NAWA Feminine Hygiene Drive a Huge Success

by Faith Price

The WSU Native American Women’s Association held a highly successful feminine products drive benefiting needy women in the month of February. They received approximately 6,500 items donated.

The drive was the brainchild of WSU education major Elsie Cree (Yakama/Nez Perce).

“I personally know people that struggle to buy feminine products,” said Cree, noting they are very expensive and college students are on a limited budget.

The bulk of the donations were given to Rosario’s Place on the WSU campus. Rosario’s Place provides needy WSU student-parents with free clothing, children’s books and toys, diapers and hygiene products and is located in the Women’s Resource Center.

The response to the drive was so huge, NAWA was able to also reach beyond WSU and donate some items to the Community Action Center that serves those living in poverty in Whitman County.

“I was really surprised by the people that were willing to help so much,” said Cree.

Donation boxes were placed around the WSU campus for the week of Feb 22-26, including all the multicultural student centers, sorority houses, and residence halls, as well as the University of Idaho, and Northwest Indian College. One of the largest donors was the Pullman/Moscow area Girl Scouts, who learned of the drive when NAWA Vice President and 2015-16 Miss Pah-Loots-Puu Amandaree Fox presented at the girl scouts’ “World Thinking Day.”

NAWA was extremely pleased with the success of their first feminine hygiene drive and hopes to make it an annual event, said Cree.

“Imaaqis qeci’yew’yew to everyone who donated items to our drive!”