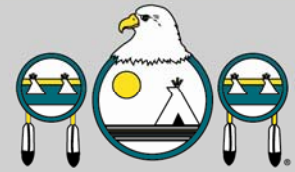


# Ho Cokata



*A Newsletter from the Cheyenne River Youth Project®*

**Fall 2008**

## Staff

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*Deputy Director*

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*Wellness Intern*

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*Special Projects Manager*

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## CRYP Celebrates 20 Years of Service

CRYP celebrated its 20th Anniversary and first-ever Volunteer Reunion, the weekend of August 29<sup>th</sup>.

On Saturday at 1-4 p.m., CRYP hosted the official 20th Anniversary Celebration at the Cokata Wiconi Teen Center, where guests enjoyed

refreshments, listened to presentations by signature guest speakers, toured CRYP facilities and visited the Cokata Wiconi Gift Shop, part of CRYP's Sustainable Systems initiative.

Then, Sunday at 10 a.m., CRYP formally dedicated its History Wall in Cokata Wiconi. Curated by former long-term volunteer and London resident Benjamin Cranham, the wall is a permanent exhibition of documents, photographs and other materials that tell the history of the four bands of Lakota who comprise the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.



c/o Richard Steinberger

Since CRYP's 20th Anniversary Celebration & Volunteer Reunion coincided with the 57th Annual Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Fair, Rodeo and Powwow, guests had the opportunity to attend all related events, including the honoring ceremony at the Eagle Butte powwow grounds at 1 p.m. on Sunday. At the ceremony, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe proclaimed a resolution announcing August 31<sup>st</sup> as "Cheyenne River Youth Project Day." All former and current CRYP staff and volunteers were honored for their service at the event.

Finally, the youth project's float, carrying current and former volunteers, and celebrating CRYP's 20 years with a "Tree of Life" theme, cruised Eagle Butte in the city's annual Labor Day parade at 10 a.m. on Monday. This brought the weekend celebration to a close.

## Family Services Distributes New Shoes For School!

A shoe distribution was held on August 20<sup>th</sup> at the Cheyenne River Youth Project for families with memberships in our Family Services Program. The shoes, donated by Christian Relief Services, came in all brands and sizes, so that children from toddler's all the way up to seniors in high school could choose a new pair!

The shoe drive, held from 10am to 5pm, gave excited children a chance to pick their favorite pair of shoes for the next school year! It was a very busy yet fun-filled day and in the end, there were many families who were very happy and very satisfied with their distribution. Over 117 families were served and over 295 pairs of shoes were distributed to children.

## History Wall Dedication



c/o Richard Steinberger

After years of planning and nine busy months of research, interviews and curating, the Cheyenne River Youth Project® officially dedicated the History Wall in the Cokata Wiconi Teen Center on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008. A permanent exhibition of documents, photographs and other materials, curated by former long-term volunteer Ben Cranham, that tell the history of the four bands of Lakota who comprise the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, the History Wall is now available for public viewing.

The wall's timeline starts circa 1500, before the Lakota made their home along the Cheyenne River, and traces the four bands' major events and personal stories through more than 500 years until the present day. The narrative weaves through the centuries from the Lakota creation story to the years of conflict following European contact, when leaders such as Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse made their mark and ultimately became legend.

Cheyenne River elder Harry Charger conducted the opening prayer at the formal dedication ceremony and blessed the wall. His great-grandfather, the legendary Lakota leader Big Foot, is buried at Wounded Knee, and Charger himself ran supplies to Wounded Knee during the 1973 conflict.

To support this valuable project, CRYP now has a limited-edition poster available for purchase, which includes an historical timeline for Cheyenne River's four bands of Lakota. The posters are \$25 a piece, plus shipping. Donors may also make direct financial contributions to CRYP.

## Midnight Basketball 3-on-3

On August 8, 2008, CRYP ended another successful summer of Midnight Basketball with an annual 3-on-3 tournament. Midnight Basketball, in its 11<sup>th</sup> year, was started over ten years ago by a volunteer for the

Main Youth Center and has since become a staple of teenage summer culture on Cheyenne River.

The tournament took place on Friday August 8, 2008, at the Cokata Wiconi Teen Center and was sponsored by Northern Plains Tribal Epidemiology Center/ Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board. Youth were able to enjoy pizza,

PowerAde, and bottled water provided by our evening's sponsor; they were also able to hang out in the internet café, visit, play games, enjoy some friendly ping-pong competition, and use the internet. With over 25 games played in

the double elimination bracket throughout the evening, 10 members of our youth took home prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> places,

as well as Most Valuable Player. Over a hundred youth took advantage of this fun-filled summer event, with 50 participants in the 3-on-3 tournament. We are very thankful to NPTEC and Mabel Granados for making this event that much more special!



## Christmas Toy Drive

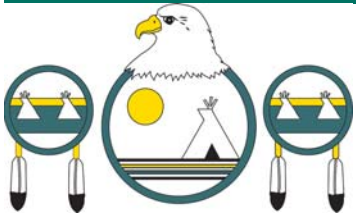
Christmas is just around the corner and we need your help! Every year we bring Christmas gifts to over 1000 children on Cheyenne River. But we can't do it without your help.

### How YOU can help:

- Donate online. Cash donations are fast, easy and 100% tax deductible. Just go to our website [www.lakotayouth.org](http://www.lakotayouth.org), and go to Help CRYP.
- Request a wish list and buy the presents yourself. Just e-mail [tamara@lakotayouth.org](mailto:tamara@lakotayouth.org).
- Get others involved! Coordinate a toy drive at your church or school that benefits CRYP!







**Cheyenne River Youth Project**

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Eagle Butte, SD 57625

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www.lakotayouth.org

**Needs List**

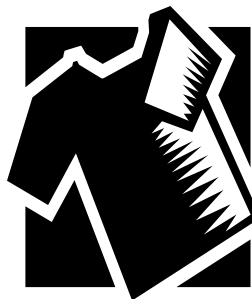
- Dish Soap
- Cleaning Products
- Brooms and Dust Mops
- Hand Soap
- Plumbing Snake
- Trash Bags
- School Supplies
- Color Copier
- Office Supplies
- Tools (Of All Kinds)
- New Computers, Monitors, Printers For Our New Interns
- Art Supplies for the Teen Center Studio
- Karaoke CDs
- Roll Paper 36' X 1000'
- Games for a Wii game system
- Kitchen Supplies (Pots, Pans, Utensils, Knives, Coffee Maker, Toaster, Can Openers, etc.)
- Ping Pong Balls and Foosballs
- Extension Ladder
- Hand Cart
- Lighting System for Teen Dances

**Your Donation is Tax Deductible**

Please remember that all cash donations are **100% tax-deductible**.

Any donation, big or small helps!

**Thank you for your support!**



**New T-Shirts, Hoodies, Sweatshirts, and Long-sleeved T-shirts are available. Now available at our online gift shop! Just go to [www.lakotayouth.org/CRYP%20Market.htm](http://www.lakotayouth.org/CRYP%20Market.htm) or call (605) 964-8200 to order yours today!**

If your name or address is incorrect please notify us immediately!

**The Gift Shop Expands!**

New Social Enterprises intern, Megan Eagle Staff is currently managing the CRYP Gift Shop and organizing a business plan for the Internet Cafe. The Gift Shop, consisting of canned goods such as pickles, jelly, our homemade salsa, jalapeno, banana peppers and soon to come homemade syrup, has received a recent overhaul and now has a beautiful new display. After learning the trade of canning from members of the service group S.W.A.M.P.-I.N. this summer, Megan has developed new flavors and has refined marketing techniques. Some new offerings include spicy pickles choke cherry syrup, and chunky apple butter. CRYP sells local crafts from artists in the surrounding area. The gift shop currently sells t-shirts online and offer more merchandise via our online market in the near future.