



JAH-NOO

híntil čanú

A N N U A L R E P O R T

2024-2025

Mission Statement

The mission of the Hopland Band of Pomo Indians is to provide for the preservation of our cultural traditions, the protection of the homelands, the continuous improvement of the social and economic standard of the people, the establishment of a democratically representative government for present and future generations of the Band, and to avail the Tribe of the authorities conferred by the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984) as amended.

CONTENT

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

HEDCO

THPO

HOUSING

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ELDER'S DEPARTMENT / HUMAN RESOURCES

EDUCATION

MAINTENANCE

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SPECIALIST

EPA

FISCAL ADMINISTRATION

VICTIM SERVICES

HEALTH

ROADS & TRANSPORTATION



Tribal Pool 10/24



Our People's Park



Message From the Tribal Chairman

Greetings Tribal Members,

I hope that you are all safe, healthy, and happy when this letter finds you. An important part of our health and wellbeing includes checking in on our elders and loved ones.

We understand how important the newsletter has been for our people, and we are working to provide a consistent newsletter to our membership once again. The newsletter provides a great opportunity for our team here at the Tribe to engage and provide updates to our members. This falls in line with the Tribal Councils goal and initiative to get out and engage our people directly and consistently. Our membership should know and be familiar with our managers and their staff within the departments. Members should be aware of the services and resources that are available to you and exactly how to access them. Please use the contact information throughout this report to connect with managers and staff.

The Tribal Council has been working to complete many priorities and tasks that are inclusive of community building and strengthening the communication we have with members. It takes being able to reflect on the way that we have been operating while understanding what implementations are needed for us to grow and get better. For instance, ensuring that committees are active and productive provides opportunities for members to take part and have a voice in the way we develop and administer many of our services and resources. Although committees do not make decisions for the tribe, they offer important input and recommendations to the Tribal Council. Making certain that membership input is taken into consideration prior to making decisions. If you have not signed up for a committee, please reach out the administration office to request a committee application.

Another approach we will take to engage and communicate better is for the Tribal Council and managers to travel out and meet with members off the reservation. An important component of this is to identify concentrations of our members and the best way to contact them. We are planning on hosting some meaningful and productive meetings with members over this next year. The goal of these meetings is to not only make it more convenient for members to take part. But to ensure our people are being heard and their input is being incorporated by leadership as much as possible.

Housing is also a top priority, and the Council has been working to secure funding that will address this vital need for our people. The 4-plex is nearly done and will provide a homes for 4 families in our tribe. We will also be soliciting applications for the tiny home that was built this year. We hope to complete more projects like this one over the course of 2025. Addressing homelessness or substandard housing issues takes commitment and work. I can assure you that your Tribal Council and the rest of our team are committed to acquiring more affordable housing and housing assistance for our membership.

I thank you all for your time and look forward to an exciting year ahead of our Tribe.

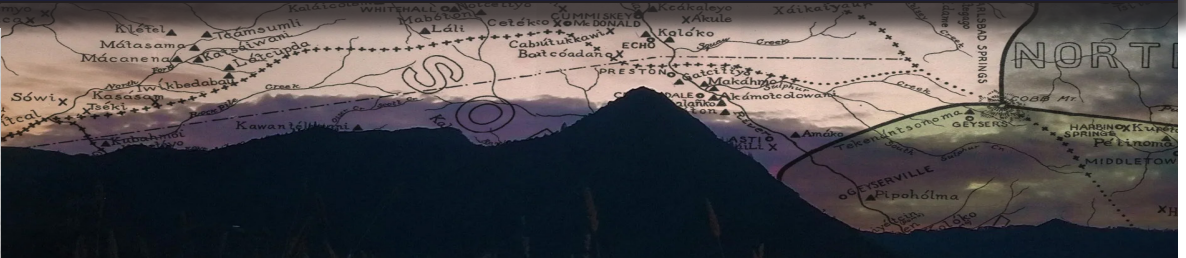
Sonny J. Elliott, Tribal Chairman

HOPLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (HEDCO)





Tribal Historic Preservation Officer



Sí:n wa máya? How are all doing so far? The THPO Department consist of the THPO (Tribal Historic Preservation Officer) and my name is Ramón Billy, Jr. The Hopland THPO Program is 100% grant funded by the National Parks Service. The budget is \$93,784. The THPO Grant is in effect for this grant cycle,

and it is good for two years which is 2025-2026. The National Park Service (NPS) Tribal Preservation Program has been assisting the Hopland Tribe in preserving our historic properties and cultural traditions through the designation of this Tribal Historic Preservation Office. The THPO strives to partner with local organizations and State and Private Agencies. We have seen success in these undertakings for the past year to accomplish the goals of the program.

2024 Accomplishments

In June, the Tribe had a quiet repatriation with the archeological firm Pacific Legacy. This was a direct result of Tribal Cultural Monitoring that was held the previous year the also at the beginning of 2024. The findings which are various artifacts that were prehistoric and historical are now housed safely at the Tribe. A new interactive sign was erected in July that is well received. In October, the third annual memorial hand game tournament was held and planning the upcoming year is about to begin. Lastly, a private repatriation was held on New Year's Eve as a hand pestle from Shiyéeqo, an old village just north of Hopland in Sho-Ka-Wah territory was returned to the Tribe in a good way. These were just highlights of 2024.

2025 Goals

In 2025 we anticipate a new museum and cultural center that will allow the department to expand. This will be a task worth the effort, and it will occupy most of the year. The end result is a permanent center for our Hopland Tribal History and Culture like language, art, and various rare artifacts. Additional signage is on the list while solid tribal cultural monitoring projects are actively being sought out and negotiated with state agencies and archeological firms. Language revitalization is always a priority and that will not change in 2025 as we look to build on our program.

The culture department feels confident coming into the new year and will look to be innovative when called upon. Please be on the lookout for new developments and do not hesitate to contact Ramón Billy, THPO @ (707) 472-2100 at extension 1343 and also at thpo@hoplandtribe.com.

Yáhwi: ʔúda:w! (Thank You Very Much!)

Housing

Hello all,

I have been working for the HBPI Housing Department for approximately 3 Years now and have gained tremendous experience though hard work and determination. I am currently part-time and going back to school to invest in providing more housing for the HBPI. Completing the Housing Excellence Academy in March 2024 is an accomplishment that will contribute to the growth of the department.



The housing department has been busy with annual inspections coming up while addressing any maintenance issues that arise. This continues to keep us busy with the 10 homes on Napó Shwéy as well as maintaining pest control for the units. We are also working with Mendocino County Animal Control to help provide a solution to address stray dogs, here is a good contact number for the Animal Control Officer on duty (707) 510-7253 for any issues that come up. HBPI will be starting the next phase of the solar project for the gym after receiving another TSAF grant to supply the battery units. This will ensure that when the power goes out the local tribal members will have a place for emergency services. The next priority project will be working to offset the EPA/Utility building energy cost. The tribe has developed a strong partnership and working relationship with Grid Alternatives. There is currently an opportunity for tribal members who reside on the HBPI tribal reservation to get solar for their home. Anyone interested, please reach out to me and I would be more than happy to assist with the



process of enrollment.

Please remember that Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority administers our housing funds and services. I have been working closely with their staff and I am able to help assist with their application process and contact information.

We are here to help and I look forward to meeting you, if we haven't met already. We are always open to feedback regarding how we can improve our current housing services and program.

Thank you

Richard Billy

Richard A. Billy III

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



Greetings, everyone. April 2025 marks the third year that this IT department has proudly served the Hopland Band of Pomo Indians. It is both a great pleasure and an honor to work alongside the dedicated employees and tribal members. I remain committed to providing assistance with integrity, respect, and positivity. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the Hopland Tribe's endeavors.”

Some of my future projects include upgrading the tribe's VMware equipment and enhancing the company's phone switch and server infrastructure. I have completed on the security camera upgrade project, ensuring enhanced surveillance and safety. Additionally, I have upgraded access points

for Health and Victim Services, prioritizing efficiency and accessibility. I installed an access point at the tribal park, providing members with the convenience of free Wi-Fi near the pool and gazebo area.



Alongside my daily responsibilities, I maintain the physical infrastructure for our MSP, addressing emergencies as they arise. I troubleshoot, identify, and resolve issues efficiently to ensure smooth operations and timely solutions. I also collaborated with other departments to create graphics and manage media outlets such as Facebook, Fast Command, and the tribal website. Additionally, I am working closely with our Tribal Community Engagement Specialist to improve communication and engagement with tribal members, ensuring they stay informed and connected.



Elders Department

Our Elder Meal Program is located at the old Education Center. We are open 5 days a week. Meals being served at the center to about 6-7 seniors per day in-house, we deliver daily to 7 seniors per day starting about 11:15 am. We are averaging around 60 per week. The Health Department also serves around 6 in their department on Wednesday. On/around 15th of each month we serve breakfast between 10-11 am at which time we get around 18 seniors. The menu is scheduled around the 3rd week of each month. If you would like to order certain meals, you may call for delivery. We realize not all seniors like every meal and some pick and choose what they would like to eat. Please feel free to critique or make suggestions. Please call the center or come in just to watch TV and socialize. We now have a pass code so that you may come in at any time. You may call our tribal office or myself, Loretta Harjo, at 951-581-7499 for further information.

HUMAN RESOURCES

MISSION STATEMENT

“Here at the Hopland Tribe, our Human Resources team is dedicated to fostering an inclusive, supportive, and dynamic work environment where every employee feels valued, empowered, and inspired to achieve their full potential. We are committed to attracting, developing, and retaining top talent, while promoting fairness, equity, and diversity across all aspects of our organization. Through strategic initiatives, transparent communication, and personalized support, we strive to cultivate a culture of excellence, collaboration, and innovation, driving the success of both our employees and our company as a whole.”

WELCOME OUR NEWEST EMPLOYEES



Carol Torpey
Fiscal Manager



Jorge Alvarado Jr
Water Resource



Brian Yopez
Community Engagement
Specialist



Josie Pady
Human Services
Manager



The Hopland Education Department is committed to providing quality educational opportunities that empower students of all ages to achieve academic success, personal growth, and cultural connection. Through supportive programs, resources, and community partnerships, we strive to foster a lifelong love for learning, honor our traditions, and equip individuals with the skills needed to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Cirima Ramirez, Education Manager

Hilda Mata, Education Assistant

Rogger Duran, Transportation Coordinator

Katelyn Romero, Tutor

We offer the following educational support programs:

- GPA Academic Incentive Program- is dedicated to supporting HBPI tribal youth, 6th-12th grade, with their academic success. To reward their achievement in the classroom an incentive reward is offered for a G.P.A. 2.5 or higher
- Student Special Achievement Award- is recognition of student success in the classroom for HBPI tribal members K-12. This incentive is created to support and encourage the students for their academic accomplishments and endeavors earned.
- Graduation Cap and Gown Assistance- is a financial assistance opportunity for the tribe to help graduating tribal members with help towards the cost of the cap and gown
- BIE Higher Education Grant Program- is not an entitlement program. Its purpose is to provide supplemental financial assistance to the eligible American Indian/Alaskan Native students entering college, seeking a bachelor's degree.
- BIE Vocational Education Grant- is not an entitlement program- is to provide onetime supplemental financial assistance to the eligible American Indian/Alaskan Native students seeking a Vocational Degree.
- Transportation and Job Training Support- is committed to supporting Tribal youth and the community by providing reliable transportation for education and job training.

You can find applications online at <https://www.hoplandtribe.com/education>

NEW INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Students earn daily stickers/small toys, weekly Panda Express Kids' Meals, monthly Applebee's gift cards, and quarterly prize drawings for good attendance and behavior. Progress is tracked on a chart, ensuring achievements are recognized and rewarded. These incentives keep students motivated and engaged all year!

Accomplishments: The Hopland Education Department successfully completed vocational training in building a tiny home. This project provided participants with valuable hands-on experience, helping them develop essential skills for future job opportunities in construction and related fields. The training was a rewarding experience for both students and trainers, and the complete tiny home is a meaningful addition to the community.

Class of 24/25

High school and college graduation is around the corner! Make sure you submit your Cap and Gown application. All you need is a copy of your transcript and application. You can get an application from the Education Department or at HoplandTribe.com/education.

Shanél Valley Academy to Host Attendance Awareness Dinner

The Education Department & Shanél Valley Academy will host a dinner event in April (date TBA) at the event center to discuss the importance of student attendance in academic success. Organized with Principal Kristi and Assistant Julie, the event invites parents, educators, and staff to collaborate on strategies to support students.

Fundraiser Success

Thanks to our dedicated community, we raised \$1,500 this year! These funds provided children with unforgettable trips to the Aquarium of the Bay, Safari West, and Confusion Hill.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who contributed—whether by donating, volunteering, or participating. Your support made this possible, and we look forward to creating more opportunities for our students in the future!



The purpose of the maintenance department is to ensure that all equipment, machinery, facilities, and systems within an organization are operating efficiently, safely, and reliably.

MAINTENANCE MANAGER
Victor Moreno



New Tribal Dance Grounds

MAINTENANCE CREW

Alfredo Romeo
Humberto Gonzalez
Na-Shoy Mendoza

ACTIVITIES

Janitorial Services
Remodeling Paint
Flooring
Drywall
Framing
Electrical
Plumbing
Roofing
Repairs
General Construction

Constant changes are being made at the maintenance department, to meet the needs of the community and improve respond time to job requests.

Community Engagement Specialist



Greetings, fellow tribal members! It's an honor to serve our tribe as the Tribal Community Engagement Specialist (TCES). This position has been implemented to help bridge the communication gap between our members and the council. With the creation of this new role, the Tribal Council wants to better understand your needs, concerns, and ideas so we can work together towards a better, stronger, more connected community.

In addition to creating a Tribal Heat Map, identifying the concentration of where members reside, the TCES is tasked with various duties aimed at fostering correspondence, understanding, and collaboration between the tribal government and the membership. Below are some roles and responsibilities this job is accountable to:

1. BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

- Engage with tribal members across different age groups, backgrounds, and regions.
- Foster trust and open communication to better understand community concerns, needs, and aspirations.
- Organize regular town halls, forums, or gatherings to create opportunities for direct interaction between the Membership and Decision Makers.

2. FACILITATING COMMUNICATION:

- Serve as a liaison between the tribal council and the community.
- Ensure that important tribal announcements, initiatives, and policies are communicated effectively and transparently to all members.

3. ENSURING MEMBER'S CONTACT INFORMATION IS UP TO DATE:

- Reach out to members through various channels such as phone call, emails, texts and via mail so their information is regularly updated.
- Identify each member's preferred choice of contact.

4. CONDUCTING NEEDS ASSESSMENTS:

- Gather feedback from the community through surveys, focus groups, interviews, and other means to assess needs and priorities.
- Analyze this feedback to provide recommendations to the tribal council on how to better support and serve the community.

5. ADVOCATING FOR COMMUNITY INTERESTS:

- Represent the interests and concerns of community members at council meetings or in discussions with external organizations.
- Advocate for policies and practices that reflect the tribe's values and the needs of its people.

6. PLANNING INFORMATION GATHERINGS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

- Organize and facilitate community meetings that allow for open and healthy discussion to strengthen community bonds.
- Encourage participation in activities that promote tribal identity and unity.

Ultimately, a Community Engagement Specialist is tasked with ensuring that tribal members are heard, that their concerns are addressed, and that there is ongoing dialogue between the tribe's leadership and the community. As Sitting Bull once said, "Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children." Your voices are invaluable, and together, we can ensure our tribe thrives. The Tribal Council would like to thank you all for being a key component in shaping our future. Please feel free to contact me if you have any ideas, questions, or concerns. Ya Wee!

Brian Yopez,
Community Engagement Specialist
tribalces@hoplandtribe.com
(707)472-2100 ex.1303





The Mission of the Hopland Band of Pomo Indians Tribal EPA is to preserve and protect the natural resources of the Hopland Reservation.

Hello, my name is Trevor Partida, and I am a member of the Hopland Band of Pomo Indians serving as Environmental Director for my tribe since May 2024. During this time, I have been managing the programs ensuring the department is running effectively.

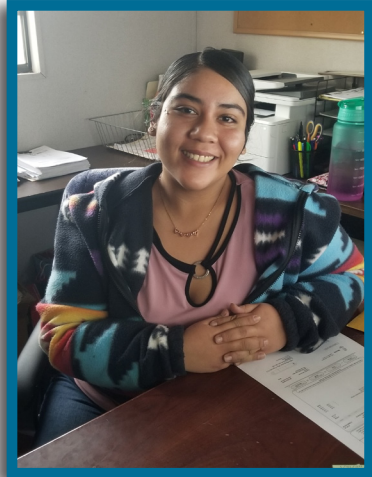
In 2024 our team collaborated with the Tribal Ecological Restoration Alliance (TERA) and Cal Fire. This collaboration proven important to enhance land stewardship practices. Focusing on improving water quality, fuel load reduction for fire safety, native species preservation, and community engagement. We are planning three controlled burns near Nissa-Kah Creek to restore these areas for basket-making fibers, traditional medicines, and other Tribal Beneficial Uses. Additionally, our new Water Resource Coordinator, Jorge Alvarado, will be hosting a Kids in the Creek event this spring. This is where youth learn about native plant identification, bioassessment, and creek and stream restoration.

Our Emergency Response Coordinator is distributing shelter-in-place supplies and ensuring our emergency response plans are up to date. We are also in the process of establishing a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and welcome input from the community to address emergency preparedness needs. CERT members will visit each household on the reservation to assess and improve emergency readiness. While creating action plans and strategies that will assist in the event of an emergency.

Finally, the department will be collaborating with local bee farmers to revitalize the community garden this year. We encourage community input on what crops should be grown and invite volunteers to help maintain the garden space. Thank you for the opportunity to serve and contribute to the Hopland Tribe's environmental and emergency preparedness efforts—it is an honor to help preserve our land and culture.



FISCAL/ADMIN



Elena Romero



Carol Torpey

Administration Office
3000 Shanel Rd
Hopland CA. 95449
707.472.2100

HUMAN SERVICES

TRIBAL VICTIM SERVICES:

OVC funds may be used for any purpose directly related to serving victims of crime and OVC encourages its Tribal partners to be creative and innovative in using the funds to provide culturally relevant, linguistically appropriate, victim-centered services. Current staff under this grant/program are Kashia Williams, support specialist and Dolores Duncan, victim advocate. We can provide emergency services for victims of crime with this funding. As the Human Services manager I am in the process of improving our ability to provide direct services and support for community members. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:30am-5pm for all victim services. Goals we look to achieve under this grant are to plan and host quarterly Victim Services awareness events, training or workshops so be looking out for our flyers. We hosted a successful "Teen Dating Violence" event in February and in March We are planning a skirt making workshop for our youth.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (OVW), JUSTICE FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM JFFX:

All projects under the Justice for Families Program must address supervised visitation or court-based and court-related programs. Projects supported by the Justice for Families Program focus on keeping victims and their children safe from further abuse and holding offenders accountable. Currently we are working to ensure internal and external policies and procedures are developed and in place. OVW must review and approve a supervised visitation/safe exchange site plan prior to the program being implemented. We are also responsible for approving the selection criteria that will be used to select clients and receive referrals. Once all current phases have been completed or accomplished, we will be conducting outreach, crisis response and safety planning. Also, peer to peer support, intensive case management and support or access to services not available by HBPI but necessary to support the Kinship Court.

COORDINATED TRIBAL ASSISTANCE SOLICITATION, CTAS-PA3:

The overall goals of Purpose Area #3 are to provide key funding to Tribal Justice Systems to develop, support and enhance Tribal justice systems and the prevention of violent crime and crimes related to substance use disorders. The Tribe's program will be focused on Tribal Court enhancements. Deliverables are revising domestic violence ordinances, child welfare ordinances and additional ordinances or sections covering violence related to dating, sexual assault, child maltreatment, stalking, and evidence of human trafficking and/or Missing and Murdered AI/AN people. We anticipate serving approximately (25) families annually over the 5yr period of performance for this project. As the Human Services Manager I have been working closely with the Tribal Court Judge and Legal Attorney to accomplish grant deliverables and objectives. There are positions and current vacancies under this grant, once we- (CTAS team) have it well established, we can begin hiring and staff to accomplish additional activities, objectives and deliverables under this program.

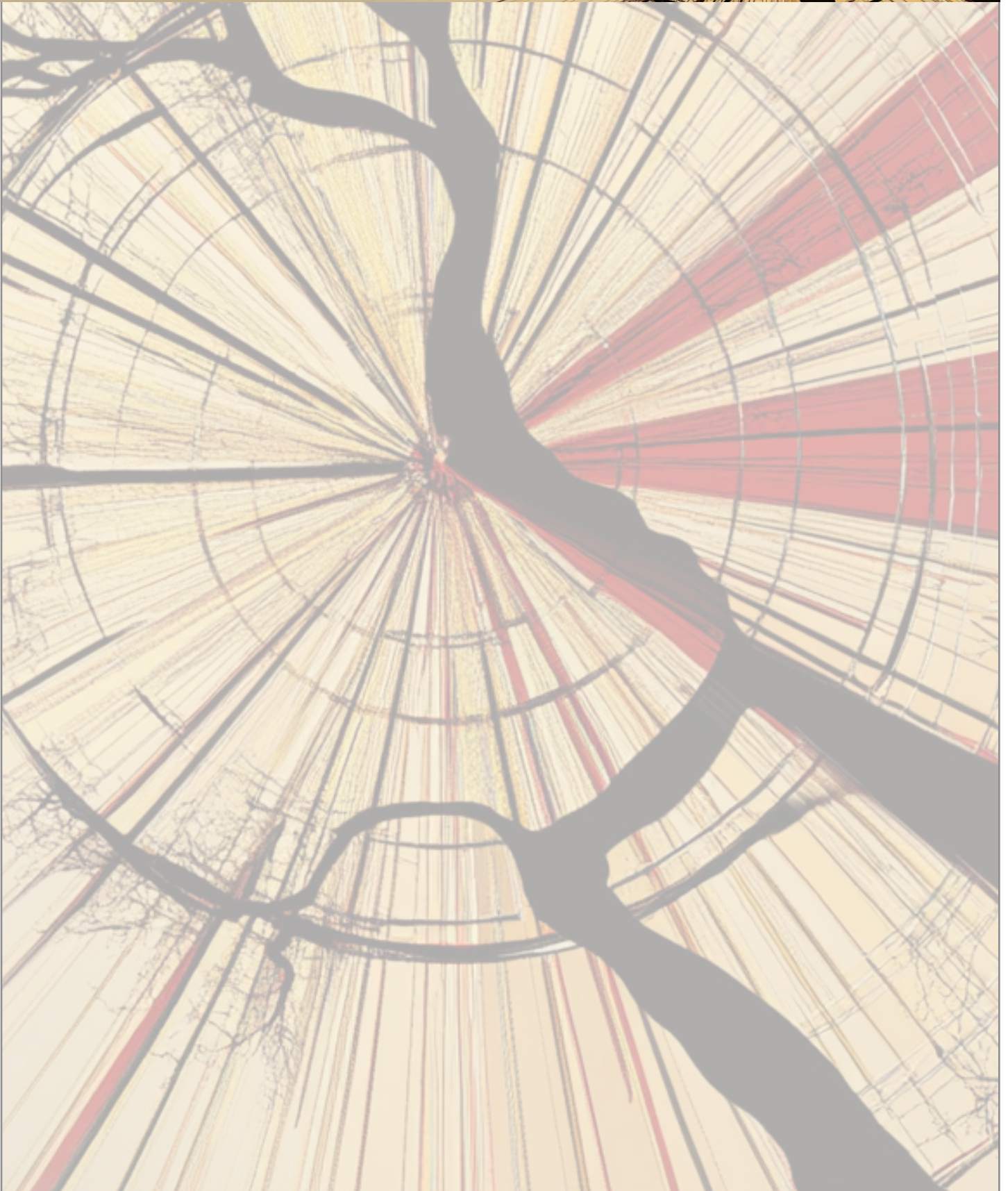
ICWA/INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT:

We are currently recruiting for the both vacant positions in ICWA. As the Human services manager, I have been responsible for case management, offering family support and placement responsibilities. Our Legal Attorney provides immense support in handling the cases via courtside and offers vital representation for all families engaged with the Court systems for child welfare matters. CDSS has granted the Tribe an allocation for Tribally Approved Homes (TAH), Excellence in Family Finding Engagement and Supports Program (EFFES) and Tribal Dependency Representation (TDR). This provides supplemental financial support to our ICWA program. We can use the funds, to recruit and approve homes for the purpose of foster or adoptive placement of an Indian Child. We prefer immediate family or extended relatives when considering placement options for our Tribal children. We want to mirror their family home life whenever possible. Caregiver support and resource materials can also be used with our Tribally approved home or (TAH) funding. Excellence in Family Finding Engagement and Supports program (EFFES) can be used to provide specialized permanency work, including culturally responsive, family centered, and trauma informed family finding and engagement services. Creating family like connections for foster children, to establish or re-establish positive, loving, and supportive relationships for children in care.

Thank you all for your time and please reach out if you have any questions or input

Josie Pady, Human Services Manager

Health



ROADS & TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Hello again from the Roads Department.

We are excited to report on some of our accomplishments over the past year and what we have planned to for 2025.

PAVING PROJECTS:

In 2024 we were able to get numerous areas paved around the rez. This included 2 areas on Nokomis Road and one on Feliz Road that were the most severe. Along with this we paved Nápo Shwéy, the walkways in the park creating better access from the parking lots to the pool and playground. Finally, the administration entrance was paved completing our paving projects for the year. Eastside Road up to the cemetery are in the plans to be paved for 2025.

PRATT RANCH ROAD CULVERT INSTALLATION:

A significant project that involves the installation of a culvert on Pratt Ranch Road. This infrastructure improvement is designed to provide access to future land assignments, facilitating development and better land utilization within the reservation. This project is estimated to be complete by mid-April.

BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION DISCUSSIONS:

The Roads and Transportation Department engaged in discussions with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) concerning the construction of a bridge that will cross Angelica creek connecting Nokomis and Pratt Ranch roads. This proposed bridge aims to provide an alternate access route for the community in times of emergencies. This is only in the discussion phase right now, but I will keep you updated on its progress.

COLLABORATION WITH MENDOCINO COUNTY:

HBPI is continuously working on a collaborative relationship with Mendocino County to facilitate the paving of roads within the reservation. This partnership underscores a shared commitment to infrastructure development and the improvement of transportation networks serving tribal members. I know we have been having an ongoing problem with the road by the Treatment facility. We hope that this last fix will last until we can replace the whole culvert.

CLEAN MOBILITY GRANT AWARDED:

HBPI was awarded a Clean Mobility Options (CMO) grant to implement a low to zero emission transportation program. This program will utilize Electric or Hybrid vehicles to give our tribal members rides to various places within Mendocino, Lake and Sonoma counties. Rides will be provided for anything from shopping, school, elders visiting other elders and culture events. I am excited to see this program finally get off the ground.

The execution date for the Clean Mobility Grant was February 6, 2025. As part of the grant requirements, HBPI has a 60-day period to ensure compliance with insurance obligations, making the compliance deadline April 7, 2025. This stipulation is crucial to ensure that all transportation services under the grant operate within legal and safety standards. This program shows the dedication to improving infrastructure, enhancing mobility, and fostering sustainable transportation solutions for its tribal and community members.

I will be keeping you updated on these projects at our monthly Tribal Council meetings throughout the years.

Til next time, much Respect



Financial Report



**HOPLAND BAND OF POMO INDIANS
3000 SHANEL RD.
HOPLAND CA
95449**