



Chippewa Enterprises, Inc.
PO Box 362
Montevideo, MN 56265
320-269-6134

November 15, 2012

Dear Friend,

Chippewa Enterprises call for funds

Chippewa Enterprises, Inc., established in 1964, is an organization dedicated to serving adults with developmental disabilities by assisting them with a wide spectrum of daily living activities with a focus on acquiring skills to participate in meaningful work. Our mission is to establish programs for our clients as a means to help them adjust to society and reach his or her fullest potential as an individual. We offer services to the Montevideo area through community jobs, including cleaning crews, car washing crews, and office tasks. We also provide in-house work contracts which involve packaging and assembling.

State funding for programs that serve individuals with disabilities have seen dramatic cuts since 2000. At the same time the Department of Human Services placed increased responsibilities on our programs, asking us to do more with less funding. Chippewa Enterprises is licensed to serve 60 individuals aged 21-85 with abilities that range from semi-independent living and working skills, to total dependence in every aspect of daily life. We help them with:

- *personal wellbeing*
 - *grooming*
 - *hygiene*
 - *personal safety*
 - *leisure activities*
 - *social skills*
- *providing work training and experiences*
- *activities to help with interactions with the general public*
- *contact with an Interdisciplinary Team (the client, guardian, social worker, residence and day placement)*

Our goal is to match each of our individuals with tasks and work that fit their needs and abilities. We take pride in a program with is well run and provides a quality, safe, and caring work experience for a population with many needs regardless of their disability or limitation. Our clients currently work six hours a day, 235 days a year. In 2011, they earned \$15,000 which was largely spent in the Montevideo community on personal items.

Our program has outgrown our current facility located in the Chippewa Country Fairgrounds. The grounds and buildings are not adequate, safe, or suitable to our clients or their activities and needs. We were recently donated a parcel of land where we would like to build a new facility. We are thankful we have a place to run our program, but it's time to move on to a safer, more functional facility.

The estimated cost of the entire building project is \$600,000. We have plans to finance \$300,000 should we need to. The plan is to begin the building of the new facility in the spring of 2013. Chippewa Enterprises is a nonprofit organization (501c3) so please keep that in mind for your end of the year tax purposes.

We need the Montevideo's help to raise the funds for the new facility and continue our program. Without it our clients would not be able to experience the feeling of accomplishment from a job well done.

If you are willing to help us achieve this goal, have questions, or would like more information about CEI and its programs, please feel free to contact us. Visit Chippewa Enterprises on Facebook for updated information and photos of the current facility. Donations can be set to Chippewa Enterprises, PO Box 362, Montevideo, MN 56265.

Gwen Bowler
Executive Director