Updated 10-28-2021.

MMDTC will be doing a new Demographics survey coming to lineal and honorary members by the end of the year.

**By conducting this survey, it will help us:**

* Acquire a land base so we can build a community center.
* Obtain federal recognition.
* Maintain a tribal office in Mendota.
* Promote and support the preservation of the Dakota culture, including protecting sites of cultural significance to the Dakota people.
* Promote a better understanding between the Native American community and the public.
* Teach community members and others the Dakota language.
* Develop self-sufficiency through in-house business.

**Examples that will be on the Demographics survey and notes:**

* Did your family live in Mendota from 1900 to 2020, are they still living in Mendota and where?
* On a separate sheet of paper, please gave us dates of Wedding, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Funerals, etc. We need Dates, Times, and what family these events were for. Very important!
* There used to be women who met at the VFW in the basement. They were all related. Does anyone know of these meetings that were held for years around the 1970s? Please help us find this information. I used to bring my mother Selisha (maiden name LeClaire) to those meetings. Mother always looked forward to those meetings.
* Your ancestor or families: Felix, LeClaire, Renville, DuPuis, Fernier, Turpin, Bellecourt, Robinette, Campbell, Lemay, LaCroix, LaBatte, Newcomb, Perron, Leith, Sherry, Auge, Faribault, Cermak, Crooks, DuFour. Many of these families, but not all are descendants of Chief Cetanwakanmani, and Chief Wabasha. Most everyone in the Mendota Community is related to a chief.
* For the past 28 years, the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community (MMDTC) has tried to honor our ancestors by re-uniting the Dakota people. To help them understand not only where we have come from, but where we are going and why. We continue to inform and challenge our members to get involved to meet our mission. Mendota was to preserve, protect, and promote our Dakota culture for future generations.
* In June 2020 we should have celebrated our 25 year anniversary as the formally organized community, the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community.
* Covid made it so we could not cerebrate very sad.
* We are the Descendants of a band of Mdewakanton Sioux Indians of Minnesota, who have resided in Mendota since the before 1800.
* Our family's and ancestors have lived in Mendota since before history was being written.
* The Mendota Community are the Traditional Guardians of the Eastern Gate.
* To continue our mission, we need additional demographic information from our members. This information will help us identify potential areas of need, as well as potential resources to help us achieve our mission.
* One result of this survey is that we hope to compile our membership other than our basic membership data. This will include a list of names, phone numbers, emails, tribal I.D, original families, when you became a member, etc. If you need a realtor, electrician, or carpet-layer you can refer to our membership directory to find one. If you are in a trade, please let us know if you wish to help other members.
* You our members have created a great Community! You have also given us the ability to take this Community to the next level.
* Several of our mission items relate to obtaining Federal Recognition. To obtain Federal recognition, we need to know who our members are in relation to the general population. We will eventually provide this demographic information to the Federal Government as part of the Federal recognition process.
* MMDTC is here to play an important role for all people who lived here in the land of our ancestors. Please help us to continue our mission by taking a few minutes to complete the survey. We need all members completed surveys for the Federal Acknowledgment process. Please have your completed survey by the end of Dec 31, 2021. Email is faster you can mail to Sharon Lennartson Tribal Chairwoman home.
* A member must be current with your contribution and have a current membership application from 2015. When we did our new application, as requested from the Bureau of Federal Acknowledgment.
* Attend 4 meeting a year, help at the Wacipi by volunteering, help at the office when needed. We understand members who live out of town or out of state. Elderly members who can’t drive any. Whatever your circumstance is that you cannot make meetings. Then we ask that you pay your contribution.