

The “Little Dance in Chaska” Powwow

The Jonathan Association was the main sponsor of the “Little Dance in Chaska” (Chaske Cikala Wacipi) for the first two years (2010 & 2011) of this event’s history. The concept for the Powwow originated during a conversation between Jonathan Board members Walt Ripplinger and Nate Bostrom in May of 2010. The “Little Dance in Chaska” has always been scheduled for the third weekend of August each summer and is held in McKnight Park which is located near the intersection of Village Road and Pioneer Trail. Authentic food and crafts from Native vendors are sold and admission is free to the public.



Jonathan Board member Walt Ripplinger, a member of the Lakota community, is the organizer and master of ceremonies for the “Little Dance in Chaska” powwow.

The “Little Dance in Chaska” is sponsored by the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Community, the Jonathan Association, the City of Chaska Department of Parks and Recreation, the City of Chaska

Public Works Department, and local merchants including Lenzen Chevrolet and Cooper's Foods.

The general public is always invited to join American Indians in a celebration of their culture expressed in dance, song, and drums. This is an event that combines our town's history ("Chaske") and our diversity (featuring Mdewakanton and Aztec dancers and drums) into an opportunity for learning, friendship, and fun.

The "Little Dance in Chaska" (Chaske Cikala Wacipi) is another example of why we describe our community of neighborhoods as "Jonathan in Chaska, a special part of the best small town in Minnesota!"