## **Quarterly Newsletter**

Stay up-to-date with the latest from Headwaters



### **Hello Headwaters Supporters!**



**Tennessee Relief Trip** 

On December 9th, 2023, 18 tornadoes hit parts of Nashville and the surrounding area, some as strong as an EFT 3. After the damage was assessed, 114 homes were destroyed. 857 homes were damaged and 20,000 people had no electricity. Headwaters volunteers traveled to Nashville after the New Year's holiday. We primarily worked in Madison, Tennessee, a suburb of Nashville. Headwaters provided debris clean-up for numerous families. We helped one man remove tree debris from his property to get it ready for transport. We helped a woman whose garage was completely damaged and needed to be gutted. In addition to helping numerous people with what needed to be done in their homes, we were able to help with the recovery in Tennessee in a unique way. Among our volunteers were two staff from our Meridian Case Management department who are Spanish speakers. This was helpful, as some people who are Spanish speaking had not received the same level of assistance as others in the community. Our Spanish-speaking volunteers were able to call people to see if they needed assistance. We also provided resource information to those who had not been identified as needing help. We coordinated our contacts with the Tennessee State VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active Disaster) so that others were aware of the family's need for assistance.

The other notable event of the trip occurred when we found a trailer park that had received no assistance. Ironically, they were located one mile from the temporary FEMA office. Our observation is that while many people receive assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) and local governments, there are still people who fall through the cracks after a disaster. Headwaters wants to help all people and especially those who are elderly, those with fewer resources and those whose access to assistance is somehow limited. Our volunteer trip to Tennessee was the kind of on-the-ground volunteer experience that makes us grateful for the opportunity to serve!



# Twins Game Volunteer Stand 2024: Continuing Our Legacy of Supporting Our Team

Headwaters Relief Organization continues its tradition of operating a volunteer stand at select Twins home games during the 2024 season. This unique opportunity not only fosters team building but also raises funds for our organization, thanks to the efforts of our dedicated volunteers. We have already successfully managed seven stands and plan to cover four more.

We extend our deepest gratitude to each and every one of you—volunteers and team leaders—who have contributed to this success. This year marks our second venture into such an initiative, and your dedication has made it incredibly fruitful and rewarding. Your commitment to our cause and enthusiastic participation have not gone unnoticed. We have received commendations for being one of the best teams on the stand this year. The teamwork demonstrated throughout has been exemplary, showcasing the spirit of collaboration and unity within our organization.

A special note of appreciation goes to the outstanding team from Delaware North sports service at Target Field for their exceptional coordination and for providing us with this invaluable opportunity. Your support has played a pivotal role in the success of this venture.

In line with our 100% model, rest assured that every donation collected during the event will be channeled completely into our fieldwork. Your generosity significantly contributes to our ongoing efforts and mission, making a meaningful impact on the lives of those we support.

#### **Future stand dates:**

- 1. 14-Aug
- 2. 19-Aug
- 3. TBD



# Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Office Search

Headwaters Relief Organization joined the search for missing Indigenous individuals in Minnesota by participating in a search organized by the Minnesota Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Office.

The Minnesota Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives was the first such office established in the United States. The MMIR office states its mission as "The development and implementation of systemic, legislative, and transformative social justice policies paired with the application of sufficient resources, programs, and services that will foster the safety, equity, healing, and civil and human rights of Indigenous peoples and communities in Minnesota."

For decades, Native American and Alaska Native communities have struggled with high rates of assault, abduction, and murder of tribal members. Community advocates describe the crisis as a legacy of generations of government policies of forced removal, land seizures, and violence inflicted on Native peoples. Native American and Alaska Native rates of murder, rape, and violent crime are all higher than the national averages.

The Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives organized a search for Jeremy Jourdain on June 3rd in Red Lake, MN. Our volunteers assisted in the search of the heavily wooded areas and swamps on the Red Lake Reservation. Jourdain has been missing since 2016. We are hopeful that useful information and items were collected to help give closure to his loved ones.

### Missing Person Search-Hopkins MN June 10, 2024

Headwaters was contacted by the local police department to assist with the community search for a missing 4-year-old boy with Autism.

Headwaters put out a call for volunteers to join the search for the same day from 1-5pm. We had 30 volunteers ready to assist at 1pm. Sadly, we were notified before 1pm that the search was called off.

We are grateful for the 30 volunteers who immediately responded and were prepared to support the local community. We are also thankful for those who might have helped at a different time.



#### **Headwaters 6th Annual Golf Tournament**

Our heartfelt thanks go out to every volunteer, golfer, sponsor, and supporter who stepped up to make our golf tournament a resounding success for the 6th consecutive year. Your generosity and spirit of community were truly on display. A special shout-out goes to our hole sponsors. You've helped drive our disaster relief efforts further, demonstrating an incredible display of solidarity and determination.

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