

FEED THE FIRE!

First, thank you to everybody who donated to the AIC in 2008. Your contributions helped keep our doors open, our gas bills paid, and our programs and services running. There would not be an American Indian Center without you!

On behalf of the board and staff, I'd like to continue the "**Feed the Fire**" fundraising campaign for the AIC.

It's called "**Feed the Fire**" because keeping a flame burning is similar to keeping our Center open and running: both require careful safeguarding and attention, both consume many different kinds of fuel, and both will continue indefinitely—for generations, even—given proper management and resources.

There are different ways to "feed the fire" for the AIC. You can donate **\$1-\$10** and buy a piece of kindling. You can donate **\$11-\$25** and buy a leaf, or **\$26-50** for a twig. If you want to buy a more substantive piece of the fire, you can donate **\$51-\$99** for a branch or **\$100-\$499** for a log. Of course, you can't start a fire without a spark, so we're selling matches for **\$500-\$999**. If you want to buy an entire fire bundle, from kindling to match, you can donate **\$1,000** or more. If you want to donate monthly or quarterly—and we strongly encourage this—you can pledge a total annual amount and that will determine what piece of the fire you contribute.

Throughout the year we will collect all of the pieces of the fire that people buy (yes, we have real kindling and branches!). Early next fall, before the powwow, we will invite *everybody* who feeds the fire to an event where we burn the fuel collected over the year. This will be our way to thank each other as a community for keeping the AIC's fire burning all year. Each donor will also have their name put on a "Feed the Fire" display at the AIC, and will be eligible for our standard donor benefits (see donation sheet on reverse page).

Our goal is to raise \$75,000 in donations from individuals in 2009. This is our most important type of fundraising, because it represents money donated by the people most important to the Center, and it can be used to pay bills and cover emergency costs. Since we started at the powwow, we've raised over \$1500. Help us to meet our goals and keep the fire burning for the AIC!

Eric Jojola, AIC Developer

Ways to get involved:

- 🕯 *Become a member of the AIC.*
- 🕯 *Sign up for a monthly, quarterly, or semi-annually donation plan.*
- 🕯 *Make a one-time donation.*
- 🕯 *Volunteer in our programs.*
- 🕯 *Volunteer in our Development Office (writing grants, helping with mailings, etc.)*
- 🕯 *Network and advocate for the AIC—help connect us to businesses and individuals interested in our mission.*
- 🕯 *Share your vision for the Chicago Indian community with us.*

For more information, please contact:

Eric Jojola, AIC Developer
(773) 275-5871 x22 or eric@aic-chicago.org