, about one in ten Oklahoma children aged 0-17 years reported having asthma.

“Our pediatric asthma clinic was established in 2014 and continues to grow to support the increasing needs of our patients,” Robyn Sunday-Allen said, CEO of OKCIC. “Blue Cross Blue Shield’s generous contribution will allow us to



continue providing quality care to our pediatric asthma patients.”

OKCIC’s asthma clinic provides age appropriate comprehensive education to patients and families about asthma, triggers and pulmonary function testing. The asthma clinic staff is an interdisciplinary health care team, which includes a pediatric provider, clinical pharmacist and nursing staff.

Pechanga Tribe Announces \$100,000 Grant to Assist Lake Elsinore with “Super Bloom” Traffic and Public Safety

The Pechanga Tribal Council recently announced a grant of up to \$100,000 to the City of Lake Elsinore to support the City’s efforts to aid with traffic control surrounding the “super bloom.” In a recent weekend, more than 150,000 people were estimated to have visited the hillsides off of Interstate 15 in Lake Elsinore. Local officials were forced to cut off access and stopped courtesy shuttles running to the flower-covered hills, calling the crowding “unbearable.”

“This natural wonder is a treasure to be enjoyed by Californians, but we need to be responsible about it,” said Pechanga Tribal Chairman Mark Macarro. “Elsinore is part of our ancestral territory, and we even have reservation lands there. We are pleased to support the city and our local partners to help better manage traffic control and public safety for the thousands of visitors enjoying the super bloom, as well as the local residents and commuters impacted by traffic conditions. Conservation and protection of our natural resources are important values to our tribe.”

The City of Lake Elsinore will be able to use the Pechanga grant funds for additional resources including law enforcement, traffic control, shuttles, public safety personnel, and super bloom area protection.

“We are extremely grateful for this generous contribution from Pechanga,” said Mayor Steve Manos. “This will ensure we can continue to fund the resources and support needed to provide for the safety of our residents and visitors.” ♣