



# PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Suquamish Businesses Donate \$13,500 to MDA

Tribal representatives featured at Puget Sound telethon

**SUQUAMISH, September 8, 2006-** Muscular Dystrophy advocates, including Port Madison Enterprises and the Suquamish Tribe, helped raise more than 1.7 million dollars during the annual MDA Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon this year.

For the past three years PME, the economic arm of the Suquamish Tribe, has been the title sponsor for the local event, helping to raise money for neuromuscular disease research, patients and their families throughout the region. This year, the company donated \$13,500 to the MDA South Sound Chapter, with \$10,000 contributions in 2005 and 2006.

"Donations from PME and the Suquamish Tribe will help nearly 1,100 area clients this year," said MDA south Sound Chapter District Director Anna Burrows.

MDA provides services to 1,100 clients who live in the South Sound and the Kitsap Peninsula, including 10 families on the Port Madison Indian Reservation.

Suquamish Clearwater Casino Assistant Manager and Suquamish Tribal Member Irene Carper presented MDA with a check for the funds during the final hour of the telethon Monday, September 3, 2007 on Q13 Fox television.

"It was an amazing opportunity to be part of the telethon this year. We are proud to sponsor MDA and all the work they do to improve the lives of those with debilitating neuromuscular conditions," said Carper.

All funds raised by the local MDA telethon stay in the region. For example, money raised during the Puget Sound Area telethon will be specifically used to help those being affected by the disease in Western Washington. Nationally, the program spearheaded by famed comedian Jerry Lewis, raised more than 63 million dollars this year.

Each year the Suquamish, through tribally owned businesses and tribal government grants, donate hundreds of thousands of dollars to area charities. To date, the PME Board alone has donated more than \$175,000 to area non-profit organizations this year.

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