



Organization Name **Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Housing Authority**

Location Michigan

AIAN Population 14,649 (FY 2015 Formula)

IHBG Allocation \$4,844,841 (FY 2015 Adjusted)

Project Type **Infrastructure Development**

Project Description

In 2009, the quest began to submit a grant application to USDA-RD to secure funding to provide fire protection to the homes at Odenaang. UP Engineers and Architects and Sault Tribe Housing Authority worked on submitting the grant application. The grant was awarded in 2010 and the project began to move forward; however, in 2011 talks began between the City of Sault Ste. Marie and the Tribe to bring city water to the subdivision. An amendment to change the project scope was presented to USDA-RD along with the additional costs; a grant for \$453,000 was increased to \$619,000. The project still required additional funding of \$600,000 to be completed. In early 2012, Indian Health Service staff indicated that there may be funds available through the Environmental Protection Agency. EPA was approached about the project and a \$600,000 grant from EPA, administered by Indian Health Services, was awarded to cover the additional funding needed to make this project a reality. In 2011, Sault Tribe Housing along with UP Engineers and Architects began to pursue funding for the sewer portion of the project. They were successful in being awarded \$415,000 from USDA-RD and an Indian Community Development Block grant of \$600,000 in 2012. Once the projects went out to bid it was necessary to secure additional funding, EPA contributed an additional \$295,000 for the water project and USDA-RD contributed an additional \$300,000 for the sewer. This has been an extensive process, which required bringing several jurisdictions together along with multiple funding source requirements. The Housing Authority contributed \$165,000 to secure \$2,829,000.

In 2012, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors approved the “Odenaang Development Plan.” The new plan was a result of months of planning meetings, community input both in person and surveys, and a very dedicated group of Tribal Members who represented many areas within the tribal community. The new water source will now allow the Odenaang subdivision to transform into a complete community.

Project Team

Joni Talentino, Sault Tribe Housing Director
Joanne Umbrassas, Project Specialist/Grant Writer
Russell McKerchie, Construction Manager
Eric Waara, Engineer UP Engineers & Architects
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Contact

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Project Photographs



Ground breaking – June, 2014

