Spokane Indian Housing Authority

Past, Present and Future
With continued Support from
NAHASDA

Spokane Indian Housing Authority
January 2015

Spokane Indian Housing Authority is to serve the Spokane membership, including low to moderate income families, by providing opportunities for affordable, decent, safe and sanitary Housing.
Spokane Indian Housing Authority

Demographics

Data extracted from the Spokane Tribe of Indians Website and the HUD Sustainable Community Master Plan.

**POPULATION:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tribal Membership</th>
<th>Spokane Indian Reservation Population (U.S. Census) Residing on the Reservation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>1,357</td>
<td>751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>1,672</td>
<td>689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>1,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>2,118</td>
<td>1,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>2,257</td>
<td>2,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2,696</td>
<td>2,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2,712</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2,810</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Unemployment And Poverty Rates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Spokane Indian Reservation</th>
<th>Stevens County</th>
<th>Washington State</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>2,094</td>
<td>43,531</td>
<td>6,724,540</td>
<td>308,745,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty Rate</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Minority</td>
<td>88.9%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Household Income</td>
<td>$32,096</td>
<td>$42,845</td>
<td>$57,244</td>
<td>$51,914</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data is from the 2010 U.S. Census data and the U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey.
History of the Spokane Tribe

We were placed here by the Creator since the beginning of time and we will always be here.

The traditional Spokane homelands extended along the Spokane River from present day City of Spokane east to the Idaho border and west to the confluence of the Spokane and Columbia Rivers, and south to Cow Creek near present-day Ritzville. The pre-Columbian population is estimated as being anywhere from 2,000 to 6,000 individuals. The Spokane lived in small villages made up of bands, which were grouped into three divisions along the Spokane River. The Spokane River has been and continues to be the central location for the Spokane Tribe. The sqesclini (Lower Spokane) occupied the area around the mouth of the river and upstream to Tum Tum. Their camps centered around the Little Falls of the Spokane River. The snxwmene? (Middle Spokane) occupied the area around Spokane Falls, Hangman or Latah Creek and other areas. Their territory bordered the Coeur d'Alene to the south, and extended east to Idaho. The snutatulixw (Upper Spokane) lived primarily along the Little Spokane River. They occupied the region from the mouth of Hangman or Latah Creek to the village of Tum Tum, and east to Lake Coeur d'Alene (Chalfant 1974:77-78 as cited in Grant, Catton, Schneid, Newall 1997:1-3).

As semi-sedentary complex hunter-gatherer peoples, the various groups were seasonally on the move from one site to another to hunt, fish or harvest the many resources upon which they relied both for subsistence and for trade. The very nature of their lifestyle would lead to the pressure to remove Indians onto reservations. Treaty negotiations, designated early on as "treaties of cession" (Grant et al 1994:1-8), with the regional tribes spanned the period of 1854-1855. Territorial Governor Stevens first met with Spokane Garry, the leader of the Upper Spokane, in 1853, the year Washington Territory was created. Stevens did not return to the Columbia Plateau to meet with the Spokane until December, 1855.

This was a period of non-Indian encroachment into Indian territories and into the newly created Indian reservation lands.

The rich farmlands were being sought after. Wars broke out between the white settlers squatting on Indian lands and the tribes. Stevens' negotiations with the Spokane were halted when the Yakama went to war. The Spokane joined with their allies to defeat Colonel Steptoe at Pine Creek. Later retaliation by Colonel George Wright was particularly brutal and resulted in the hanging of several Indians. Wright is said to have negotiated a treaty with the Spokane, however, the treaty was never presented to Congress.

During this period, non-Indian interests also led to Indian policy that was less than beneficial to the tribes. The tribes in Washington and northern Idaho that did not have a treaty were particularly vulnerable to encroachment. With no legally binding treaties, and no established reservation boundaries, tribal territories were overrun. Two consecutive presidential executive orders were issued to attempt to establish a reservation for the "Methow,
Okanogan, San Poll, Arrow Lakes, Colville, Kalispel, Spokane and Coeur d'Alene and other scattered bands. " (Grant et al 1994:1–9). The first established reservation (April 9, 1872) "extend[ing] from the Spokane and Little Spokane rivers north to the Canadian border (49th parallel), from the Columbia River east to Pend Oreilles River and the 117th Meridian" (Grant et al 1994:1–9). However, rather than move six hundred settlers off the newly created reservation, and moving all the Indians onto it, "a second order was issued on July 2, 1872, restoring the reservation to public domain" (Grant et al 1994:1–9). The order established a new reservation, now the Colville Indian Reservation, but the newly-created reservation required the Spokane to remove from their traditional area of occupancy; and they refused. From 1872 until the third executive order issued in 1881 that created the Spokane Indian Reservation, the Chief Garry and Chief Lot Spokane bands were increasingly pressured to move to the reservation and cede valuable land around Spokane Falls. By 1881, many Spokane had moved to the newly created reservations. However, creation of the reservations and removal of tribal peoples was the first step to wrestling the land away from them. Legislation was put into motion to satisfy the demands of settlers who desired the agricultural land located within the reservation boundaries. Following relocation, the tribes were then subjected to the General Allotment Act of 1887, also known as the Dawes Act. This policy was designed to effectively dissolve Indian reservations and open reserved Indian lands to white settlement. Between 1902 and 1908 Congress implemented the general allotment policy on the Spokane Indian Reservation. This policy effectively removed tribal land within the tribal boundaries, first by allotting lands to individual tribal members, who could "sell" their land; and secondly by placing the remainder in public domain which opened it to white settlement. The purpose of the General Allotment Act is summarized as follows, 'The law was designed to undermine traditional tribal values and social structures" (Grant et al 1994:2–9). A delay to implementing The Dawes Act on the Spokane Reservation was due in part to the Chief Lot and Chief Garry's bands living in the area around Spokane Falls who refused to move, and their continued occupancy of traditional lands that were highly valued. The Northwest Indian Commission was created "to negotiate land cessations" with several tribes: and the Commission met with the Upper and Middle Spokane in March, 1887. A separate agreement was made with them, although their adamant request for a separate Spokane reservation along the Little Spokane was denied. They were offered monetary compensation for lands lost and for rebuilding on a reservation of their choice, but the agreement was not ratified until 1892. Nearly half of these bands joined the Lower Spokane on the Spokane Indian Reservation, while the rest were granted allotments on other nearby reservations.

References:
BRIEF HISTORY
Spokane Indian Housing Authority

The Spokane Indian Housing Authority was created by Tribal Ordinance in 1971 to assist the Tribe in meeting the need for housing and housing related services on the Spokane Indian Reservation. The SIHA has utilized a variety of funding sources to create housing. Among those sources have been the 1937 Act, the Native American Housing and Self Determination Act "NAHASDA", Low Income Housing Tax Credits "LIHTC", Federal Emergency Management Administration "FEMA" and Bureau of Indian Affairs "BIA".

SIHA is committed to exploring and utilizing a variety of sources to help meet the needs for housing and housing related services and programs on and off the STOI Reservation. SIHA continues to provide a homeownership program modeled on the 1937 Act Mutual Help Program. SIHA is currently working with the Rural Community Assistance Council "RCAC" to investigate the USDA Self Help Program as a way to create affordable homeownership housing opportunities. SIHA is committed to leveraging funds to create new opportunities.

- SIHA has built the following 37 Act & NAHASDA homes since 1973
  - Home Ownership Units = 216
  - Rentals = 114

- Low Income Housing Tax Credit "LIHTC" Projects – New Rentals
  - Spokane Homes I Rentals = 25
  - Spokane Homes II Rentals = 20

- Low Income Housing Tax Credit "LIHTC" Rental Rehabs
  - 1937 Act Units Renovated with LIHTC Funding – 20

- FEMA Mobile Homes
  - FEMA Units Acquired for Homeownership – 5

- BIA Housing Improvement Program "HIP"
  - HIP Ownership Homes on the STOI Reservation – 25

- Down Payment Assistance
  - Homeownership Assistance (families) – 31
Spokane Indian Housing Authority Staff and Force Account Crew
CASE STUDY #1

Family Size: 4

Ages: 54, 51, 24, 22

Gender: 2 males, 2 Females

Income: $41,350 Annually

Housing Story:

My name is Ron L Brigman, I am a Spokane Tribal Member and reside on the Spokane Indian Reservation. I am a current home buyer with SIHA. In 1996 my family and I were chosen by SIHA to have a home built. I would like to have a few minutes of your time to tell you some of our story. Me, my wife and our 3 children were renting a home, the home was sold and we were given 1 year to relocate. Housing on the reservation was hard to find at that time. Our children were 13, 6 and 4 years old, we were also a single income family and did not know what or where we were to go. There was nothing to rent that was big enough for a family of 5 and we could not afford to buy a house at that time. Our family had been on the housing list at that time but no homes were being built. Thankfully that year, SIHA had received funding to build a certain amount of homes. We qualified and were chosen. There were approximately 8 meetings that were mandatory for us to attend along with the other homebuyers. These meetings were for us to give our input into what we would like the floor plans to be. They then had two different blueprints drawn up for us to choose from. We were a part of picking from different color schemes for outside and inside with flooring counter tops and cupboards. They included us in the whole building project. Other meetings were required for financial responsibilities of the home buyer, the insurance needs, contact responsibilities and more. We watched every step of the house being built, oh the dreams we all had. In Jan. 1979 we were able to move in to our 4 bedroom 2 bath home, It was a dream come true. It is a home where are kids were proud to have friends over and we loved and still do, to invite friends and family over. Everyone who has ever complimented us on our home we give SIHA the credit for it. We will be forever grateful to them. We honestly believe we would never have been able to have this nice of a home if it had not been for SIHA and this program. I do not know where we would be today if it were not for them. Continued funding is greatly needed for this program to continue making a difference in families lives like ours.

Thank you,
Sincerely,

Ron and Terri Brigman
CASE STUDY #2

Family Size: 2

Ages: 78, 51

Gender: 2 Females

Income: $19,475 Annually

Housing Story:

TO WHOM IT CONCERNS:

My daughter and I live in one of the subsidized houses. My daughter is disabled and I'm 78 yrs old and our only income is my small social security check and her small disability check. The small rent on this house made it possible for us to have a nice home to raise her 2 sons in and still be able to get the things we needed such as food and clothing. I am a Spokane and living in a subsidized home makes it possible for us to stay on our reservation where everyone is family. I couldn't stay here and pay full rent.

Thanks you

Delsene F. Clark
CASE STUDY #3

Family Size: 2

Ages: 69, 73

Gender: 1 male, 1 female

Income: $24,328 Annually

Housing Story:

We are Mike and Donna Abbott and have been living in SIHA Housing for about four or five years. Mike is on kidney dialysis and we do his dialysis at home. Housing is also right there for us and make sure everything is in working order. If we need help the Tribe will make sure we can get to Doctors.

On top of the dialysis Mike is also fighting stage four cancer in the stomach. He is in and out of hospitals and the Senior duplex we live in holds all the medical supplies we need.

If not for SIHA we wouldn’t be able to survive.

We want to Thank you from the bottom of our heart.

Mike and Donna Abbott
12/21/14
CASE STUDY #4

Family Size: 1
Ages: 90
Gender: Female
Income: $14,232 Annually

Housing Story:

January 5, 2015

I don’t know where to begin, I am so very satisfied with my “newly remodeled” apt. (1) The moving both times was handled by Housing in a very good way, they are very helpful. (2) The apartment is so roomy, sunny, bright! I am able to walk anywhere safely and even do my exercises. It is so easy to keep-up the floors are great! My new appliances are wonderful! Plenty of storage places, my walk in pantry is so nice, I can buy my groceries now and able to store in a nice safe place.

The heating system is wonderful, even temperature in all rooms, also the noise level is great, can’t hear my neighbor, very private.

I am well taken care of by “Housing” prompt if I need anything!!

I am 90 years old and I plan on staying a few more years and this apartment is really a “condo”. I have never lived in such a wonderful place!

Vi Frizzell
CASE STUDY #5

Family Size: 4

Ages: 67, 67, 68, 16

Gender: 1 male, 3 females

Income: $19,836 Annually

Housing Story:

To Whom It May Concern,

My husband has medical issues and so do I. The Housing Authority was able to get us into a home that we are enjoying. Our lives are so much easier.

Please accept our Thanks and Appreciation.

Mr. and Mrs. N. Hale
CASE STUDY #6

Family Size: 1
Ages: 64
Gender: 1 male
Income: $32,697 Annually

Housing Story:

Spokane Indian Housing Authority
PO Bx 195
6403 Sherwood Addition Road
Wellpinit, Wa 99040

George Teters
PO Bx 689
Wellpinit, Wa. 99040

Terry Payne,

I want to address to you how the Native American Housing and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA) has helped me. I'm 63 years old and I have spent most of my life renting or in temporary residence at someone's place. When I had the opportunity to move in at my current residence, it was through the Spokane Indian Housing Authority. I was thrilled to move in with my girlfriend and her kids. We moved there in the spring of 2003, I think. At that time, it was a rental. We were told if we lived there for at least 5 years, there could be an option to buy if we chose to do so. It was 7 years later, I was very excited when I got to sign the papers as a first time home buyer. I was very proud to show my Mom the house that I could claim as mine. She past away a few years later. No longer do I do home repairs and ask the landlord if I can get compensated in some way. There is comfort and pride when you do some repair or improvement; that its for your benefit. Every day I am thankful for the home I live in.

Sincerely

George Teters
SPOKANE INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY
PO BOX 195
WELLPINIT, WA 99040
(509) 258-4523