

GTB NEWS



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https://bit.ly/GTB_NEWS

October 2026
Bnaakwii Giizis (Falling Leaves Moon)



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CELEBRATING OUR RIGHTS, HONORING OUR TRADITIONS, & STRENGTHEN OUR CONNECTION. SEPTEMBER BROUGHT TRIBAL MEMBERS TOGETHER IN CELEBRATION OF CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

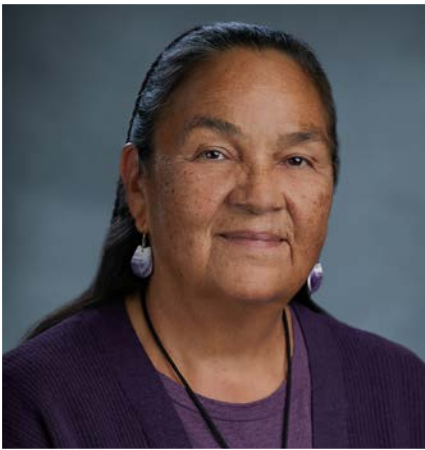
SEE MORE PHOTOS BY SCANNING QR CODE OR FOLLOWING THE LINK: https://bit.ly/GTB_Photos



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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GTB TRIBAL CHAIRWOMAN SANDRA L. WITHERSPOON



Greetings all,

Bnaakwii Giizis, the falling leaves moon and the beautiful fall season is here. I hope everyone has an opportunity to enjoy the changing colors, cooler weather, and the many activities taking place throughout our communities.

For our young people and families, the beginning of fall also means a return to school. I want to wish all of our students a successful school year. Whether you are beginning your first year of school, entering your senior year, attending college, or pursuing another form of education or training, I encourage you to work hard, ask questions, and be proud of who you are and where you come from. I also want to recognize the parents, grandparents, caregivers, teachers, and staff who support our students throughout the year.

September provided several opportunities to gather as a community and celebrate our relationship with our lands and waters. On September 2nd, the Agriculture and Food Sovereignty Department held a Traditional cookout. Over 80 Tribal Citizens were in attendance to enjoy the delicious food. State Representative, Betsy Coffia and the Skegemog Raptor Center were also there. Chi-miigwech to Will and the Staff for putting on such a wonderful event.



On September 12th, the Natural Resources Department held the third annual Nm   (Lake Sturgeon) Release Ceremony at Hannah Park, where juvenile Nm   were returned to the Boardman-Ottaway River.

It is always meaningful to see community members, especially our young people, participate in returning this important species to our waters.



We also celebrated the 22nd Natural Resources Fair & Feast at the Arthur Duhamel Marina. The Fair & Feast continues to provide an opportunity to celebrate our treaty rights, traditional lifeways, and the responsibility we carry to protect our natural resources for future generations. Chi-miigwech to our Natural Resources staff, community members, volunteers, and everyone who helped make these events possible.



September 30 also marked Orange Shirt Day, a day to honor the children who were taken from their families and communities and forced into Indian boarding schools, to remember those who never returned home, and to recognize the survivors and families who continue to carry the impacts of that history. As Anishinaabe people, remembering and telling these histories is important. So too is supporting the continued revitalization of our language, culture, and traditional ways.

That responsibility to preserve our history is also why we are closely following the announced closure of the National Archives at Chicago. The National Archives and Records Administration has announced that the Chicago facility will close in the coming

years and that its archival records will be relocated to other National Archives locations across the country. Records held there include important federal records from Michigan and throughout the Great Lakes region. Access to historical records matters, particularly to Tribal Nations whose histories have too often been documented and stored by federal institutions far from the communities to whom those histories belong. We will continue to follow this transition and its potential impacts on access to records important to GTB and our people.

We remain engaged on matters affecting our treaty rights, natural resources, and the Great Lakes. GTB continues to reaffirm our commitment with other Tribal Nations in challenging state permits related to the proposed Line 5 tunnel beneath the Straits of Mackinac. The protection of the Great Lakes and the exercise of our treaty-reserved rights remain important responsibilities of Tribal leadership. We continue to participate in these processes and advocate for the protection of our waters, natural resources, and cultural resources.

Closer to home, I also want to provide an update on the M-22 corridor improvements through Peshawbestown. This has been a priority for Tribal Council because of safety concerns along this heavily traveled corridor and the need to make it safer and more accessible for our community.

As planning has progressed, the project timeline has been extended. Additional sidewalks were added on Putnam Road and this caused a delay. While this means the improvements will take longer than originally anticipated, including pedestrian infrastructure as part of the overall project, this is an important investment in the long-term safety of Peshawbestown. The broader vision for the corridor includes improvements such as sidewalks, lighting, traffic-slowing measures, and safer intersections.

We know our members have been waiting to see improvements along M-22, particularly given the speed and volume of traffic traveling through our community. We appreciate everyone's

patience as the project moves through the necessary planning, design, and approval processes. Our goal is not simply to complete a road project, but to make meaningful improvements that create a safer corridor for the people who live, walk, drive, and raise their families here.

Our community meetings are also underway. I want to thank everyone who attended our September 17th Charlevoix Community Meeting. We had a great turnout and productive conversations. I appreciate the members who took the time to attend, ask questions, and share their thoughts with Tribal Council. Additional community meetings are coming up, and I encourage members to attend when we are in your area. These meetings provide an important opportunity for Council to hear directly from you and for us to share updates about the work taking place throughout the Tribe.

Community Meetings

12pm - 2pm

Leelanau – October 8 Council Chambers (2605 N West Bay Shore Dr, Peshawbestown)

Benzie/Manistee – October 9 (7282 Hoadley Rd, Benzonia)

Grand Traverse – October 14 (845 Business Park Dr, Traverse City)

Antrim – October 29 Kewadin Indian Mission Hall (248 Cairn Hwy, Kewadin)

As we enter the final months of the year, there is a great deal happening throughout GTB. From protecting our waters and preserving our historical records to restoring Nm  , honoring our history, supporting our people, improving safety within our communities, and gathering together as a community, all of this work is connected by our responsibility to those who came before us and those who will come after us.

Chi-miigwech to our employees, community members, Elders, youth, and everyone who continues to contribute to the strength and wellbeing of the Grand Traverse Band.

Baamaapii,

Sandra L. Witherspoon
Tribal Chairwoman

MID-MICHIGAN HONOR FLIGHT INITIATIVE

The Grand Traverse Band is pleased to share information about a unique opportunity being offered through the Mid-Michigan Honor Flight program. The Honor Flight recognizes and honors veterans for their service by providing them with a trip to Washington, D.C., to visit the memorials dedicated to their sacrifices and achievements.

Mid-Michigan Honor Flight has been working with Michigan tribes to coordinate participation in a special Honor Flight for tribal veterans. Organizers report that several Michigan tribes have already committed to participating, and planning for transportation, accommodations, and other event logistics is well underway.

At this time, the Tribe is gathering interest from eligible veterans and their guardians. Veterans who may wish to participate are encouraged to complete the application materials so that interest can be assessed and future planning can continue.

Additional information regarding eligibility, timelines, and next steps will be shared as it becomes available. Tribal veterans and potential guardians are encouraged to submit their applications and watch for future announcements. We are grateful for the service and sacrifice of our tribal veterans and look forward to sharing more details about this opportunity in the coming months. For physical applications, please call Dena Wilson (231) 534-7216, email Dena.Wilson@gtb-nsn.gov, visit the Peshawbestown Admin office or scan the QR code.



Tribal Council Regular Session

September 16, 2026

http://bit.ly/GTB_Member

II. Unfinished Business. A- **Housing LIHTC Project- Cornwell Architects Contract Change Order #3** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to rescind Resolution #26-44.3924. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

Motion made by Tribal Council Member Carew and Supported by Tribal Council Member Swallows to approve Change Order #3 in the amount of \$14,612 to Cornwell Architects PO#2026-4710. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

II. Unfinished Business. B- **John Filippi request for GTB Support for Suttons Bay Township Zoning Variance** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik to accept the letter #3 opposing the variance. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. A- **GTEC (RCA, LLC) Contract Change Order #2- CR 675 Stream Crossing Project** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Memberto and Supported by Tribal Council Member Swallows to accept the change order in the amount of \$324,302.64. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. B- **Chicago National Archives Closure Protest Resolution** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael to approve Resolution #26-44.3932 and send the letter to the National Archives and Records Administration. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. C- **2026 Elders Trust Fund Distribution** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair

Raphael to approve Resolution #26-44.3932 and send the letter to the National Archives and Records Administration. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. D- **Lochenheath Water Sales Agreement** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to approve the start of negotiations with the Lochenheath development for a water sales agreement. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. E- **Edward Rose & Sons Development** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Memberto and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to start negotiations with Edward Rose & Sons for a water sales agreement in Acme township. **5-FOR; 1-AGAINST (Raphael); 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. F- **Great Lakes Fisheries Trust Grant** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael to approve Resolution #26-44.3925 to apply for the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust grant in the amount of \$276,776.00. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. G- **Michigan’s Fire Equipment Grant Program** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Secretary Miller to approve Resolution #26-44.3935 to apply for the Michigan Fire Equipment grant for the amount of \$28,006. **6-FOR; 0 - A G A I N S T ; 0 - A B S E N T ; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. H- **Close Enrollment for General Welfare Distribution** Motion made by Tribal Council Member

Carew and Supported by Tribal Council Member Memberto to approve Resolution #26-44.3934. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. I- **Joyce Foundation Grant Application** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Memberto and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to authorize the submission of a grant application. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. J- **34-hour Work Week** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael and Supported by Tribal Council Member Memberto to refer to a Poll Vote. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. K- **State Indian Day** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael and Supported by Tribal Council Member Memberto to amend the 2026 paid government holidays to put State Indian Day back on the original date of September 25, 2026 and remove that holiday on September 24, 2026. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

III. New Business. L- **CEO Contract** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Memberto and Supported by Tribal Council Member Swallows to post the position to start receiving applicants. **4-FOR; 2-AGAINST (Miller, Wonegeshik); 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING Motion Carries**

TRIBAL COUNCIL HYBRID
RECORDED SESSIONS

Tribal Council Regular Sessions occur at 9:30 a.m. on the **third Wednesday** of every month. Tribal Council Special Sessions occur at 9:30 a.m. on the **last Wednesday** of every month.

Sessions will be held in Council Chambers.
Meetings are open to Tribal Members.

Regular Council Sessions
<https://bit.ly/GTB-REG-TCRS26>
10/24/26 • 11/18/26 • 12/16/26 • 1/20/27 • 2/17/27 • 3/17/27

Special Council Sessions
<https://bit.ly/GTB-REG-TCSS26>
10/28/26 • 11/25/26 • 1/27/27 • 2/24/27 • 3/31/27

TRIBAL COUNCIL ATTENDANCE AUGUST 21, 2026 - SEPTEMBER 17, 2026
There were (2) Tribal Council Regular/Special Sessions, (2) EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and (23) Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.
Chairwoman Witherspoon attended 2 of 2 Tribal Council Regular/Special Sessions, 1 of 2 EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and 22 of 23 Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.
Vice Chair Raphael attended 2 of 2 Tribal Council Regular/Special Sessions, 2 of 2 EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and 23 of 23 Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.
Treasurer Wonegeshik attended 2 of 2 Tribal Council Regular/Special Sessions, 2 of 2 EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and 21 of 23 Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.
Secretary Miller aattended 2 of 2 Tribal Council Regular/Special Sessions, 1 of 2 EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and 22 of 23 Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.
Councilor Carew attended 2 of 2 Tribal Council Regular/Special Sessions, 2 of 2 EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and 18 of 23 Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.
Councilor Swallows attended 2 of 2 Tribal Council Regular/Special Sessions, 2 of 2 EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and 20 of 23 Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.
Councilor Memberto attended 2 of 2 Tribal Council Regular/Special Sessions, 2 of 2 EDC Regular/Special Sessions, and 22 of 23 Tribal Council Work Sessions/Round Tables/Other Meetings.

GRAND TRAVERSE BAND AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
(CLOSED 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT
(231) 534-7705





Benodjenh Center

Now enrolling ages birth - 5 years
2026 - 2027

Some of the services we offer...

- Center Based
- Transportation Services (for a limited area)
- Health Services (including hearing, vision and speech screenings)
- Parent and Family Involvement Opportunities
- Individualized Teaching
- Incorporation of the Native American Culture
- A safe and friendly environment with a qualified staff that cares
- Family Services
- Nutritious meals and snacks

For more information, please contact
(231) 534-7650. Application is at
<https://www.gtbindians.org/benodjenh.asp>
Or contact Kathy Worden

Classes start September 8, 2026



Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians
Cultural Department

ANISHINAABEMOWIN IN-PERSON LANGUAGE CLASSES

With Fluent Instructors

Isadore Toulouse & Patricia Osawamick

Classes Starting September 14th

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays
John Hall - 7095 Carin Hwy, Kewadin	Culture Building - 2585 Waabno Makwa Rd., Peshawbestown	3 Mile Office - 845 Business Park Dr, Traverse City
5 - 7 PM	5 - 7 PM Zoom Available	5 - 7 PM Zoom Available



Zoom Meeting Info

Meeting ID: 832 4371 4672
Passcode: GTB26-27
<https://bit.ly/4cCuONB>
Only offered Tuesdays & Wednesdays
GTB Cultural Department

Isadore Toulouse (231) 534-7252 Isadore.Toulouse@gtb-nsn.gov
Patricia Osawamick (231) 534-7149 Patricia.Osawamick@gtb-nsn.gov

Please Note: No Classes When GTB Offices are Closed



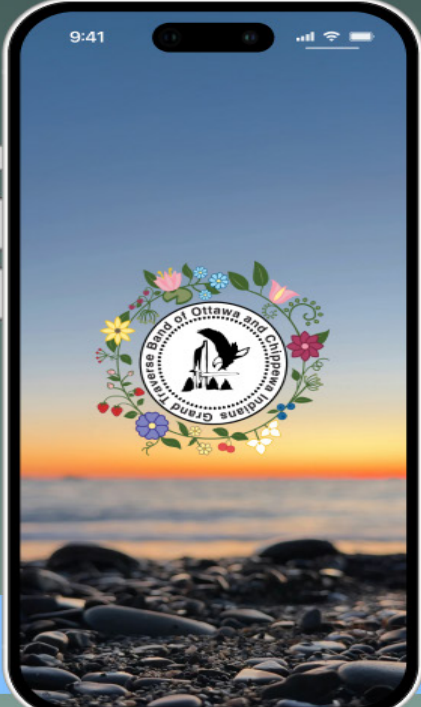
Virtual Anishinaabemowin Language Classes

With Fluent Instructors, Isadore Toulouse and Patricia Osawamick
Classes Starting September 14

Monday - Thursday
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 832 4371 4672
Passcode: GTB26-27

More Info: GTB Cultural Department
Isadore Toulouse (231) 534-7252 Isadore.Toulouse@gtb-nsn.gov
Patricia Osawamick (231) 534-7149 Patricia.Osawamick@gtb-nsn.gov



MEMBERS OF GRAND TRAVERSE BAND NEVER MISS AN UPDATE

News & Events | Documents | Job Postings

1 DOWNLOAD

Scan the QR code or visit the App Store and search:
'Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians'

2 REGISTER

Fill out your info and check your email to verify your account.

3 LOG IN

Get the latest news, events, jobs, & more right at your fingertips!

DOWNLOAD NOW



FROM THE DESK OF KIMBERLY MCCLELLAN, CEO, MPA



A FAMILIAR BUILDING ON THE NMC CAMPUS IS GETTING A NEW PURPOSE

In the coming weeks, several Grand Traverse Band departments will begin moving into the newly renovated Shared Services Building, creating a central location where GTB Community Members can access a wide range of programs and services.

The move marks more than a change of address. For many, it will mean fewer trips between offices and easier access to the services they rely on.

The building, which has yet to receive an official name, will house Education, Membership, Human Resources, Regulatory, Community Engagement, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Natural Resources Department Extension Office, Tribal Administration Services, Tribal Council, and the Legal Extension Office. Future Health Clinic and Human Services programs are also planned for the site.

The Shared Services Building reflects GTB’s ongoing commitment to improving access to services while creating opportunities for departments to work more closely together. By bringing key programs under one roof, Grand Traverse Band leadership hopes to streamline services and provide a better experience for membership and families.

In addition to in-person services, there are a number of online resources available through the Grand Traverse Band website and GTB mobile app. These tools allow access to information, complete forms, and submit applications from the convenience of their home.

AVAILABLE ONLINE SERVICES INCLUDE:

Elders

- Senior Farmers Market Application 2026
- Caregiver Form

Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

- Direct Deposit Forms

Health Department

- Clinic Registration
- Dental Registration
- Purchased/Referred Care (PRC) Application

477 Program

- 477 Application
- New Job Verification Form

Membership

- Change of Address Form
- Tribal Identification Card by Mail

Housing Department

- Rental Deposit Assistance Forms
- Housing Applications
- Emergency Home Repair Application
- Handicap Accessibility Program Application

Human Services

- FY27 Human Services Application
- FY27 Elders Support Services Application
- LIHEAP Weatherization Application
- Burial Assistance Food Application

Public Safety

- Citizen Complaint Form
- Property Check Form
- Report Request Form
- Regroup Emergency Alert Sign-Up
- Sex Offender Visitor Information Form

Behavioral Health Services

- FY24 BHS Intake Application

Fire Department

- Home Inspection Request Form

Benodjenh

- 2026-2027 EHS-HS-GSRP Application

Regulatory

- Class I Gaming Application
- Patron Dispute Form
- Gaming Renewal Form
- Background Application

Small Business Resources (SBR)

- Well and Septic Application

Communications

- Graphic Design Request Form
- Print Request Form

Natural Resources

- Hunting/Fishing/Gathering License
- Water/Snowmobile/ORV Registration
- Firewood Permit
- GTB Marina Building Use Application
- GTB Animal Repository Request Form
- Campground Application

Tribal Court

- Change of Address Form
- Record Request Form

Education

- 2025-2026 Student Enrollment Consent Form
- 2025-2026 Student Services Request Form
- 2025-2026 Gift Card Program Guidelines
- 2025-2026 Tribal Youth Enrichment Program Request Form

Higher Education

- Higher Education & Adult Vocational Training Application
- Higher Education & Adult Vocational Training Guidelines
- Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver Application
- Taxable/Non-Taxable Portion of Scholarship Information
- Higher Education Required Documents List
- List of MITW Eligible Public Colleges and Universities

OPENING THE DOORS TO A SPACE DESIGNED WITH COMMUNITY IN MIND

As staff are preparing to move into their new offices, they are looking forward to opening the doors to a space designed with community in mind. The new facility represents an investment in service, efficiency, and the future of the Grand Traverse Band.

Additional details regarding the building's official name, opening celebration, and available services will be announced in the coming weeks. We look forward to welcoming Grand Traverse Band citizens to this new community resource and celebrating the opportunities it will bring for generations to come.

While the Shared Services Building represents an important step forward, it is only one part of our vision for the future. With the recent acquisition of the former Eagles Ridge property in Leelanau County, we have an exciting opportunity to create not only a new Administration Building but also a space dedicated to bringing our community together. We are exploring the possibility of developing a gathering area and a commercial kitchen where our community members can celebrate, learn, share meals, and stay connected to one another. We look forward to sharing updates as the vision for this space continues to take shape.

There is still plenty of work to do, but I am proud of the direction we are heading. I look forward to seeing these spaces filled with our members, our families, and the connections that bring us together. The future of GTB is bright, and I am excited about what lies ahead for our community.

Miigwetch for your continued support as we work together to build a stronger future for the Grand Traverse Band.

Kimberly McClellan, MPA

Tribal Government CEO



Bnaakwii Giizis (Falling Leaves Moon)

GTB NEWS 6



Kitchi Minogining Tribal School

OPEN HOUSE

For New & Returning Students!



New Teacher Meet & Greet

Join us to meet our new Tribal School Teacher and Community Educator. Come and learn about our Program, our mission, and our values as educators! This is an opportunity to learn more and enroll in KMTS!

About Mrs. Massaroni

Hello! I am a Leelanau County native. I went to GVSU, earning a B.S. in Biology. I was a Fisheries Biologist on the West Coast until I transitioned to Teaching in 2019. I love Science, Nature, and have a beautiful family. I have a diverse set of skills; from music, athletics and academics- All of which I intend to utilize as an educator to help students succeed.

Contact Info:

Phone
231-534-7759
Email
katelyn.massaroni@gtb-nsn.gov

Where & When

October 7th	October 8th
Benzie 7282 Hoadley Road, Benzonia, MI 1-3pm	Charlevoix 10085 Wa-Ba-Noong Mi- Kun, East Jordan, MI 1-3pm
Peshawbestown M22 Youth Building 4:30-6pm	Traverse City 845 Buisness Park dr 4-6pm



Student Support Advisor for Charlevoix/ Antrim

Introduction

Aanii! I'm Saija, a proud tribal member of GTB. I previously served as a Community Health Representative for Charlevoix/Antrim counties for 4 years, where I had the opportunity to advocate for and support individuals and families in our community. I bring over 5 years of advocacy experience and am passionate about helping others feel heard, supported, and empowered. I'm excited to continue that work as a Student Support Advisor!

A Little About Me

As a mom, I know firsthand how important a strong support system is for every learner. I love exploring new places, learning something new every day, and getting creative with crafts, but most of all, I believe every student deserves the resources and encouragement they need to thrive. I am here to help you navigate your child's educational journey, connect you with local support, and discover creative, culturally enriching activities across Charlevoix and Antrim Counties. Think of me as your bridge to the community. Let's work together to empower our students, strengthen our local connections, and celebrate our shared journey of growth and learning!



Contact Details

E-mail: Saija.Hansma@gtb-nsn.gov Phone number: 231.534.7065



Pucker Toe Moccasin Class

M22 Youth Building 2821 NW Bayshore Dr.



**OCTOBER 26 & 28, 2026
3 - 5 PM**

SNACKS ~ DRINKS PROVIDED

All supplies will be provided to create 1 pair of moccasins per student K - 12

MUST SIGN UP TO ATTEND

first 10 per class accepted for either date ~ only 1 class per student

Contact: Victoria Chippewa, Youth Intervention specialist
Office: 534-7230 Cell: 590-2395
Catherine Crowley, Leelanau County Student Advisor
Office: 534-7751 Cell: 492-5337



<https://forms.gle/RhxeaqvufcwZjRzg8>

Youth Services

Dentalium Earring making class



TUESDAY OCTOBER 20, 2026 AND THURSDAY OCTOBER 22, 2026

FROM 5-7PM

LIGHT DINNER PROVIDED

M22 Youth Building
2821 NW Bayshore Dr.
Peshawbestown MI 49682



Torie Chippewa
Ph: 231.534.7230
cell: 231.590.2395
Email: victoria.chippewa@gtb-nsn.gov



Youth Services After School Program

Peshawbestown ages 8-17

Creating a safe open space for students to come hang out after school.

Starting September 14, 2026
Monday thru Thursday
until end of school year!
3:30-5:00PM

"Wednesdays 1:30 - 5PM"

Snacks provided

"Subject to change"
DUE TO WEATHER OR CLOSURE

M22 Youth Center
2821 NW Bayshore Dr.
Peshawbestown MI 49682

Call Torie or Cathy to sign up your child/ren

Torie Chippewa
Youth Intervention Specialist
phone: 231.534.7230
cell: 231.590.2395
email: victoria.chippewa@gtb-nsn.gov

Cathrine Crowley
Student Support Advisor
phone: 231.534.7751
cell: 231.492.5337
email: Catherine.crowley@gtb-nsn.gov

Ambe zhitoodaa

Mikizinen

Let's make mocs

Traverse City 10-6-2026 3 mile office
Charlevoix 10-7-2026 Satellite office
Kewadin 10-14-2026 John Hall

All locations 5-7pm

**Light dinner provided
subject to change**

Hannah Pelcher
C#231-631-0828
O#231-534-7747
hannah.pelcher@gtb-nsn.gov





Grants to Indian Tribal Government Project &
Anishinaabemowin Dept presents



Kwewag Aasgaabwitwaayan



Wiiji Kwewan

Women Supporting Women

Building a healthy community through:

- Cultural crafts like beading, necklace making, painting, sewing, language
- Connection i.e. auntie jokes, talking, sharing

There are no expectations to talk or share. Any woman in GTB community is welcome to come sit, craft, talk or just enjoy the vibes

Cultural Building near
P-Town Pw Grounds
Wednesday 10/7/26 &
10/21/26
5:30pm - 7:30pm



3-Mile Satellite Office
Thursday 10/8/26 &
10/22/26
5:30pm - 7:30pm

Potluck Style Dinner, please bring a dish to pass

For More Information:

Yvette Weese 231-534-7381

Leilani DeFoe 231-534-7093



This event was created in collaboration with GTB grant # 1S JOVW-22-GG-03376-TRIB awarded by the Office of Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice.

ANISHINAABEMOWIN DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS



Zenbaanh's Baabigoyaan-Ke Ribbon Shirt Making

Join Anishinaabemowin Dept
for ribbon skirt making



Date & Time

- October 7th, 10am-4pm
- October 8th, 2pm-8pm
- October 9th, 10am-4pm



Location

Cultural Building
2685 Waabno Makwa Mi-Kun,
Peshawbestown, MI



What You'll Do

- Cut fabric, ribbon
- Basic sewing techniques
- Ribbon application on the ribbon shirt

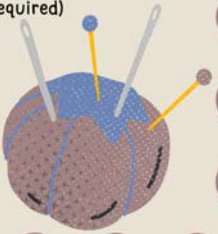


What You'll Get

- Materials and tools provided for the event dates (bringing your own materials is encouraged but not required)

Limited materials
available!

Call to reserve your spot
Cultural Coordinator
Leilani DeFoe 231-492-9956



ANISHINAABEMOWIN DEPARTMENT PRESENTS



Mkizinan-Ke Moccasin Making

JOIN US FOR MOCCASIN MAKING
TO PREPARE FOR ROCK YOUR
MOCCS DAY IN NOVEMBER

WHAT'S PROVIDED:

- materials
- tools



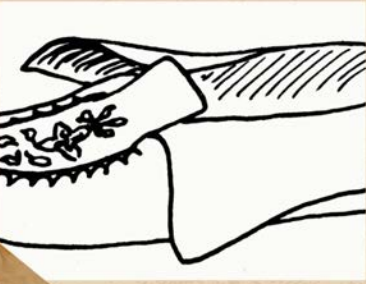
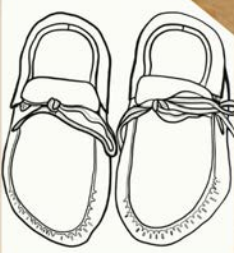
Date & Time

- October 27th, 10am-4pm
- October 28th, 10am-4pm
- October 29th, 2pm-8pm



Location

Cultural Building
2685 Waabno Makwa Mi-Kun,
Peshawbestown, MI



Reserve your spot today!
Cultural Coordinator
Leilani DeFoe 231-492-9956

ANISHINAABEMOWIN DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS



Zenbaanh's Goodaas-Ke Ribbon Skirt Making

Join Anishinaabemowin Dept
for ribbon skirt making



Date & Time

- October 14th, 10am-4pm
- October 15th, 2pm-8pm
- October 16th, 10am-4pm



Location

Cultural Building
2685 Waabno Makwa Mi-Kun,
Peshawbestown, MI



What You'll Do

- Cut fabric, ribbon
- Basic sewing techniques
- Ribbon application on the ribbon skirt



What You'll Get

- Materials and tools provided for the event dates (bringing your own materials is encouraged but not required)

Limited materials
available!

Call to reserve your spot
Cultural Coordinator
Leilani DeFoe 231-492-9956



Kchi Wiikwedoong Anishinaabek

Emkowaataagozilig 16

Sharing Their Knowledge 16

Save The Date



November 12th, 13th, and 14th, 2026



Strongheart Center

2700 Strongheart Way, Peshawbestown, MI

For More Info:

Isadore Toulouse
231-534-7252

Isadore.Toulouse@gtb-nsn.gov

Leilani DeFoe
231-534-7093

Leilani.DeFoe@gtb-nsn.gov





GRAND TRAVERSE BAND
HOUSING DEPARTMENT
**ARE YOU FAMILIAR
WITH THE SERVICES THE
HOUSING OFFICE PROVIDES?**

Housing at Peshawbestown, Benzie, Traverse City,
East Jordan and Antrim are just an app away.

Rental/Security deposit and First months rent
Rental Assistance for 6 months
Emergency Home Repair
Handicap Accessibility Program
**\$15,000 Down Payment Assistance Home buyer
program**

All of our applications can be found at GTB
Satellite Offices, and at our Housing Offices
at Windy Hills (Herkner)
and
Peshawbestown.

Contact Us:
231.534.7800





ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS
ARE INVITED

**HALLOWEEN
COSTUME PARTY &
TRUNK OR TREAT**

EAT, DRINK, AND BE SCARY!

**COSTUMES
ENCOURAGED**

WE'RE HOSTING A HALLOWEEN PARTY.
• COME HUNGRY FOR SNACKS, GAMES,
AND DRESSED TO WIN!

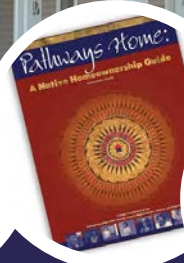
**THURSDAY | 29 | OCTOBER
4PM-7PM | 2026**

**GTB HOUSING OFFICE IN
PESHAWBESTOWN**

COSTUME CONTEST DETAILS:
• CHILDREN AGED 0-17 ARE INVITED TO WEAR A COSTUME
FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A PRIZE!

• FOR MORE INFORMATION ON TRUNK OR TREAT
PLEASE CONTACT
**LORI DUDLEY AT 231.534.7800
OR AARON CHIVIS AT 231.534.7764**





**Pathways Home:
For the Homebuyer**

Obtain a homebuyer's education certificate through
the National American Indian Housing Council's
Pathways Home: A Native Homeownership Guide
eLearning program! The course is designed for
prospective homebuyers in tribal communities
nationwide and may be required for lenders.

**Cost:
\$20
/course**

Target Audience

- ✔ Mortgage-ready households
- ✔ Tribal housing professionals
- ✔ Interested individuals
- ✔ Any tribal citizen

REGISTER ANYTIME!

www.naihc.net/elearning

National American Indian Housing Council
122 C Street NW, Suite 505 | Washington, DC 20001 | 202-789-1754| naihc.net





Grand Traverse Band Job Shadowing Program

Program: The Grand Traverse Band Housing Department is launching a Job shadowing program. It will be a short-term 4-week work-based learning experience that allows participants to follow an assigned Tribal Department employee during a typical day. Job Shadowing Participants, between the ages of 17-24. Individuals will observe and participate in daily activities and ask questions in a particular career. We are hoping to encourage the building of lasting partnerships among the participants, parents, and departments through education and knowledge.

Benefit: Job shadowing provides valuable experience by offering a glimpse into the realities of different professions, helping participants make informed career decisions, and developing essential skills.

Impact: Participants will gain a realistic understanding of the tasks, work environment, and required skills for different careers allowing the participant to assess their own strengths and area of development. Participating leads to valuable connections with professionals in the field, potentially opening doors for future opportunities within the workforce.

Requirements & Payment: Program participation is up to 4 weeks. Participating Students who are in school must be able to participate 6 hours a week maximum, have a parent's signed consent and will be eligible for a stipend payment up to \$120 per week. All other participants must be able to work 24 hours a week minimum and will be eligible for a stipend payment of up to \$500 per week.



Application: Job Shadowing applications are available from Housing and HR. Additional paperwork will be required for each job shadowing position and evaluations to be turned into Housing for stipends to be issued.

Contact for application and questions:
Housing-(231) 534-7800 Lori Dudley, (231) 534-7805 Lilyan Allard
HR -477 Darrell Shaw at (231)534-7767

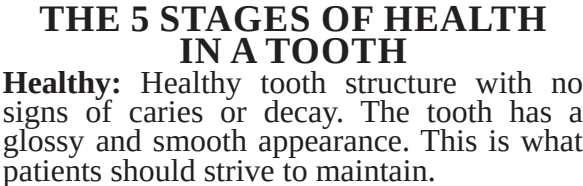
This program is open to GTB Tribal Members Only. A Tribal ID will be required.

ICBG Grant 21-GC-2625480 This grant will end on 3.31.27 04/14/2026

HOUSING DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

After Hours Emergency Hot Line	(231) 866-1290
Lori Dudley - Administrative Assistant (Front Desk)	(231) 534-7800
Joe Kaubenaw - Interim Department Manager, Lead Occupancy Specialist & GTB Rental Info/ Down Payment/Homebuyer Education	(231) 534-7803 (231) 883-1328
Danielle Chippewa - Occupancy Specialist (Low-Income)	(231) 534-7385
Tarik Bouguettaya - Emergency Home Repair & Handicap Accessibility Program	(231) 534-7886 (231) 866-1107
Steven Alberts - Program Director & Procurement Coordinator	(231) 534-7804 (231) 360-3478
Lilyan Allard - Assistant Manager	(231) 534-7805

October is Dental Hygiene Month and here at the GTB Dental Clinic, we are putting an emphasis on making sure our patients practice excellent oral hygiene at home! Before we know it, mountains of Halloween candy will be in our homes, and you may find yourself consuming these sugary snacks more frequently than normal. Moderation of snacking is okay but be sure you're caring for your teeth with proper hygiene after snacking. To better understand how candy can negatively affect your teeth the diagram below describes the process of tooth decay:
Image Source: dentfixturkey.com



Enamel Caries: The enamel, or outer layer of the tooth begins to appear chalky, white or brown, and cloudy. This indicates the demineralization of tooth structure and the start of cavity formation. The tooth is still smooth and glossy, but on a microscopic level, it is porous and weakened compared to healthy tooth structure. Enamel caries can be halted with good hygiene and use of fluoride, which return the tooth to a hard and solid state.

Dentin Caries: After caries progresses through the enamel surface, it reached the second layer known as dentin. Once the cavity has progressed to the dentin layer, there are detectable holes or breaks in the enamel, and discoloration continues. Teeth can feel sensitive to hot or cold foods, and may be sensitive to cold air. At this point, the decay process cannot be reversed, and intervention is required in the form of a filling or crown, depending on the size of the cavity.

Pulp Decay: If decay progresses through the second layer of the tooth and reaches the pulp, the tooth will begin to ache or throb. The pain can be spontaneous and severe and disrupt normal patterns in daily life. It can wake patients from a sound sleep because the bacteria are causing inflammation in the blood vessel and nerve within the tooth. With a cavity this severe, the tooth can still be saved with a root canal and a crown.

tooth may stop hurting because the nerve has died. Once the nerve is dead, the tissue begins to necrose and the byproducts of the necrosis escape through the openings in the tips of the roots of the teeth. This causes severe pain as the infection begins to grow within the bony structure surrounding the tooth root, and drainage and poor taste may arise. An abscess can be severe and require antibiotics to control the infection. If the infection is too severe, it may destroy the bone around the tooth and require an extraction to clear the infection. This is the worst case scenario for a tooth, as they may not be able to be saved.

Please remember these vital oral hygiene recommendations to ensure you keep your teeth healthy and happy! Be sure to brush when you wake up, before you go to sleep, and after a sugary snack... remember to care for your oral health!

- ◆ Brush for 2 minutes with fluoride toothpaste when you wake up, before bed, and after sugary/sticky snacks
- ◆ Floss your teeth to remove plaque and debris that is missed by the tooth brush
- ◆ Use a fluoride mouth rinse to coat your teeth and freshen breath

As A Reminder: While we continue our search for a full time hygienist, patients are encouraged to continue pursuing regular hygiene dental care if they are overdue for their cleaning. Staying regular on preventative dental care will help keep your mouth healthy and prevent tooth decay. If you schedule a cleaning at an outside dental clinic, be sure to share your appointment information with the PRC department to ensure seamless care with your appointments.

Below you will find examples of both cards:

1. An employee insurance card and it is BLUE . As an employee, your primary insurance is as an employee (blue card)	2. The PRC Card is Red/brown. PRC (RED/BROWN) is secondary and the PAYER of LAST RESORT.
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Grand Traverse Band
Family Health Clinic
October 2026
Vaccination Schedule

Dental Abscess: After decay has affected the nerve of the tooth for an extended period, the

In the upcoming weeks, you may receive a letter in the mail asking you to participate in the **2026 Tribal Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS)**. This project has been approved by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Executive Council and is a collaboration between the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Health Services, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), and the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center (GLITEC). So, be on the lookout for mail about this project coming from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Health Services.

Participants will be randomly selected from Tribal members who are 18 years and older, so not everyone will receive the letter. Data collected from this survey will provide information about people's health habits, medical conditions, and the care they receive to help prevent illnesses. These results will be used by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indian Community to plan programs and community initiatives.

The letter will include a QR code to complete the survey online, as well as an option to complete it by phone. If a participant chooses to take the survey, it will take about 45 minutes, and they can skip any questions.

Importantly, only the person to whom the letter is addressed should take the survey, and only they are eligible for the incentive.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Sonya Zotigh at Sonya.Zotigh2@gtb-nsn.gov or 231-534-7241.

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,
The Michigan Tribal BRFS Team

Move Better.
Feel Stronger.
Live Freely.



FUNCTIONAL STRENGTH
& MOBILITY YOGA

TUESDAYS • 9:00 AM | WEDNESDAYS • 9:00 AM
THROUGH DECEMBER

Come join Mariann (*Selphica*) for an energizing yoga class designed to build strength, improve mobility, and support the body you move through life with.

This energizing yoga class is designed to enhance the key muscle groups and movement patterns used in:

- Running
- Biking
- Weight Training
- Everyday Movement & Active Living



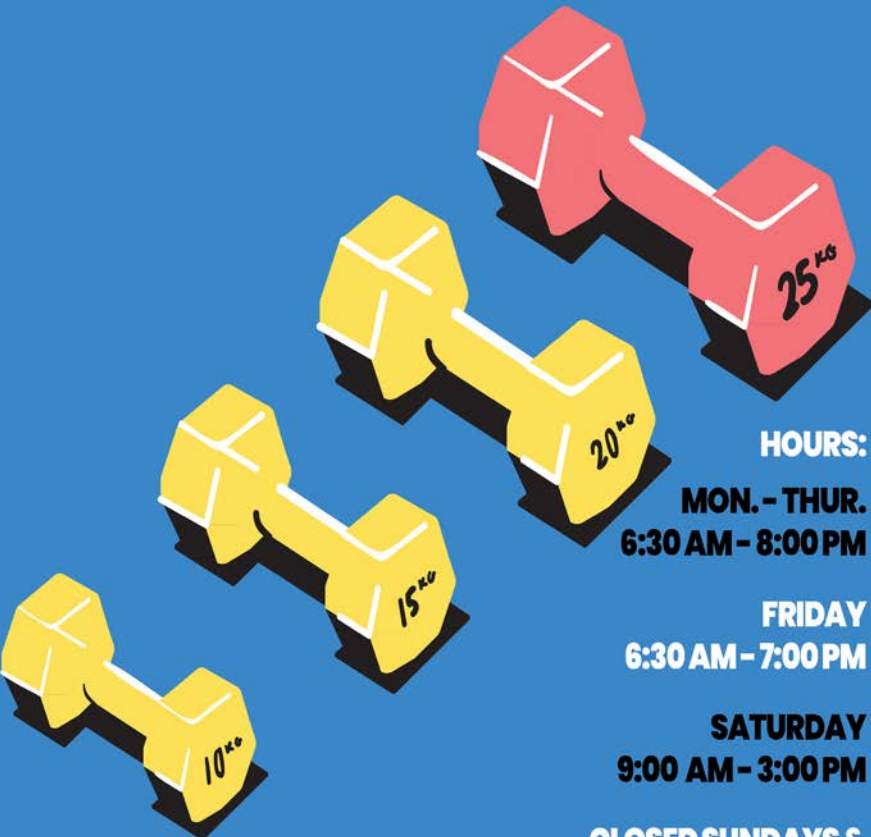
Strongheart Center
2700 Strongheart Way, Peshawbestown
Telephone: 231-534-7456



STRONGHEART CENTER

Hours Starting

OCTOBER 5, 2026
THROUGH APRIL 2027



HOURS:
MON. - THUR.
6:30 AM - 8:00 PM

FRIDAY
6:30 AM - 7:00 PM

SATURDAY
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

CLOSED SUNDAYS & MAJOR HOLIDAYS

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

FRONT DESK: (231) 534-7457

2700 STRONGHEART WAY, PESHAWBESTOWN

STRONGHEART CENTER

2700 Strongheart Way, Peshawbestown



DON'T KNOW
WHERE TO
Start?

Join Our Certified **Personal Trainer Group Sessions** led by Certified Personal Trainer Cheryl Send!

What We Offer:

- **FREE** with Strongheart Membership!
- Small **Group Sessions**
- **Beginner Session** - Tues. & Thurs. at 12:00pm
- **Intermediate Session** - Tues. & Thurs. at 1:00pm
- **Advanced Session** - Tues. & Thurs. at 2:00pm

Don't miss out—Call and Reserve Your Spot Today!
(231) 534-7457



PILATES AT THE
STRONGHEART
CENTER

BUILD STRENGTH
• IMPROVE
FLEXIBILITY •
FEEL YOUR BEST

Whether you're new to Pilates or have experience, this class is designed to help you move with confidence in a supportive and welcoming environment. Join Maajii Wellness instructor Lyndsay Sharpened Stone for a full-body workout that focuses on strength, balance, flexibility, posture, and core stability.

CLASS INFORMATION

Tuesdays | 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
Begins August 11, 2026

- No experience necessary
- All fitness levels welcome
- Mats provided

Strongheart Center Front Office
(231) 534-7457
Leanne (Tana) Alber

Strongheart Supervisor
(231) 534-7551
Leanne.Alber@gtb-nsn.gov

www.gtbindians.org/strongheart.asp

Indigenous Peoples' Day

October 12, 2026

Celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day, a national observance recognizing the histories, cultures, contributions, and resilience of Indigenous peoples.

Join us at the Leland Cultural District for this free, family-friendly programming.

Event Schedule

- 12:45 - 1:45 | Dusty Bears Dancing & Drumming
Old Art Building Lawn
- 3:00 - 4:00 | Indigenous Knowledge Film Hour
Old Art Building
 - Short Films by the Leelanau Conservancy
 - Kchi Wiikwedong History Marker Project
 - This Basket is my Ancestor by LHS
- 4:00-6:00 | Indigenous Food from Tanya Raphael
Indigenous Education Opportunities
Old Art Building Lawn
- 6:00pm | James Vukelich Program + Book Signing
Old Art Building
- All Day, 11:00-6:00:
Local History Exhibits
Leelanau Historical Society

Leland Cultural District
111 S. Main St. Leland, MI

Event Info:
[LeelanauHistory.org/Events](https://leelanauhistory.org/events)



Co-Hosted By:



477 PROGRAM AVAILABLE

The 477 program is a federally funded program that helps tribal members reduce joblessness and encourage self-sufficiency among federally recognized (FRT) members within the grand traverse band service area.

The 477 program offers:

- Assistance in securing work tools, supplies attire, childcare temporary transportation cost. High school & GED completion.
- Dependent upon funding availability, and incentive stipend is awarded upon completion. Work Force development Training
- Work Ethic, Interview Skills, Resume/Cover Head Letter
- Scheduled and delivered upon need and command

Eligibility:

- Must be 18 or older
- Must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe
- Must live within GTB's six-county service area
- Please bring Tribal ID and State ID

SERVICES AVAILABLE ONCE EVERY 2 YEARS

Contact:

Derrell Shaw
Derrell.Shaw@gtb-nsn.gov
231-534-7767

NENAANDAW'IWED TRADITIONAL HEALER

Gerard Sagassige

Gerard Sagassige is from Curve Lake First Nation with family connections to Serpent River and Wikwemikong. With over 20 years of experience in traditional healing practices across Anishinaabek communities in the United States and Canada, Gerard is dedicated to cultural revitalization, holistic wellness, and community-based healing. For the past seven years, he serves as the Traditional Practitioner for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, providing culturally grounded healing services, ceremonies, and teachings that support the spiritual and emotional well-being of community members.

Gerard also serves as the Cultural Director for Anishinaabemowin-Teg Inc. He is a first-language fluent speaker of Anishinaabemowin, with English as his second language. Gerard believes language is central to Anishinaabe identity, wellness, and spirituality, and Anishinaabe worldview and traditional healing practices are inseparable from our language.

Gerard's responsibilities include guiding fasting camps, sweat lodge ceremonies, sunrise ceremonies, sacred fires, and offering spiritual guidance, traditional teachings, healing, and medicines. He works with individuals of all ages and support staff and organizations in learning and integrating Anishinaabek traditional ways of life into their lives and work.



Call Marion
Wabanimkee-Minzey
to schedule
231-534-7091

Or schedule
online at:

<https://massageGTBbh.as.me/>



GTB
ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES
MASSAGE THERAPY

Scan QR code below to
schedule a 25 minute session:
https://bit.ly/GTB_MASSAGE



THERAPEUTIC SESSIONS

Great for stress relief & muscle
tension

MANUAL LYMPH DRAINAGE

Provides a boost to your immune
system + great for fluid retention,
lymphedema and pre/post
operative care (with Dr. clearance)

FACIAL GUA SHA

Reduces puffiness, can
help with sinus pressure,
and feels wonderful

CUPPING

Creates negative
pressure to lift tissue and
increase circulation for
tight muscles

CONTACT:
Marion Wabanimkee-Minzey
(231) 534-7091
Marion.Wabanimkee-Minzey@gtb-nsn.gov



NIIZH ANIMIKIIG (SPF-PFS) PROGRAM INITIATED THEIR ANNUAL EVALUATION

In 2025, the **Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Niizh Animikiig (SPF-PFS) program initiated their annual evaluation** of current programming, events, activities, and community members’ opinions on mental health and substance misuse/addiction needs and services. Below you will find a few of the questions with responses related to the Existing Services Section: Survey respondents were asked which Tribal prevention programs were offered in their community. About 32% said that they did not know or were unsure.

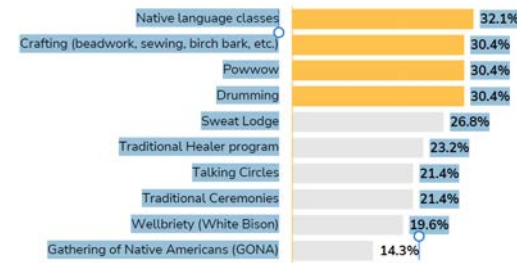


Figure 13. Existing Tribal prevention programs. For survey respondents who knew of one or more Tribal prevention programs offered in their community, the most selected ones were language classes, crafting, powwow, and drumming.

Respondents were able to select more than one response, so the total percentage may exceed 100%.

Survey respondents were also asked which non-Tribal prevention programs were offered in their community. About one-third of survey respondents said that they did not know or were unsure.



Figure 14. Existing prevention services in the community. For survey respondents who knew of one or more prevention programs offered in their community, the most selected ones were Narcan training/distribution, peer recovery coaching, domestic violence prevention, and alcohol/drug education. Respondents were able to select more than one response, so the total percentage may exceed 100%.

Survey respondents cited several barriers to programming in their community.

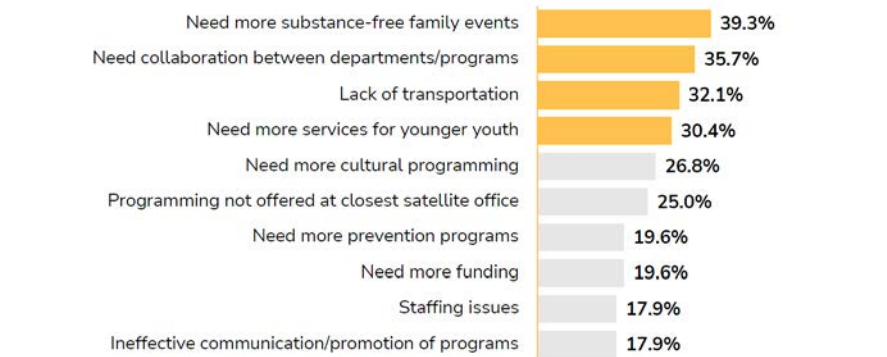


Figure 15. Barriers to accessing programming. Most survey respondents said that lack of enough substance-free family events was a barrier to attending community programming. Respondents were able to select more than one response, so the total percentage may exceed 100%.

Providing incentives may increase attendance at community events, with 57.1% of survey respondents agreeing that incentives would increase the likelihood of their participation in community events. Having a feast or providing food may also increase attendance, as 78.6% of survey respondents thought that it is important to provide food at community events. **Strengths of Community Programming:** Survey respondents were

provided with space to share any strengths and successes of the prevention programming in the community. Survey respondents said that the greatest strength of programming what that it was accessible, with a variety of events, food provided, etc. Survey respondents also mentioned that they can see that staff are committed and helpful, and that programming encourages community, family, and youth connection.

Needed Programming and Services: Survey respondents were asked which cultural teachings and knowledge they would like to see offered in the Grand Traverse Band community.



Figure 16. Cultural teachings and knowledge that survey respondents would like to see. The most requested cultural teachings include plant medicine/traditional healing, crafting, and traditional foods.

Survey respondents were asked which substance misuse/addiction prevention and mental health training they would like to see offered in the Grand Traverse Band community.

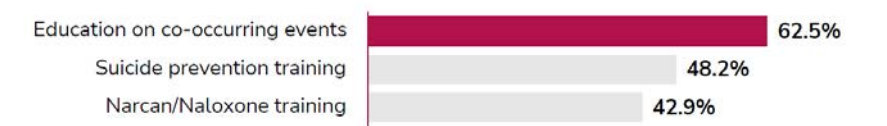


Figure 17. Needed substance misuse/addiction prevention and mental health training. Most survey respondents would like to see education on co-occurring events (substance misuse, suicide, intimate partner violence, homelessness, child abuse, HIV/STDs etc.). Services that survey respondents feel are needed include inpatient or residential mental health treatment (41.1%), outpatient substance misuse/addiction treatment services (39.3%), combined substance misuse/addiction and mental health treatment (39.3%), and life skills (39.3%).

Barriers to Accessing Services: Survey respondents also mentioned several barriers to accessing substance misuse/addiction prevention and mental health services in the Grand Traverse Band community. The top four barriers included:

1. Shame and stigma of having a mental health or substance use disorder diagnosis (42.9%).
2. Denial of having a mental health or substance misuse disorder/addiction (41.1%).
3. Lack of trust in mental health and substance misuse services (37.5%).
4. Stigma related to having a mental health or substance use disorder/addiction (35.7%).

Additional Feedback from Survey respondents: Survey respondents were also provided with space to share any additional thoughts and comments that they were not able to express through the survey questions. Most survey respondents didn’t have anything to share or gave their thanks (91.1%). Other information that survey respondents shared was that:

- ♦ They are unable to access services due to financial constraints.
- ♦ Descendants are unable to access Tribal services.

IT IS OKAY TO CALL FOR HELP!
GTB INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE IS
AVAILABLE

Behavioral Health
Services

231-534-7090

Health Services

231-534-7200

Nurse Care Navigation

231-534-7237

National Crisis Text Line

Text NATIVE to 741741

Antrim County

877-470-4668

Benzie County

877-398-2013

Charlevoix County

877-470-4668

Grand Traverse County

833-295-0616

Leelanau County

833-295-0616

Manistee County

877-398-2013

CRISIS PHONE LINES

AVAILABLE 24/7

National Crisis Lifeline

988 or 1-800-273-8255

BOTH 911 AND 988 ARE FREE
AND AVAILABLE 24/7

24/7, confidential
crisis support
for Veterans and their loved ones

You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health
care to connect.

Dial 988 then Press 1

Chat online

Text 838255

GTB NEWS 15

SIMPLE STEPS FOR AN EXTRA SAFE HALLOWEEN

Halloween is a favorite time of year for children, families, and even plenty of adults. From creative costumes and decorated homes to trick-or-treating and community gatherings, Halloween offers an opportunity to have fun together. A few simple safety precautions can help ensure the celebration remains enjoyable for everyone.

COSTUME SAFETY
The right costume can help children see, be seen, and move comfortably while they're out enjoying the evening.

- Keep these tips in mind when choosing a Halloween costume:
- ◆ **Choose costumes carefully.** Select costumes, wigs, and accessories that are labeled flame-resistant or flame-retardant, and avoid costumes that are overly long or could cause a child to trip.
 - ◆ **Make children visible.** If children will be outside after dark, add reflective tape to costumes, jackets, shoes, or trick-or-treat bags. Glow sticks or other visibility aids can also help children stand out to drivers.
 - ◆ **Keep vision clear.** Consider using nontoxic Halloween makeup instead of masks that may restrict a child's vision. If using makeup, test a small area of skin first to check for irritation.
 - ◆ **Choose comfortable footwear.** Children may be walking for an extended period, so make sure shoes fit properly and are appropriate for walking.
 - ◆ **Check accessories.** Make sure costume props do not have sharp edges or create additional hazards while children are walking.

Before bedtime, remove Halloween makeup thoroughly to help prevent skin and eye irritation.

WHEN THEY'RE OUT TRICK-OR-TREATING
Halloween brings more pedestrians onto neighborhood streets, often during dusk and after dark. Children can be difficult for drivers to see, particularly when they are wearing dark costumes or moving between parked vehicles.

- Parents and caregivers can help by reviewing safety expectations before children head out:
- ◆ **Young children should be accompanied by a responsible adult.**
 - ◆ If older children are going without an adult, **plan a route together** and make sure they understand where they are allowed to go.
 - ◆ **Set a specific time to return home** and make sure children know how to contact you if plans change.
 - ◆ Encourage children to **stay together with friends or siblings** rather than walking alone.

- ◆ Remind children to use **sidewalks and designated walking areas** whenever possible and to cross streets at intersections or crosswalks.
- ◆ Choose **familiar, well-lit neighborhoods and routes.**
- ◆ Remind children **never to enter a stranger's home or vehicle.**
- ◆ Encourage children to **wait until they return home before eating treats.** Parents or caregivers can then inspect treats and check labels for potential food allergens or other concerns.
- ◆ Remind children to **look both ways before crossing streets**, even when crossing with a group.

SAFETY TIPS FOR DRIVERS
Drivers also play an important role in keeping Halloween safe. With more children and families walking through neighborhoods, motorists should expect increased pedestrian activity during trick-or-treat hours.

- If you are driving on Halloween evening:
- ◆ **Slow down and stay alert** in residential neighborhoods and areas where trick-or-treaters are present.
 - ◆ Watch carefully for children walking along **roadsides, medians, sidewalks, and curbs.**
 - ◆ Be especially cautious when **entering or exiting driveways and alleys.**
 - ◆ Watch for children who may unexpectedly cross the street or move between parked vehicles.
 - ◆ Remember that children wearing dark-colored costumes may be **difficult to see at dusk and after dark.**
 - ◆ Minimize distractions and keep your attention focused on the road and surrounding area.
 - ◆ If possible, avoid having **new or inexperienced drivers** drive during the busiest trick-or-treating hours.

A LITTLE PREPARATION GOES A LONG WAY
Halloween safety doesn't have to take away from the fun. Taking a few minutes to plan a route, check costumes, discuss expectations, and remain aware of children and traffic can make a meaningful difference.

Whether you're trick-or-treating, handing out candy, attending a Halloween event, or simply traveling through the community, **slow down, stay visible, look out for one another, and enjoy a safe Halloween!**

From the GTB Public Safety Department, we wish all of our Tribal citizens, families, and community members a **safe, happy, and fun Halloween!**

ACTIVE THREAT INTEGRATED RESPONSE TRAINING STRENGTHENS REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY PREPAREDNESS



Preparedness, communication, and coordination are essential when public safety professionals are called upon to respond to an emergency. Recently, members of the Grand Traverse Band (GTB) Public Safety Department participated in **Active Threat Integrated Response (ATIR) training in Grand Traverse County**, joining more than 40 public safety professionals and regional partners for hands-on, collaborative training.

Representing GTB Public Safety were **Fire Chief Down, Officer Heinz, Officer Roberts, FF/EMT Clark, and Officer Williams.** The training brought together professionals from law enforcement, fire services, and emergency medical services to strengthen their ability to work together during an active-threat incident.

The ATIR course focused on the importance of an integrated response, including communication, coordination, scene management, emergency medical response, and the safe and efficient movement of resources during rapidly evolving situations. Participants had the opportunity to train alongside other agencies, helping build familiarity and understanding between the professionals who may be called upon to work side-by-side during a real emergency.

For public safety agencies, effective response goes beyond the capabilities of any single department. Emergencies can quickly cross jurisdictional and departmental boundaries, making established relationships and coordinated procedures an important part of preparedness.

Training alongside regional partners also provides an opportunity to identify challenges, strengthen communication, and better understand each agency's role and responsibilities. These shared experiences can help public safety professionals respond more effectively when circumstances are unpredictable and every second matters.

The participation of GTB Public Safety personnel in regional training reflects the department's ongoing commitment to professional development, preparedness, and the safety of the Tribal community.

By continuing to train, collaborate, and build strong working relationships with neighboring public safety agencies, GTB Public Safety helps strengthen the broader regional emergency response network—creating a more coordinated approach to protecting our communities when it matters most.

Receive notifications by

- Call
- Email
- Text
- And More

For one-step notifications

SIGN UP TODAY

Get updates and alerts instantly.

SIGN UP FOR REGROUP EMERGENCY ALERTS SCAN QR CODE

https://embeds.regroucloud.com/orgs/gtb/channels/govt-emergency-alerts/signup_embed





WAAWAAKESH (DEER) PROCESSING WORKSHOP

October 14, 2026 • 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM
GTB Natural Resource Dept. - 3505 Putnam Rd.

We are seeking **ONE** freshly harvested deer donation to make this year's workshop possible

The donated deer can only be accepted between
October 13 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM & October 14 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Join our hands-on workshop where we'll start with a field dressed deer and show you how to skin, quarter, break down cuts of meat, and vacuum-pack meat. Plus, we'll have a smoker running with delicious venison jerky to sample.

If you have questions, would like to sign up, or are interested in donating a deer, please contact our Agriculture Manager, William Derouin.

Contact: William Derouin • (231) 463-0398 • William.Derouin@gtb-nsn.gov

4th ANNUAL DEER PROCESSING WORKSHOP

Come join GTB Agriculture staff for an evening of honoring and showcasing the great Waawaakesh; white-tail deer. We will be breaking down a whitetail, showing participants how to skin, quarter, and break down a deer. The workshop will start with a prayer to honor the whitetail deer and all that it offers to provide us with nutritious, healthy food. We will then begin the butchering process and finish by showing people a technique for vacuum packing the meat. We typically bring a smoker to the event and offer smoked venison jerky to participants. We will have other light snacks and water. With a little luck and skill from a tribal hunter, and some planning, we hope to be able to offer this again this year with a freshly harvested local animal. If you are looking to learn how to break down and process large animals this is a great workshop for you and your family.

2026-27 GTB SUGAR BUSH KIT GRANT OPPORTUNITY

The GTB Sugar Bush (located on Putnam Road at the GTB Natural Resource Department) has received a big boost from a USDA – ACER grant. A part of this grant was offering sugar bush kits to members of the GTB community to help promote sugar bush activities and preserve traditions amongst the GTB community. Starting this month (October 2026) we will be taking applications from GTB citizens who would like a sugar bush kit for their home/community sugar bush. These kits are purchased from Sugar Bush Supplies in Michigan and they include all of the tapping supplies, a wood fired evaporator and finishing/bottling equipment to operate a home/community scale maple syrup production system (25-75 taps). This kit is valued at ~\$4,000. We will be offering 5 of these kits in December 2026 to applicants who apply before November 30th, 2026. We will let the applicants know if they have won by December 9th, with plans to deliver the kits to applicants before the winter holidays. We will be offering kits again in December 2027.

HOW TO APPLY?

- If you or someone you know within the GTB community would use this type of system, we will be taking applications through November 30th, 2026. To apply, please write a brief description of how you plan to use this system. The applicants will be graded on the following criteria:
- ♦ Ability to demonstrate previous experience safely operating a sugar bush for your family or community
 - ♦ Ability to store the equipment properly (preferably indoors)
 - ♦ How many GTB citizens and/or non-GTB citizens are involved in your sugar bush
 - ♦ How many people benefit from the production of your sugar bush (how many people use the syrup, etc)
 - ♦ Ability to sign a document stating you will not lease, sell, trade, give away, or dispose of any of this equipment through the USDA – ACER grant period (through September 2028)
 - ♦ Ability to complete an annual Sugar Bush Season Review document in 2027 and 2028 that will be provided by the GTB Agriculture & Food Sovereignty Department (this will be less than 2 page survey that will ask you about challenges you faced, community involvement, and product use)

Please include in your written application your willingness to meet these criteria as well as all relevant experience and community involvement that will make you a successful candidate for receiving a \$4,000 sugar bush kit. The applications will be made anonymous, and a blind review board will select the winners based on the listed criteria by early December when we will hand out the 5 kits. So you are welcome to list participants or number of family members, but the names and places will be redacted to ensure all applications are anonymous for the internal review by GTB Natural Resource Department staff. Please email william.derouin@gtb-nsn.gov with any questions, to see a sample application. We are looking forward to helping the community continue this family tradition! Miigwetch!

COMMUNITY POTLUCK & BEACH NIGHT, SUNSHINE & SMILES

A recent Community Potluck and Beach Night event brought together 130 people for a pre-Powwow celebration at Mashkiigaki, a newly re-acquired 188 acres of ancestral coastal wetlands and shoreline that is now back under the protection and stewardship of GTB. The event was collaboratively hosted by the Niizh Animikiig Program, the Communications Department, Natural Resources Department, and Youth Services Department, and featured lots of sunshine, live music, bison burgers and a potluck spread, with families enjoying swimming, kayaks, and floating platforms in the water! There were also door prizes and a raffle with a variety of summer swag such as a cooler, inner tubes, and more.



The gathering also served as a celebration of this land's return to the Grand Traverse of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians; Mashkiigaki, which roughly translates to "place of marshlands and medicines," is a place of cultural and ecological importance that has now been formally restored to GTB after decades of private ownership and use a commercial RV park. In 2024, GTB was successfully awarded federal grant funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to purchase the land back, combined with local fundraising efforts by Northport-based non-profit New Community Vision. The event was a chance to reconnect with the land and celebrate the community's efforts to preserve it for future generations.



As we reflect on the success of this event, we're reminded that this is just the beginning of our relationship with Mashkiigaki. With this recent re-acquisition and ongoing restoration planning, the GTB community can reconnect with, restore, and preserve this land for all generations! We want to hear from you: what are your visions and priorities as GTB re-establishes a relationship with this land? Share your thoughts and ideas by taking this short survey: (<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScyIN9PYryChiLXtJyJ9NbJSIYWqI6DiTHfotqGCWdsNCqa9g/viewform>) or scan QR code.

Your input will help shape the future of Mashkiigaki and make fun and meaningful events like this continue to happen!



100 Employment	130 Services
105 Lost and Found	135 Events
115 For Sale	140 Legal Notice
120 Announcements	145 Mino-Dibishkaan
125 Miigwech	150 Bereavement

100 Employment

Government Operations

Administrative Assistant (FT)
Associate Degree in Business related discipline. A min. of four (4) years of work experience as an Administrative Assistant. Knowledge of Gaming Commission & background functions are helpful and the ability to work independently is essential. -\$19.84/hr. - until filled

Court Clerk/Assistant Probation Officer (FT)
Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, Legal, Paralegal, Business, Administrative Services, Social Work/Services, Social Science, Sociology, Psychology, Liberal Arts or similar degrees may be considered. A combination of education and experience may be considered in lieu of a bachelor's degree. General knowledge of applicable law, regulations, rules, policies, procedures and administration is required. Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$22.26/hr. - until filled

Dental Hygienist (FT)
Associates Degree in Dental Hygiene and Licensure in State of Michigan. Twenty-four hours of biennial continuing education including four hours' HIV-AIDS and three hours' CPR training. Competence in operation of standard dental equipment: cavitron, prophyjet, X-ray, radiograph processor, panelipse, dental chair and unit, sterilizers, hand scalers, and curettes. At least one year of experience as a full time dental hygienist preferred. -\$35.27/hr. - until filled

Director of Community Development and Housing (FT)
Bachelor's degree in Urban Planning, Community Development, Public Administration, Real Estate Development, or a related field required. Min. of seven (7) to ten (10) years of progressive experience in housing, community development, or real estate development, including at least five (5) years in a management or leadership role. Comprehensive knowledge of federal housing programs and regulations, including NAHASDA, IHBG, HUD requirements, and tribal housing policies. Demonstrated experience managing complex development projects, construction initiatives, and multi-million-dollar budgets. Strong leadership, strategic planning, and intergovernmental coordination skills. Knowledge of tribal sovereignty, federal Indian housing policy, and government-to-government relations. -\$DOE - until filled

Early Head Start Assistant Teacher (FT)
Child Development Associate (CDA) required. Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education or related field required. Experience working with infants/children. -\$17.83/hr. - until filled

EHS Education & Family Services Coordinator (FT)
BA in Human Services or Social Work field. Must have experience in a supervisory position, with strong team leadership skills. One to three years experience in working in an Early Head Start and/or Head Start program preferred. Previous experience in the field, with skills in classroom management, and curriculum planning. Must obtain

CPR/First Aid certification. -\$61,983/yr. - until filled

EHS/HS Bus & Classroom Aide (PT)
Must have High School diploma or GED. Must be able to effectively communicate with children and adults in an appropriate manner. Must be willing to obtain a CPR/ First Aid certification. Ability to observe and evaluate children in a non-biased manner. Must be willing to and as well as obtain a CDA within first two years of hire. -\$16.73/hr. - until filled

EHS/HS Bus Driver (PT)
High School diploma or GED. Must be able to effectively communicate with children & adults in an appropriate manner. Must have First Aide Certification or obtain a CPR/ First Aid certification (within 30 days). Ability to observe & evaluate children in a non-biased manner. Must be willing to & as well as obtain a CDA within first (2) yrs. of hire. -\$21.21/hr. - until filled

Facilities Utility Worker 1st Shift (FT)
High school diploma or G.E.D. preferred.b Experience in commercial building maintenance preferred. Carpentry, plumbing and electrical repair experience preferred. Knowledge of safety procedures and safety equipment recommended for use during the course of duty. -\$16.46/hr. - until filled

Grants Writer (FT)
Associates Degree in Public Administration, Social Sciences, Public Health, Business Administration or related field. (must produce degree) Certificate in Grant writing (must produce degree) Three (3) years of proven experience in grant writing and experience with writing successful grant applications to federal, state, local, tribal, and foundation funders. Experience in the management and/ or administration of state or federal grants. Experience with evaluation, strategic planning, and quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$60,144/yr. - until filled

Housing Utility Worker (FT)
High School Diploma or GED preferred. Must have some housekeeping experience. Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$16.46/hr. - until filled

HS Education & Family Services Coordinator (FT)
Must have BA in Education or related field and be a certified teacher, preferably with Early Childhood (ZA) endorsement. Must have experience in a supervisory position, with strong team leadership skills. One to three years experience in working in an Early Head Start and/or Head Start program preferred. Previous experience in the field, with skills in classroom management, and curriculum planning. Must obtain CPR/First Aid certification. -\$55,433/yr. - until filled

Infrastructure Director (FT)
Bachelor's degree in Facilities Management, Construction Management, Engineering, Public Works, Public Administration, or a closely related field. Minimum five (5) years of supervisory or management experience in infrastructure, facilities, public works, fleet, or utility operations. Demonstrated experience coordinating multiple technical

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trades or service departments under a unified operational plan. Knowledge of safety, environmental, and operational regulatory requirements applicable to infrastructure systems. Valid, unrestricted Michigan driver's license and ability to be insured under GTB's insurance carrier. -\$DOE - until filled

Medical Director/Physician (FT)
Must have an active State of Michigan Physician License, State of Michigan Controlled Substance License, and Federal DEA License, with Board Certification in Family Practice. Must have Community Staff Privileges at Munson Medical Center or obtain within a reasonable time. Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$DOE - until filled

On-Call Receptionist- Charlevoix
High School Diploma or GED equivalent. Prefer (1) yr. experience in office management. Must have basic math skills & written skills. -\$21.24/hr. - until filled

Recruiting Specialist (FT)
Bachelor's degree in Human Resources, Business Administration, or related field preferred. Three (3) years of recruitment or talent acquisition experience required. Demonstrated experience in full cycle recruiting and use of applicant tracking systems (ATS). Understanding of (or commitment to learn) TERO requirements and tribal hiring preferences. Excellent communication and relationship building skills. Proficiency in social media recruiting, digital sourcing, and networking for hard to fill roles. Valid driver's license and acceptable driving record required. -\$60,670/yr. - until filled

Registered Nurse (FT)
Bachelor's Degree in the Registered Nurse Program, with a current State of Michigan RN License. Three to five years of nursing experience in a family clinic setting. Must have current BLS Certification. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$70,033/yr. - until filled.

Revenue Cycle and Data Manager (FT)
Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration or Finance. Thorough understanding billing, collections and payment posting, revenue cycle, & third-party payers. Thorough understanding of budget management and reporting for business planning and development, as well as program specific management and reporting. Thorough understanding of Database creation, data analysis, compiling and interpreting data from several systems. (2-3) years' progressive and successful billing cycle and data management experience preferred. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$71,913/yr. - until filled

(2) Summer Youth Worker (Temp)
High School Diploma or GED. Some experience working with youth. Valid Michigan Chauffeur Licenses. Insurable by GTB insurance. Preferred. Must have reliable transportation. -\$16.73/hr. - until filled

Truancy Intervention Specialist (FT)
Must possess a bachelor's Degree in Counseling, Social Work, Psychology, Education, or a related field. Must have 3-5 years of experience working with youth. Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$47,713/yr. - until filled

Government Operations RFP

RFP - Craft Items for Giveaway
GTB is seeking proposals from GTB Tribal Member artisans, makers, and small businesses offering handmade or locally produced goods and products. Examples may include salves, lotions, cedar oil, traditional or cultural items, beadwork, sewn goods, and other handcrafted products to be used for Tribal Council Giveaway Items during tribal membership meetings, gifts for visiting dignitaries, etc. -\$RFP - until 10.5.26

RFP - Dental Hygienist 2025
GTB is seeking proposals for an in-person workshop to support Tribal Council's Yearly Budgeting Process, Strategic Planning, Team Building, and Goals and Objectives. -\$RFP - until filled

RFP - 2026 Personal Trainer
The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians (GTB, Grand Traverse Band) is requesting bid proposals from companies or adult individual/s for a Certified Personal Trainer at the Strongheart Civic Center located in Leelanau County. -\$RFP - until filled

RFP - 2026 Pilates Instructor
GTB is requesting bid proposals for a Certified Pilates Instructor to offer classes at the Strongheart Center dance room. Each class will be offered once a week for 1 (one) hour duration on day/time agreed upon. -\$RFP - until filled

RFP - 2026 Yoga Instructor
GTB is requesting bid proposals from companies or adult individual/s for yoga instructor(s) for Leelanau county. -\$RFP - until filled

150 Bereavement

Sheri Lynn Erffourth GTB Tribal Elder
Tarpon Springs, FL
7/18/1963- 8/30/2026
Respectfully Acknowledging Our Loss



Margaret B. Sandoval GTB Tribal Member
Traverse City, MI
5/18/1991- 9/4/2026
Respectfully Acknowledging Our Loss



Joseph Clifford “Buddy” Raphael GTB Tribal Elder United States Army First Elected GTB Tribal Chairman
Peshawbestown, MI
4/2/1942– 9/5/2026
Respectfully Acknowledging Our Loss



Angeline Cecilia John GTB Tribal Member
Northport, MI
12/25/1973- 9/7/2026
Respectfully Acknowledging Our Loss



Reverend Thomas H. Johns, Sr. GTB Tribal Elder
Traverse City, MI
5/18/1943 - 9/21/2026
Respectfully Acknowledging Our Loss



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Grand Traverse Band - All Government Offices CLOSED

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12TH

In observance of Indigenous People's Day

Government Offices will reopen
at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, October 13th!

Emergency numbers are posted at office entrances. For immediate assistance, refer to the emergency number list.



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FOR EMERGENCY NUMBERS.

https://bit.ly/GTB_EPN_042326

Chi Miigwech for your understanding.



Grand Traverse Band - Government Offices CLOSED

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND, 2026

In observance of
Jiigiye-Giizhigat (All Souls Day)

Government Offices will reopen at
8:00 a.m. Tuesday, November 3rd!

Emergency numbers are posted at office entrances. For immediate assistance, refer to the emergency number list.



FOLLOW QR CODE OR LINK
FOR EMERGENCY NUMBERS.

https://bit.ly/GTB_EPN_042326

Chi Miigwech for your understanding.



Grand Traverse Band News

Submissions due by
the 3rd Friday each month

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Earn entries
September 28 – October 25

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