FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

STRENGTHENING NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMIES

EDUCATING GRASSROOTS PRACTITIONERS
ADVOCATING FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE
CAPITALIZING RESERVATION COMMUNITIES

Annual Report 2016
**OUR MISSION**

Our mission is to strengthen American Indian economies to support healthy Native communities. First Nations Development Institute invests in and creates innovative institutions and models that strengthen asset control and support economic development for American Indian people and their communities.
How Change Happens

Our Guiding Principle

We believe that when armed with the appropriate resources, Native peoples hold the capacity and ingenuity to ensure the sustainable, economic, spiritual and cultural well-being of their communities.

Our Strategies

Direct Financial Support through Grantmaking
Technical Assistance & Training
Movement-Building
Policy & Research
Advocacy

Our Programs

Nourishing Native Foods & Health
Investing in Native Youth
Achieving Native Financial Empowerment
Advancing Household & Community Asset-Building Strategies
Strengthening Tribal & Community Institutions

Grassroots Impact 2016

Capitalizing Native Communities
175 Grants Awarded
$2.8 Million Invested in Native Communities

Educating Grassroots Practitioners
10 Academic Scholarships
256 Travel Scholarships for Conferences and Convenings
419 Technical Assistance Support
13,344 People Educated Through Convenings, Webinars & Conferences

Advocating for Systemic Change
7 Publications
42,342 Downloads from Online Knowledge Center
A Great Start for the New Chair!

Greetings! The year 2016 was special for me because, in June, I was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of First Nations Development Institute. And although I’ve been on the First Nations Board for many years and have been highly involved in lots of other ways, I still felt as though I had some very big shoes to fill. You see, I was taking the place of my good friend, relative and long-term mentor Tom Vigil (now Chairman Emeritus), who actively served as chairman for a very long time until stepping down to get on with his and his wife’s full retirement. Tom ably guided First Nations down a good path over his many years of service.

Tom taught me well and served as an excellent role model, so I am confident going forward that I can fill those shoes and help guide the organization into the future in a good way.

And talk about making the new Chairman look good right off the bat! Another great thing from 2016 was that, for the second consecutive year, First Nations Development Institute set a record for the number of grants it awarded and the total dollar amount awarded in any single year since the organization’s founding in 1980. In 2016, First Nations awarded 175 grants to Native organizations and communities totaling more than $2.8 million. That eclipsed the previous record year (2015) where the organization awarded 107 grants totaling just over $2 million.

Year after year, the positive impact of First Nations on Indian communities continues to grow, and I’m very proud to be part of that. Cumulatively, First Nations has given financial support, technical assistance and training, and other services to Native communities through the provision of 1,238 grants totaling more than $27 million through year-end 2016. That includes hundreds of tribes, organizations and communities in 39 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. Territory American Samoa. (It also includes several years of startup and burgeoning operation before First Nations actually launched its nationwide program of technical assistance and grantmaking in 1993-1994.)

None of this success would have been possible without the truly dedicated, hard work of First Nations’ small-but-powerful staff and, of course, the visionary financial support provided by foundations, tribes, corporations and concerned individuals. We genuinely and deeply thank them for their exceptional work and for generously underwriting our efforts. The need in Indian Country is great, but these staff members, grantors and donors have really stepped up to the challenge.

We certainly welcome additional support, however. Although we’ve set records the past two years as to the annual number of grants and dollars awarded, First Nations is still only able to provide grants for a small fraction of the total requests it receives each year – about 23 percent – which leaves a tremendous gap, or what we call “unmet need.” That gap leaves hundreds of worthy projects unfunded or underfunded, when additional support could go so very far in helping Native communities rebuild and revitalize their communities and economies.

Finally, I’m kidding about taking too much credit for the amazing milestone that First Nations achieved in 2016. Although I was a board member and then chairman that year, the organization itself has an amazing amount of built-in kinetic energy and liveliness that has powered it through thick and thin over the past 36 years. And – most importantly – the very Native communities we serve possess an incredible amount of innovation, creativity, energy and insight. Their depth of passion toward improving things is bottomless. They are the true heroes here. They do the “heavy lifting” on the front lines when it comes to moving things forward. As Tom repeatedly shared, we at First Nations are lucky to be invited to be part of their incredible accomplishments.

Let’s see if we can continue to effectively harness that forward motion, that energy and passion, and ride it to many more records in the future. Thank you!

Respectfully,

Benny Shendo, Jr. (Jemez Pueblo)
Chairman, Board of Directors
First Nations Development Institute
Cesar Chavez and his enduring words continue to inspire me and the work that I get to be a small part of here at First Nations Development Institute.

This past year at First Nations we were extraordinarily blessed. We were able to set a record, making 175 grants totaling $2.8 million to community organizations on Indian reservations and in ultra-rural areas.

Mr. Chavez stated it best when he said:

“We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community ... Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own.”

Chairman Shendo noted in his letter the passing of the chairman’s mantle to him from now-Chair Emeritus B. Thomas Vigil. And in Tom’s more than three decades of service to First Nations as a board member and its chair, he was always there to remind us here at First Nations – and me, his wet-behind-the-ears protégé, in particular – that the achievements of First Nations are not ours. We don’t own them. Instead, they belong to the people in the Native communities in which we work – who daily share with us their genius, but more importantly their dreams and aspirations.

And while we have an incredibly dedicated and talented staff here at First Nations – the ones who contribute most, if not all of the built-in kinetic energy the Chairman spoke of in his letter – we are reminded that there are folks who do not share our worldview of fairness and justice, and do not subscribe to notions that include our “pursuit of happiness.”

But Mr. Chavez knew that better than most, as evident when he said:

“It is possible to become discouraged about the injustice we see everywhere. But God did not promise us that the world would be humane and just. He gives us the gift of life and allows us to choose the way we will use our limited time on this earth. It is an awesome opportunity ... We can choose to use our lives for others to bring about a better and more just world for our children. People who make that choice will know hardship and sacrifice. But if you give yourself totally to the nonviolent struggle for peace and justice, you also find that people will give you their hearts and that you will never go hungry and never be alone. And in giving of yourself you will discover a whole new life full of meaning and love.”

And while I should probably do so with more frequency, I am each year given this space and the audience to offer my sincere appreciation to those around me who give their hearts. Thank you to First Nations staff, our incredible Board of Directors, and our generous donors. And especially to the folks in Native communities who frequently share with us their genius, but more importantly their dreams and aspirations.

And last but certainly not least, thanks to my friend, mentor and second father, B. Thomas Vigil, who has done more than most to try to sand down some of my professional sharp edges while keeping me keenly focused on what’s really important – the very future of Indian Country.

Gunalchéesh (thank you in Tlingit).

Michael E. Roberts (Tlingit)
President & CEO
First Nations Development Institute

“Our Ambitions Must be Broad Enough to Include the Aspirations and Needs of Others”

Stacked among the mis- and ill- and non-filed papers littering my desk and office is a folder of quotations that I’ve collected. Some are motivating. Others thought-provoking. Many have specific meanings that relate to a time and/or a place where I was mentally when I ran across them. And then there are some whose words inspire me, reinvigorate me. They drive me each and every time I revisit them.

As well, a few years back, I made a conscious effort to hold up the quotes of people of color whenever I am asked to give talks or have the opportunity to reach a broader audience, including through this, my annual letter.
Nourishing Native Foods and Heath

First Nations is dedicated to preserving Native foodways and improving the health of Indigenous communities. Under our Nourishing Native Foods and Health program area, First Nations has awarded 263 grants totaling more than $6.5 million to Native organizations dedicated to increasing food access and improving the health and nutrition of Native children and families since 2002. Projects supported under this focus area are intended to help tribes and Native communities build sustainable food systems such as community gardens, food banks, food pantries and/or other agricultural projects related to Native food-system control. Moreover, First Nations invests in community-based models looking at economic and policy mechanisms to build local economies, improve food access and encourage healthy lifestyles.

Historically, there have been major disruptions in Native food systems, whether that came through federal policy that diminished Indian land bases and defined Native diets, or through systemic language loss that diminished tribal knowledge bases. First Nations’ goal is to recreate unity among food, diet, land, water, people and knowledge in order to grow strong and healthy Native communities and economies.

2016 Highlights

- **W.K. Kellogg Foundation/Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative:** With generous support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, First Nations awarded 30 grants to Native communities totaling $535,208 in order to conduct community food sovereignty assessments, promote economic and policy mechanisms to improve access to traditional and healthy foods, and to promote traditional knowledge systems related to local food systems. First Nations also launched a project to study food prices and access at retail outlets in Native communities.

- **Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC)/Seeds of Native Health:** First Nations is a partner in the SMSC’s Seeds of Native Health campaign that was developed by and is supported by the SMSC. The goal is to improve awareness of Native nutrition problems, promote the wider application of proven best practices, and encourage additional work related to food access, education and research. Under the program, First Nations awarded 15 grants totaling $422,500 to Native community-led and developed programs looking to improve access to fresh, health and traditional foods, promote nutritional education, and working on other economic and policy mechanisms to improve local food access. First Nations also provided technical assistance and training to community partners under the campaign, with the goal of improving human, programmatic and organizational capacity and effectiveness.
Diné Community Advocacy Alliance: In partnership with the Diné Community Advocacy Alliance (DCAA), First Nations formed a unique funding collaborative to support the implementation of the healthy foods legislation passed by the Navajo Nation. In 2014, the Navajo Nation passed two new and innovative policies to encourage healthy living and lifestyles on the Navajo Nation, including the first junk-food tax in the United States and the removal of sales tax on healthy food items. Launched with a leading gift from the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, the funding collaborative supported DCAA with a combined gift of $262,000. This includes generous support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The Christensen Fund and an anonymous donor.

NoVo Foundation/Food Sovereignty Assessment: Through significant support from the NoVo Foundation, First Nations awarded 20 grants of up to $20,000 each to support Native tribes or organizations in conducting community food sovereignty assessments. First Nations also conducted a series of four webinars that helped Native organizations and tribal communities prepare and launch food sovereignty assessments. Additionally, the NoVo Foundation funding allowed 17 grantees to attend First Nations’ annual L.E.A.D. Conference.

Agua Fund: With valuable support from the Agua Fund, First Nations was able to provide financial and technical assistance to two Native communities in South Dakota and one Native community on the Navajo Nation.

Walmart Foundation/Nutrition Education for Native American Communities (2016-2017): Grants totaling $310,000 were provided to 21 Native American communities to assist in the initiation or expansion of nutrition education programming for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) participants and other Native community-based partners, with the goal of improving community nutrition and health habits. A multimedia toolkit related to the effort will be distributed to at least 100 FDPIR program managers.

Walmart Foundation/Supporting Native Farmers and Ranchers (2015-2016): This project helped build the organizational and programmatic capacity of Native American tribes and organizations focused on cattle and/or bison ranching. It focused on improving management of natural resources, engaging younger community members in ranching businesses, and expanding access to new markets. Besides technical assistance via site visits and webinars, First Nations awarded $250,000 through four capacity-building grants. Recipients were Point of Pines Cattle Association, 14R Ranch Inc., Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Farm and Ranch Enterprise, and Grasshopper Livestock Association.

The Christensen Fund/Colorado Plateau Project: The focus of the First Nations Colorado Plateau Native Food Systems and Conservation Project, supported by The Christensen Fund, is to build on continued efforts on the Colorado Plateau with the Arizona Association of Tribal Conservation Districts (AATCD) and with Native American ranchers and farmers located primarily on the Colorado Plateau. Through the provision of grants, technical assistance, training and a regional convening, First Nations is working to increase Native control of natural resources and assist in the development of a Native community-based organization.

USDA/Conservation Innovation Grant (2016-2017): This project aims to develop an adaptable process for community-wide conservation planning that contributes to the development of individual-producer conservation plans. During the year, First Nations selected four Native communities and community stakeholders in Arizona.

USDA/Conservation Innovation Grant (2015-2016): This project centered on efforts to advance tribal conservation initiatives in Arizona Native communities. This was achieved by strengthening the organizational capacity of and increasing support to 10 tribal conservation districts in Arizona by formalizing the Arizona Association of Tribal Conservation Districts as a Native-controlled nonprofit organization, and through financial support to 20 producers to attend a regional convening.

USDA/Farm-to-School Program (2016): Under this effort, First Nations hosted a two-day convening attended by 29 individuals representing Native communities, schools or other institutions interested in the farm-to-school process in New Mexico. Among the participants, 25 were provided scholarships. The convening featured capacity-building training, examples of best practices and successful models, and discussions of potential challenges, as well as USDA and other resources available to support their farm-to-school efforts. Subsequent training and individualized...
technical assistance will involve helping participants prepare USDA Farm-to-School Program applications for fiscal year 2018.

- Newman’s Own Foundation/Farm-to-School Match: The foundation provided much-needed funding as a match to the USDA Farm-to-School effort.

- USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service (2016-2017): This project aims to build capacity of Native American producers related to business development and control of community food systems. In 2017, it will involve specialized technical assistance and training for individual producers, as well as training for trainers. Topics will include food policy, food hubs, farm-to-school programs, farmers’ markets, marketing, natural resource management, conservation planning and others.

- USDA/Office of Advocacy and Outreach (2016-2017): This project is providing training and outreach to two cohorts totaling 27 Native farmers and ranchers that will increase their successful participation in USDA programs and build their capacity to manage their agriculture and food-system operations. During 2016 the cohorts were selected by way of a competitive application process, and the trainings will commence in 2017.

- USDA/Office of Advocacy and Outreach (2015-2016): This project helped develop the business capacity of Native farmers, ranchers and organizations that serve them through trainings on First Nations’ comprehensive *The Business of Indian Agriculture* and *Food Sovereignty Assessment* curricula, and by attendance at the national Food Sovereignty Summit co-hosted by First Nations. Twenty-four beginning Native farmers and ranchers attended the summit, while 110 Native ranchers and producers (53 under scholarships) benefitted from the learning workshops.

- Otto Bremer Foundation/Moving Forward Food as Economic Development in Native Communities: Focused on Native communities in Minnesota, this project convened representatives of tribes, Native American financial institutions and Native nonprofit organizations for a focused learning session and discussion of food systems as a vehicle to promote local economic development, community development and individual health; and to pilot three models in Minnesota that will lead to increased access to capital for Native-controlled, food-related economic enterprises. Grants were provided to three communities to assist in advancing tribal food-related goals, and three mentor/mentee partnerships were established. First Nations also provided technical assistance to the communities with support and guidance from mentor organizations, and facilitated strategic-planning sessions at each of the three grantee locations that resulted in the development of strategic plans for the advancement of tribal food-system initiatives.

2016 Publications

- Indian Country Food Price Index: Exploring Variation in Food Pricing Across Native Communities: This report finds that Native consumers in or near reservation communities spend more on food products than the national average, despite the fact that incomes are usually much lower in these communities and food access is more difficult due to distance and transportation issues.

- New Genetic Ordinance Empowers the Yurok Tribe to Protect Its Natural Resources: The Yurok Tribe’s Genetically Engineered Ordinance (GEO), passed in 2015 as part of the tribe’s food policy, is a first-of-its-kind tribal ordinance that prohibits the growth of genetically-modified crops and the release of genetically-engineered salmon within the tribe’s territory. First Nations featured the GEO in this short report.

- Blackfeet Reservation Community Food Security and Food Sovereignty Assessment: Highlighting the results of a recent community food assessment, the FAST Blackfeet (Food Access and Sustainability Team) report highlighted how the organization will use its assessment to further its mission of supporting community strengths, culture and wellness through the development of local, sustainable systems that provide healthy food access and education.
Sustaining Culture and Livelihood in Remote Igiugig Village

In Igiugig, a small Yup’ik, Aleut and Athabascan Indian village of only 69 people on the Kvichak River in southwestern Alaska, resources are scarce and food must be flown in. This close-knit community is finding new ways to develop sustainable food sources, and create opportunities for their young people to succeed.

A grantee of First Nations and the Seeds of Native Health campaign, the village runs a local food stand that serves the community, which has developed the entrepreneurial skills of the youth who make Igiugig their home, and has renewed pride and self-sustainability in the village.

The food stand was proposed in 2015, as part of a three-tiered approach to enhancing the village’s food system. Over the course of the project, the village would build and operate a greenhouse to grow fresh produce, train residents how to preserve traditional foods for year-round use, and create an entrepreneurial opportunity for youth through a retail venue for traditional foods.

The village’s young people would be involved from the very beginning – developing a business plan, purchasing and ordering food, managing expenses, and operating the stand. According to Jeff Bringhurst, project director, “The project has shown them a way they can contribute and make a difference. They see they have a role in the village, and they see a future in helping it grow and thrive,” he said.

The project started with seed money and guidance of teachers and village members, and an initial food order of $500. The students first began selling reindeer hot dogs and hamburgers. They quickly learned the ropes of the food business: procurement, ordering, marketing, advertising, sales, and customer service.

They next set out to leverage the capabilities of the new greenhouse to begin offering squash, zucchini, turnips, kale, chard and other vegetables, which were so rare in the village that many people didn’t even know how to cook with them.

Menu items have slowly been added, including grilled chicken, smoked salmon, moose stir-fry, and even sushi. “They’re making complex meals and thinking of them on their own,” said Bringhurst. “And they are more relaxed, friendly and confident.”

With increased confidence the teens have learned the realities of how to run a business, from operations to marketing and advertising to attract commercial fishermen and lodge guests. Lessons have been coordinated through the high school to develop entrepreneurial skill sets, including budgeting, procurement, and time and money management. The teens and community took part in First Nations’ Spending Frenzy simulation, which teaches youth how to manage finances and make informed spending decisions.

They are “growing new learners” and mentoring the next generation of leaders in the community. As Bringhurst imagined, “You never know which one of the kids will be our administrator someday.”
Investing in Native Youth

“We believe all young people have gifts and talents waiting to be discovered or uncovered, so we look to our youth as ‘at promise’ (as opposed to ‘at risk’) because they are our future. They will be the ones to lead us further, and take care of our community.” — Zowie Banteah-Yuselew (Zuni)

Native youth are one of the most important assets for the future of Native communities. Investing in the health and well-being of Native youth today will help shape the future health and well-being of Native communities. First Nations invests in and creates programs that provide Native youth with a sense of hope and pride in their communities and connects Native youth to cultural knowledge systems that will build self-esteem and promote better life outcomes. By providing youth with activities that challenge them and a safe space to explore their culture, their identity and their potential, a community ensures that their youth have an opportunity to grow into future community leaders.

2016 Highlights

**Native Youth and Culture Fund:** In 2016 the Native Youth and Culture Fund (NYCF) was able to support Native tribes and communities working with Native youth to maintain and strengthen cultural connections, identities and practices through language, land/place, food and other forms of cultural expression. Through the end of 2016, more than 650 Native youth were served by projects under the 2016 Native Youth and Culture Fund, which is generously supported by the Kalliopeia Foundation, Susan A. and Donald P. Babson Charitable Foundation, and an anonymous donor. In total, First Nations was able to award 24 grants totaling $432,000 to tribes and Native American organizations in 14 states whose projects met one or more of the NYCF priorities:

- Preserving, strengthening or renewing cultural and/or spiritual practices, beliefs and values.
- Engaging both youth and elders in activities that demonstrate methods for documenting traditional knowledge, practices and/or beliefs, where culturally appropriate.
- Increasing youth leadership and their capacity to lead through integrated educational or mentoring programs.
- Increasing access to and sharing of cultural customs and beliefs through the use of appropriate technologies (traditional and/or modern), as a means of reviving or preserving tribal language, arts, history or other culturally relevant topics.
Native Agriculture and Food Systems College Scholarship Program: The purpose of the Native Agriculture and Food Systems Scholarship Program is to encourage more Native American college students to enter agriculture and agricultural-related fields so that they can better assist their communities with efforts to invest in, develop and gain control of local food systems. Reclaiming control over local food systems is an important step toward ensuring the long-lasting health and economic well-being of Native people and communities. In the third year of this program, First Nations was able to award 10 scholarships of $1,000 each for the 2016-2017 academic year. Selected students represented 13 different tribes and studied in fields ranging from water and natural resources to environmental studies to tribal governance and administration. The students all demonstrated commitment to working in tribal communities and promoting local food systems or traditional food knowledge.

Spending Frenzy Program and All-in-One Kits: The Spending Frenzy program is an interactive financial education simulation designed for Native youth who are preparing for their financial future. Youth receive a large sum of play money, and then get to make a series of spending and savings decisions. By popular demand, First Nations launched the all-in-one Spending Frenzy kits in 2015 that contain everything needed to host a successful simulation. In 2016, First Nations sold 21 kits, amounting to 30 sold to date. Additionally, in 2016, First Nations conducted 20 Spending Frenzy workshops in 12 communities across nine states, reaching a total of more than 700 Native youth.

NAYA Early College Academy: Funded by the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Bank of America Foundation, this project supported work with the Early College Academy of the Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA) in Portland, Oregon, by utilizing First Nations’ Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families curriculum to offer financial education classes. First Nations also offered experiential learning opportunities and Youth Savings Accounts (YSA) that were used to help youth build assets, learn the savings habit, and use mainstream financial services. Overall, nearly 100 students participated in financial simulations and 23 took the financial literacy course. Outcome data demonstrate that students are more confident in their ability to carry out financial practices and have plans to take action toward bettering their financial futures.

WISHSS Project: The Well-Being in Student Health and Financial Self-Sufficiency (WISHSS) project worked with longtime partner Gallup Central High School in New Mexico to offer a multimodal financial education program for student-parents that included opening savings accounts over the 2015-2016 school year. As part of the initiative, which was generously funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, First Nations assisted in offering financial education in a variety of formats, including guest lectures from financial experts, experiential learning events, and interactive lessons that encouraged good spending and savings decisions. First Nations worked with a local bank partner, Pinnacle Bank, to open Youth Savings Accounts for students and Children’s Savings Accounts for their kids. In total, accounts for student-parents amounted to $3,456 by the end of the project. First Nations also provided four Spending Frenzy financial workshops in 2016 for the entire student body, reaching about 100 students.
Pyramid Lake Paiute’s Cultural Camp Helps Keep Tribal Traditions

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of Nixon, Nevada, was one of 24 American Indian organizations and tribal youth programs to receive funding from First Nations through the Native Youth and Culture Fund (NYCF) for the 2016-17 funding cycle. First Nations launched the NYCF in 2002 with generous support from the Kalliopeia Foundation and other foundations and tribal, corporate and individual supporters.

Pyramid Lake Paiute Chairman Vinton Hawley is pleased that by investing in its youth and giving them a sense of community and tradition, the tribe is ensuring that it will have strong future leaders. The tribe commended First Nations for support of the much-needed “Cultural Summer Day Camp.”

The tribe received a $20,000 grant, which supported the cultural camp and taught elementary school-aged youth Paiute culture and heritage through a language-immersion unit and the sharing of knowledge of the Paiute culture, language and history that included hands-on learning and classroom activities, with tribal high school and college students serving as peer mentors.

Through the NYCF grant, the cultural camp was able to provide transportation for all three of the tribal communities. The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Reservation is located 45 miles northeast of Reno, Nevada, in Washoe County. The three communities are Nixon, Wadsworth and Sutcliffe. Wadsworth and Sutcliffe are about 15 miles from Nixon, which was the location of the cultural camp.

The camp’s ability to provide transportation sparked interest from families and generated an increase in attendance. Over four weeks in July 2016 there was an average daily attendance of 73 students, which was an increase from the previous year’s 60 to 65.

Tribal elders were key to the success of the cultural camp and they served as consultants to the program. One of the elders who served as one of the language teachers was Flora Greene.

“We were very fortunate that one of our oldest elders, who is 100 years old, came and worked with and spoke to the students. Parents also came and watched as the students learned,” said Janet Davis, Tribal Recreation Coordinator.

The youth were taught traditional Paiute dances and songs and they learned to make their own traditional clothing. The tribal museum director spoke to the students and showed them the different parts of the regalia, such as the moccasins, collars, beaded belts, headbands, and cloth and buckskin dresses. Tribal members who sew traditional clothing also came together to measure each and every student for their own traditional Paiute cloth dress or shirt. They also helped cut the fabric.

The key to the language-immersion program was the learning of the “NUMU” language by playing traditional games and songs. The students also learned to make hand-game pieces to use when playing hand games such as the Bamboo Game. The students learned NUMU words by repeating simple words, phrases and body parts. Elders and community members played bingo games with the children using NUMU words. They also told stories in both Paiute and English.

Davis and the tribal recreation program also produced a short film entitled “Pyramid Lake Recreation: Summer Culture Program.” The nearly 13-minute video can be found on YouTube and was produced by Nokwsi Films. The video documents the cultural camp and includes interviews with community members, and footage of the youth wearing their traditional clothing and participating in their traditional dances such as the Antelope Dance, the Bear Dance and the Owl Dance.

Davis said the impact of the cultural camp is ongoing.

“With the First Nations grant funding, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe was able to successfully serve youth and community members from all three of our tribal communities,” she said. “This increased the access and sharing of our Paiute cultural customs and beliefs, and renewed our culture in the ways of our ancestors in order to promote our identity for future generations. The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe is very thankful to the First Nations Native Youth and Culture Fund for support of this project.”
Guided by the belief that economically empowered families contribute to vibrant economic, cultural and social systems in Native communities, First Nations continued its economic empowerment work in 2016. Partnering with tribal colleges, summer youth-employment programs, schools and other tribal and federal partners, First Nations continued to offer workshops, classes, curricula and resources to support financial empowerment. The organization also conducted research on financial empowerment issues of interest to community leaders. Drawing upon evidence-based models, First Nations’ work helps individuals acquire and practice new financial skills and behaviors, which leads to positive financial outcomes for families, communities and local economies.

2016 Highlights

- **Spending Frenzy Workshop Kits:** Recognizing the importance of youth financial education, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians supported First Nations in 2016 as it took its Spending Frenzy workshop from a prototype to a reality. First Nations improved the training materials for the program and began to market the program nationally. First Nations also developed a “workshop kit” that makes it easy for people to conduct their own workshops in their home communities. Tribal leaders took notice and many communities have purchased workshop kits and also invited First Nations to conduct workshops. In 2016, 20 Spending Frenzy workshops were held in 12 communities across nine states, reaching a total of more than 700 Native youth. In addition, 21 workshop kits were sold.

- **Fighting Financial Fraud in Indian Country:** In 2016, First Nations continued to work in partnership with the FINRA Investor Education Foundation to conduct financial education outreach in Indian Country and help educate consumers on how to protect themselves from financial fraud, including investment fraud. Over the funding cycle, First Nations conducted a total of 29 outreach events and trainings, reaching nearly 1,000 people. These events included more than 10 workshops with Native youth, six for participants in the Land Buy-Back Program, one train-the-trainer workshop on the Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families curriculum, and two with students at tribal colleges.
**Financial Inclusion Policy Action Initiative:** First Nations continued to work with national partner CFED (Corporation for Enterprise Development) on the Financial Inclusion Policy Action Initiative (FIPAI), a three-year program supported by the Northwest Area Foundation. The FIPAI seeks to advance state and tribal policy change that leads to long-term economic prosperity in low-income communities, communities of color, and Native communities.

**Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families:** In 2016, staff at First Nations Development Institute and First Nations Oweesta Corporation (Oweesta) completed the revision of the *Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families* Participant Workbook. An advisory committee led by First Nations and Oweesta revised this acclaimed financial education curriculum and also revised the accompanying Instructor Guide, which provides teaching tips and tools. Funded by the Rose Foundation and the AMB Foundation, the team wrote new content based on feedback from the field and to adjust for changing technology. An accompanying website, [www.BNCweb.org](http://www.BNCweb.org), now hosts the new 5th Edition Participant Workbook and Instructor Guide along with a range of other financial education resources for Indian Country.

**Native American Career Success Academy - Financial Education Module:** First Nations partnered with the Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) to help develop an online personal finance curriculum that is a key module in its Native American Career Success Academy. The online curriculum covers topics such as money values, managing spending, and learning to budget. In 2016, NAFOA also partnered with the Center for Native American Youth (CNAY) to develop the first-ever Gen-I Career Success Fellowship. The fellowship is designed to create successful career pathways for Native youth through online skill-building, leadership development, promoting local civic engagement, and facilitating direct connections with potential employers. The online personal finance curriculum is one of the resources offered to youth participating in the Gen-I Career Success Fellowship.

**2016 Publications**

**Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families, 5th Edition (Participant Workbook):** *Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families* is a culturally-relevant financial education curriculum geared toward Native communities. It can be used by housing authorities, TANF programs, high schools or other community programs. The *Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families* curriculum has six modules and covers topics ranging from money values to balancing your checkbook and using credit wisely.

**Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families, 5th Edition (Instructor Guide):** The Instructor Guide for the *Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families* curriculum includes best practices and teaching tools for each of the six chapters of the Participant Workbook. It also has four introductory chapters that address training techniques, learning styles, and financial education program design.
Native Nonprofit Supports Financial Empowerment

The Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition (ONAC) is a Native-led coalition in Oklahoma whose work strives to ensure that Native families have multiple opportunities to grow their assets by participating in culturally-relevant asset-building programs. First Nations has actively supported ONAC for many years.

ONAC works to design, implement and sustain asset-building programs such as financial education, Children's Savings Accounts (CSAs), emergency savings accounts, and credit builder/credit repair programs. ONAC's CSA program currently serves 15 tribal and Native nonprofit partners, and ONAC has funding to open 635 accounts by April 2018.

Supporting the sustainability of these programs is a priority for Executive Director Christy Finsel, an enrolled member of the Osage Nation of Oklahoma. Finsel, who became executive director in 2011, has been the driver of ONAC’s strategy over the last five years. ONAC recently started an endowment campaign, building on its long history in Oklahoma.

For the past 16 years, ONAC has worked with Native asset-building practitioners in the state to build the coalition. In 2016, it became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. ONAC has a long relationship with First Nations. Sarah Dewees, Senior Director of Research, Policy and Asset-Building Programs at First Nations, has worked with ONAC since 2009. She has watched its steady and strategic development led by a dedicated board of directors and executive director.

“ONAC has grown from a small, volunteer organization to a formal organization with a successful track record,” Dewees said. “ONAC represents a long history of promoting economic development among tribes in Oklahoma. It is very exciting to see its growth and continued success over time.”

Over the years, ONAC has received consistent, multi-year funding and support from the Center for Social Development at Washington University, the Ford Foundation, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and First Nations.

“First Nations is extremely proud of the tenacity and dedication of all involved with ONAC to get it where it is today,” said Michael E. Roberts, First Nations President and CEO. “It takes an incredible amount of resources, hard work and a long-term commitment from those working in the communities and from funders to take an all-volunteer organization off the ground to a sustainable one with an endowment campaign in place. First Nations’ support over the years to ONAC and other tribal and Native nonprofits derives from the belief that by investing in Native peoples it builds sustainability, not only economically, but culturally and spiritually, which is our mission as an organization.”

Dewees sees the impact of the leadership team and its consistent commitment to advance ONAC’s organizational infrastructure, programming and constituent base for the benefit of Native communities in Oklahoma. “The Native asset-building movement has grown a lot in the past 10 years. It is wonderful to see the Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition working with tribes and Native nonprofits to design financial education programs and help hundreds of families grow a nest egg and save for their future. The Children's Savings Accounts will help hundreds of children and families open a savings account and learn the savings habit.”

“Children’s Savings Account (CSA) Partners and Mini-Grant Awardees”

[Diagram showing the locations of various agencies and programs associated with the Children’s Savings Account (CSA) Partners and Mini-Grant Awardees in Oklahoma.]
Strengthening Tribal & Community Institutions

Strong and healthy institutions in Native communities are essential for community and economic development while also providing vital social and human services for Native households, families and individuals. Through grant support, technical assistance and training, First Nations provides tribes and Native-controlled nonprofit and community-based organizations with financial resources, technical assistance and training to strengthen the capacity of these institutions to improve service delivery to Native people.

In addition, First Nations has been working to grow and strengthen the nonprofit sector. A thriving nonprofit sector provides a means for economic diversification, and reduces community dependency on federal and tribal government resources. Moreover, a robust nonprofit sector leads to job creation and increases access to essential services in Native communities.

2016 Highlights

- **Native Arts Capacity Building Initiative (NACBI):** First Nations continued its Native Arts Capacity Building Initiative in 2016 (which has now been renamed the Native Arts Initiative, or NAI). By the end of 2016, First Nations was able to expand the initiative’s geographic service area to include tribal programs and Native-led nonprofits serving Native artists in New Mexico, Arizona, Southern California, Washington and Oregon. The initiative also continued to support these entities in Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota and North Dakota. The initiative’s main objective is to support the perpetuation and proliferation of Native American arts, cultures and traditions as integral to Native community life. In 2016, First Nations worked to accomplish this by providing seven grants totaling $195,000 to Native-led organizations and tribal programs that serve Native artists and the field of Native arts in their communities. Grantees utilized the funds to strengthen their organizational and programmatic infrastructures. As part of their grants, the programs and organizations also were able to access individualized First Nations technical assistance and training. In 2016, First Nations supported eight technical assistance and training site visits and three regional convenings on topics that included promising practices for launching a juried art show, developing communication plans, and First Nations’ Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families curriculum. This initiative is supported in part with a generous grant from Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies of Eden Prairie, Minnesota.

- **Nurturing Native Givers and Giving:** In 2014 First Nations launched a project called Nurturing Native Givers and Giving, which is supported by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation’s Catalyzing Community Giving Initiative. It is designed to further democratize philanthropy and direct more philanthropic resources to Native communities. This is being achieved, in part, by raising awareness of programs funded by First Nations through the development of the first-of-its-kind giving platform called www.NativeGiving.org. A pilot project, NativeGiving.org promotes a group of current and past grantees who are focused on promoting the health and well-being of our most valuable resource – our youth. Dedicated to strengthening and improving the lives of Native children and families, NativeGiving.org also raises awareness of the critical needs in the communities that First Nations serves. Nurturing Native Givers and Giving also includes convenings to bring together Native philanthropic leaders from private and tribal philanthropy for unprecedented gatherings that are designed to lead to peer networking, collaborations and ultimately directing more philanthropic investments to Native communities by Native people. Additionally, the project produces research on tribal philanthropic trends and other topics to inform decision-makers in the philanthropic community and mobilize philanthropy by and for Native people.
- **Sustainability for Native-Led Grassroots Initiatives - San Manuel Band of Mission Indians:** The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians near Highland, California, provided critical support to enhance First Nations’ broad Nurturing Native Givers and Giving Initiative and, in particular, the NativeGiving.org pilot project. The NativeGiving.org initiative is dedicated to strengthening and improving the lives of Native children and families while raising awareness of the needs of the communities. Consistent with Native American values of sharing and reciprocity, the goal of this unique initiative is to increase giving to philanthropic efforts in Native communities. The San Manuel Band grant builds on current efforts and provides the participating organizations with specific webinars and one-on-one training or coaching on numerous topics related to fundraising, strategy, planning, and giving policies and practices. It also will provide the opportunity for the NativeGiving.org cohort to meet for a two-day, in-person organizational sustainability training. NativeGiving.org features eight organizations that have developed successful and innovative projects that promote education and healthy lifestyles for kids and secure families. They are the College of Menominee Nation (Keshena, Wisconsin), Leadership Institute at the Santa Fe Indian School (Santa Fe, New Mexico), Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma), Oyate Teca Project (Kyle, South Dakota), STAR School (Flagstaff, Arizona), Sustainable Molokai (Kaunakakai, Hawaii), Tewa Women United (Española, New Mexico), and Zuni Youth Enrichment Project (Zuni, New Mexico).

- **Reclaiming Native Truth: A Project to Dispel America’s Myths and Misconceptions:** Reclaiming Native Truth: A Project to Dispel America’s Myths and Misconceptions is a groundbreaking project made possible by a $2.5 million grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. A joint project co-led by First Nations and Echo Hawk Consulting, this initiative will consolidate and build upon previous research efforts in order to create a long-term, Native-led movement that will positively transform the popular image of and narrative about Native Americans. From 2016-2018, the project team will work with an advisory committee of Native leaders, stakeholders and racial equity experts and advocates to understand the underlying reasons for society’s negative and inaccurate perceptions of Native Americans. Based on this improved understanding, we will have the tools necessary to build consensus around tackling this long-standing problem and develop short-term messages and a longer-term, comprehensive national communications and cultural campaign that will target and seek to change the most damaging misperceptions about and invisibility of Native Americans. Reclaiming Native Truth is about Native Americans taking control of their destiny, and shifting the public dialogue to reflect who they truly are and to support their ability to design their own futures.

- **Fund for Shared Insight:** First Nation was extremely honored to receive support from the Fund for Shared Insight to examine foundation openness related to giving to Native American communities and causes. First Nations will be conducting a series of foundation-staff interviews and original research on funding patterns to Native communities. First Nations hopes this information will shed greater light on how philanthropic resources are allocated to Native organizations and causes, and why there is continued investment in Native communities.

- **Northern Great Plains Mapping Ecological Stewardship Opportunities Project:** Peer-learning opportunities flourish in the Mapping Ecological Stewardship Opportunities (MESO) Project that is funded by Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies. This project, which falls under First Nations’ larger Native Ecological Stewardship area, builds a community of practice aimed at improving performance among tribally-run ecological, conservation or economic development programs in South Dakota and Montana. Identifying the needs that exist across sovereign tribal communities is the heart of the MESO Project, where participating tribes use funding to integrate environmental planning for ecological benefits for a more sustainable future. Tribes have the ability to optimize the balance between economic progress and environmental quality to preserve and protect resources for residents and visitors. Professionals use a variety of approaches for achieving goals based on best available tools, resources, skills and science. Technology is used to question, analyze and interpret situations, and data is collected to understand relationships, patterns and trends. Responsible stewardship requires thoughtful attention to the nuances, diversity and presence of environmental conditions that are unique to tribes in this region, but it also tells a story of the Indigenous human connection with all living things.

- **Kresge Foundation/Urban Indian Organizations Project:** The National Urban Indian Organizations Project linked together human service organizations to illuminate their dynamic roles in providing services to the Indigenous populations in metropolitan U.S. cities. Project activities underscored leadership, built collaboration and commonality, revealed innovative approaches and practice models, and strategized futures that contribute to greater organizational ability while engaging with (and in) a new larger network of like-minded service organizations. The urban Indian organizations that were involved provide a mix of services that are multi-layered and require
increasing capacity for their unique (and extensive) service delivery to diverse Indigenous populations. Gateways to more partnerships, new opportunities, and recommendations on the ways Indigenous groups can move forward and thrive were actualized in the project.

- **Comcast Foundation:** It is estimated that there are more than 200 Indian centers or organizations in the U.S. that serve urban Indigenous populations. Participants from select metropolitan cities contributed their insights on the specific needs of Indigenous individuals, families and communities at a convening during 2016. The goals were to promote cross-agency information sharing and networking, and identify ways to possibly work together in a structured and planned manner on a national, coordinated framework. How do organizations with low resources and high demand for multiple services succeed? The key element of this project was to build strategic alliances by engaging urban leaders to share their successes, explain how they make adaptive changes, navigate complex service systems, tell how they produce better outcomes, and illustrate the ways they are accountable for their achievements when meeting the service delivery needs of rising urban Indigenous populations.

- **U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women/Capacity Building Project for Targeted Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions:** This grant supports the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Technical Assistance Program that provides OVW grantees and sub-grantees with the expertise and support they need to develop and implement successful programs to stop violence against American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) women. First Nations works with a growing national network of tribal domestic violence and sexual assault coalitions that address violence against AIAN women. The coalitions increase awareness by providing training for law enforcement officials, health specialists, volunteers and community members; strengthen community strategies for prevention and intervention; promote policy and protocol designed with, and for, Indigenous populations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery; educate and network; and mobilize efforts to stop abuses in tribal and village communities. First Nations shares its expertise with this network through training and technical assistance. Technical services are customized for individual organization needs. Consultation is delivered in the form of site visits, resource sharing, webinars, peer-to-peer networking and mentorship, teleconferences, and one-on-one engagement. First Nation is in its 10th year of providing services to this extremely valuable network of individuals who have a deep and abiding respect for the safety and sacredness of women.

- **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development/Training and Technical Assistance:** Since 2014, First Nations has been providing on-demand training and technical assistance to recipients of HUD's Indian Housing Block Grants (IHBG) under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA). The purpose of this program is to strengthen and build the capacities of Tribally-Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) to provide safe and affordable housing to their tribal members. In 2016, First Nations provided 20 direct on-site trainings, remote technical assistance and regional training events to housing directors, staff and tribal administrators. These trainings reached at least 14 TDHEs, two regional tribal housing associations, and two Office of Native American Programs regions. These trainings improved knowledge and implementation of NAHASDA rules and regulations, eligible housing activities, managing multiple funding sources, financial management, low-income housing tax credits, self-monitoring activities, and general compliance with HUD requirements.

### 2016 Publication

- **A Systems Thinking Approach for Increasing Wellness in Urban Indigenous America:** In July 2016, 30 leaders of Urban Indigenous Organizations (UIOs) met in Denver, Colorado, to discuss priorities and barriers in advancing their work. This publication contains shared themes and trends along with where the most powerful leverage points may be for positive change for UIOs.
American Indian OIC Helps Create Economic Equity

The American Indian OIC (AIOIC) serves the American Indian urban population in Minneapolis, Minnesota, through individualized education, training and employment services. Its approach is not only to help people in poverty, unemployment or seeking advancement to obtain a job, but to provide an educational foundation that moves members of the community toward more stable and thriving futures.

As an Urban Indian Organizations Project grantee, AIOIC’s grant is designed to enhance programming that has a direct impact on individuals and tribal economies. AIOIC developed an employment and training project to increase economic equity for Minneapolis’ American Indian community. The objectives are to train community members for careers in technology-related occupations and then provide participants with the practical work experience and support services needed to gain employment in those fields. Graduates of the programs have the skills and training needed to maintain consistent employment in tribal enterprise and earn livelihoods that can support families and increase the financial health of Native people.

Training and education efforts are directed through the Takoda Institute, Adult Basic Education (ABE) and Takoda Prep. Takoda Institute is an accredited educational institution that trains students for careers in the fields of business, healthcare and information technology. ABE helps students obtain their GEDs, assists with employment placement, prepares them for entrance exams, or provides career training. Takoda Prep is an alternative high school that provides culturally-competent education to American Indian students.

One person benefiting from Takoda Institute’s Computer Support training program is Cory, a proud member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Working in a low-paying job that was starting to take a physical toll on his body, he wanted a job that had financial security. In just nine months, Cory completed his internship and classroom training and was ready to enter the tech workforce. His Takoda career counselor’s skills and dedication contributed to his gaining employment.

“His help is the major reason I got hired so quickly after I completed the program. The things David taught me will continue to serve me well into the future,” said Cory.

The organization conducted a strategic planning meeting that gave its 30+ employees the chance to review AIOIC’s past while strategizing its opportunities and expansion.

“The American Indian OIC was immensely grateful for the opportunity to enter into the strategic planning process as provided by First Nations Development Institute and The Kresge Foundation. Through this process, the leadership circle of our organization was able to revisit the historical antecedents of our organization, was able to critically analyze the systems that were currently in place, and to begin to create a shared vision for what we will accomplish in the years to come,” noted Dr. Joe Hobot, President and CEO of AIOIC.

HIGHLIGHT
Advancing Household & Community Asset-Building Strategies

First Nations works with national and local partners to identify, develop and implement household and community asset-building strategies that empower Native people. Working with its community partners in tribal colleges, community development financial institutions (CDFIs) and other community-based organizations, First Nations shares ideas through peer learning and it finances program development through grantmaking.

First Nations has helped share information about household asset-building programs such as Individual Development Accounts, Children's Savings Accounts, and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance sites. First Nations also conducts research on issues related to predatory lending in Native communities and works to raise awareness of this problem. First Nations' programs help move families and communities toward financial security.

First Nations also works with Native American communities to develop new businesses and services, and reclaim direct control of assets. First Nations seeks to help communities understand, create and control the way in which Native assets are valued, as well as the decision-making process in deciding whether to monetize those assets.

2016 Highlights

- **Native Family Empowerment Program**: Funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Native Family Empowerment Program is helping two tribal colleges, Northwest Indian College and Chief Dull Knife College, provide “bundled services” to their students who are also the parents of young children. The tribal colleges are bundling a variety of services for students and their children – financial education, asset-building savings accounts, free tax preparation, and assistance finding summer employment. In the final year of the grant, First Nations’ partners developed Children’s Savings Account programs and scaled up their Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) programs, among other projects.

- **A Case for the Native Nonprofit Sector: Advocating for Cultural, Economic and Community Change**: First Nations received funding from the Northwest Area Foundation to produce a report that explores the history of Native and non-Native-led nonprofits in Indian Country and shares findings from interviews with key leaders in the Native nonprofit sector. This report also draws upon a unique dataset to empirically assess the types of nonprofits serving Indian Country as well as some characteristics of Native-led nonprofits. Recommendations for supporting the Native nonprofit sector are offered.

- **Building Economic Security Over a Lifetime**: The Building Economic Security Over a Lifetime (BESOL) initiative continued in 2016 with funding from the Ford Foundation. The goal of the project is to continue elevating an asset-building agenda at the local, state and tribal levels in Oklahoma in an effort to identify barriers and solutions to low- to moderate-income Oklahomans achieving economic security. In 2016, this project continued to focus on supporting the Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition (ONAC) and the Oklahoma Assets Network (OAN)/Oklahoma Policy Institute (OK Policy) team. These coalitions worked to raise awareness about inclusive asset-building strategies and programs in Oklahoma. In 2016, ONAC
continued its Children’s Savings Account Program and also held its annual conference, which was attended by 83 asset-building professionals. The OAN/OK Policy team continued to build awareness around economic security issues facing low- to moderate-income Oklahomans by publishing asset-building fact sheets and blogs. OK Policy once again held its annual Summer Policy Institute for undergraduate and graduate students for an intensive, four-day learning experience focused on raising awareness about policy issues facing Oklahoma and careers in policy-related and asset-building fields, as well as providing students with rich networking opportunities with their peers and leaders. The OAN/OK Policy team also organized and hosted “FallPol 2016,” a one-day annual Fall Policy Boot Camp. Held in both Oklahoma City and Tulsa, it was attended by 140 practitioners, students and professionals who came to learn about public policy.

2016 Publication

- A Case for the Native Nonprofit Sector: Advocating for Cultural, Economic and Community Change: This report explores the history of Native and non-Native-led nonprofits in Indian Country and shares findings from interviews with key leaders in the Native nonprofit sector.

Tribal Colleges Pave Way for Community Asset-Building

Tribal colleges do much more than provide affordable education in reservation communities. Many tribal colleges are leading the way in creating programs to help American Indian families save money and build assets. As part of First Nations’ Native Family Empowerment Program, Chief Dull Knife College (CDKC) and Northwest Indian College (NWIC) have been providing several programs for tribal college students and the larger reservation community. The Native Family Empowerment Program (NFEP) is specifically designed to support tribal college students with young children, providing their families with social and financial supports. The long-term goal is increased family well-being and community economic development.

Past research has indicated that unlike traditional four-year institutions, the average tribal college student is in her 30s and has a child. Attending college is hard enough, and is especially difficult when caring for a child and working a job at the same time. With funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, First Nations is assisting CDKC and NWIC in offering programs for their students who are also parents. The programs offer a range of financial services, asset-building supports, and work and income supports.

CDKC and NWIC are making an impact on student-parents’ lives and the reservation community by providing Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites. The VITA program offers free tax preparation by IRS-certified volunteers for people who generally make $54,000 or less. NWIC utilized NFEP funding to offer a VITA site in 2015 and 2016. In just its second year of VITA operation (2016), NWIC filed 131 federal returns, resulting in $246,882 being returned to families, and $109,262 in Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC); bringing two-year totals to 186 returns, $369,216 in refunds and $152,101 in EITC. The EITC is a refundable tax credit for low- to moderate-income working individuals designed to reduce poverty by increasing income. NWIC also assisted 60% of all families filing to use direct deposit for their tax returns, reducing their wait times for refunds.

CDKC also provided a VITA program for its 10th and 11th seasons over 2015 and 2016 with funding through the NFEP. Over the two tax seasons, CDKC’s VITA site filed 1,115 returns, totaling $2,936,012 in refunds to community members, and an additional $1,425,387 in EITC. It even coordinated with campus faculty to enable seven IRS-certified student volunteers to earn college credit for volunteer hours.

In addition to their VITA programs, both tribal colleges have developed a number of financial empowerment programs for student-parents. CDKC partnered with a local community development financial institution, People’s Partner for Community Development, to implement an Individual Development Account for student-parents. These students receive ongoing financial coaching and will use their matched funds to pay for a home or further education. CDKC also opened 10 savings accounts for children of student-parents and will open 10 more during the grant period. NWIC is working with local banks to offer a Children’s Savings Account program for the children of students at their school. Additionally, NWIC offers monthly wellness seminars geared toward the needs of their student-parents, such as budgeting, healthy eating, and mental health.
Grants, Grantmaking & Philanthropic Services

In 1993, First Nations Development Institute launched its first grant program, the Eagle Staff Fund, to bring critically needed funding to projects and organizations in Indian Country. Since then, First Nations has managed multiple grant programs with numerous foundations, corporate partners, government agencies and individual donors. During 2016, First Nations provided more than $2.8 million in grant support to Native tribes and organizations across the U.S.

In addition to providing financial support, First Nations also offers specialized training and technical assistance workshops, convenings and conferences to Native nonprofit and tribal entities.

First Nations works closely with each partner to ensure that we connect the appropriate strategies, issues and resources in order to develop and expand effective programming. For more information, see the “Philanthropic Services” tab at www.firstnations.org.

Together with investor partners, First Nations’ resources support asset-based development efforts that fit within the culture and are sustainable. Grant opportunities are listed through the “Grantmaking” section of the website at www.firstnations.org.

To receive updates, sign up for email notifications through links on the website.

2016 Grants

During 2016, First Nations provided more than $2.8 million in 175 grants to tribes and Native organizations across the U.S. This is only about 23% of the more than $12.4 million requested in 593 applications to First Nations during the year, which left 418 grants totaling $9.6 million either unfunded or underfunded.

The recipients are listed in alphabetical order by state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association</td>
<td>Anchorage</td>
<td>AK</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chugach Regional Resources</td>
<td>Anchorage</td>
<td>AK</td>
<td>19,980</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ilisagvik College</td>
<td>Barrow</td>
<td>AK</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>Healthy Futures addresses the needs of village stakeholders by increasing knowledge of healthy food options, cooking and acquiring affordable healthy foods, all within the context of traditional Iñupiaq values and practices. These skills allow youth and young adults to share healthy and culturally relevant meals with their families, improving access to healthy foods and imbuing a sense of control over their food system. Further, the project will help expand programming to seven underserved remote villages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Grant Amount</td>
<td>Project Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kodiak Area Native Association</td>
<td>Kodiak</td>
<td>AK</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Village of Kivalina</td>
<td>Kivalina</td>
<td>AK</td>
<td>18,400</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Village of Port Heiden</td>
<td>Port Heiden</td>
<td>AK</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>This project helps the village to become increasingly sustainable in its culture, food system and economy. It helps to utilize assets already in place to farm, control food security, increase the food supply and leverage resources from all funding sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanana Chiefs Conference</td>
<td>Fairbanks</td>
<td>AK</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyonek Tribal Conservation District</td>
<td>Anchorage</td>
<td>AK</td>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>This project helps utilize and retain the Tyonek Grown model for rural Alaska Native villages to increase access to healthy and fresh foods and increase food security. The Tyonek Garden is an asset to the community as a place for employment, a revenue source, a place for gathering, and a food source.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Arkansas Foundation, Inc.</td>
<td>Fayetteville</td>
<td>AR</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This Youth Summit project helps create a well-prepared next generation of Indian Country leaders in food and agriculture systems and utilizes and leverages existing curriculum in the areas of financial literacy, food sovereignty assessment, and agriculture business planning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona Association of Tribal Conservation Districts</td>
<td>Tuba City</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>This grant helps create a nonprofit organization of Arizona Native American farmers and ranchers to leverage outreach and educational opportunities that utilize the preservation of natural resources, conservation and priorities of Indigenous people representative of 10 tribal conservation districts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diné College</td>
<td>Tsaile</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>20,190</td>
<td>The land reform initiative is to create new ways to manage and regulate land and water resources in the Navajo Nation. It will strengthen the work of community members who are putting theory into practice, and assist the work of water catchments that reform land practices toward sustainable agriculture and increased water rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gila River Indian Community</td>
<td>Sacaton</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grasshopper Livestock Association</td>
<td>Cibecue</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This support helps prepare cattle for marketing and sale in Spring and Fall 2017.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hopi Foundation</td>
<td>Kykotsmovi</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>The grant helps promote the cultivation and use of local and traditional foods by Hopi families.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hopi School, Inc.</td>
<td>Hotevilla</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>17,380</td>
<td>The supported classes increase the number of people who can produce needed ceremonial regalia while retaining Hopi language and culture. The language-immersion process in the preschool will also increase use of Hopi language by parents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Public Media, Inc.</td>
<td>Flagstaff</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Conference sponsorship for the 2016 Native Broadcasters Summit. The summit focuses on broadcasters as the frontline and first responders providing emergency communications for Indian Country.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painted Desert Demonstration Projects, Inc.</td>
<td>Flagstaff</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>1,024</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painted Desert Demonstration Projects, Inc.</td>
<td>Flagstaff</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
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<td>Painted Desert Demonstration Projects, Inc.</td>
<td>Flagstaff</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
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<td>Painted Desert Demonstration Projects, Inc.</td>
<td>Flagstaff</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
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<td>Painted Desert Demonstration Projects, Inc.</td>
<td>Flagstaff</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>The supported project creates the ability of upper elementary students to cook and serve healthy dinners from scratch to families from the community, and engenders a lifelong appreciation of healthy, nutritious meals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona</td>
<td>Tucson</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project nurtures the creative talents of Native youth through filmmaking efforts, and leverages their talent and the life knowledge of elders in order to retain culture and traditions.</td>
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<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Grant Amount</td>
<td>Project Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tolani Lake Livestock and Water Users Association</td>
<td>Winslow</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This grant helps build local capacity in the Tolani Lake area that transforms Navajo ranchers from cattle producers to grass farmers, builds understanding about the basics of the conservation-planning process, and increases local knowledge about strategies and programs that will improve rancher returns and the condition of the rangeland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Mountain Apache Tribe</td>
<td>Whiteriver</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishop Paiute Tribe</td>
<td>Bishop</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>The project expands current garden-based nutrition education projects to encourage healthy food and lifestyle choices and a culture of health. It increases multi-generational knowledge regarding culturally appropriate food choices and preparation of cultural foods and medicines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Indian Basketweavers Association</td>
<td>Woodland</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Indian Museum &amp; Cultural Center</td>
<td>Santa Rosa</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>The grant supports development of a youth microenterprise to create a new food product from a spiritually, traditionally and nutritionally important resource that can support California Indian people and others in addressing Type II diabetes. It helps retain knowledge about the importance of acorns in California Indian diets as well as gathering and processing skills in the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Indian Museum &amp; Cultural Center</td>
<td>Santa Rosa</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>The Healthy and Traditional Food Systems Initiative creates greater control over nutrition and food security for the Table Bluff community by leveraging the abundant natural resources on land and water and utilizing traditional and modern harvest techniques to retain stronger cultural ties between the people and their natural environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiyot Tribe</td>
<td>Loleta</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>29,393</td>
<td>The support helps grow international connection and collaboration between Indigenous community leaders advancing community-based, culturally-centered approaches to conservation and food-systems revival.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver Indian Family Resource Center</td>
<td>Lakewood</td>
<td>CO</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Sponsorship for the organization’s annual meeting and fundraising event.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>CO</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>The grant supports planning and facilitation in developing a strategic plan for the organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native, Inc.</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>CO</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>The grant helps build Native assets by supporting scholarships for Native American students in Colorado.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Colorado UNITY Council</td>
<td>Firestone</td>
<td>CO</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>Sponsorship of a forum about the negative psychological effects of American Indian mascots on Native youth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuaaina Ulu Auamo</td>
<td>Kaneohe</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>The support helps grow international connection and collaboration between Indigenous community leaders advancing community-based, culturally-centered approaches to conservation and food-systems revival.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laulima Kuhao</td>
<td>Lanai City</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>The project develops, trains and provides consultation services to the organization in order to increase its management capacity, community awareness and fundraising expertise.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sust’aina ble Molokai</td>
<td>Kaunakakai</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>3,245</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sust’aina ble Molokai</td>
<td>Kaunakakai</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sust’aina ble Molokai</td>
<td>Kaunakakai</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>1,899</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sust’aina ble Molokai</td>
<td>Kaunakakai</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>6,824</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waimanalo Market Co-op</td>
<td>Waimanalo</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>19,875</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Grant Amount</td>
<td>Project Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waimea Hawaiian Homesteaders' Association, Inc.</td>
<td>Kamuela</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>The grant supports Native Hawaiian people by creating opportunities that have been suppressed. It aims to improve life outcomes through self-governance, higher household incomes, the regaining of control over lands set aside in trust, and re-energizing Native farming, culture and language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meskwaki Food Sovereignty Initiative &amp; Local Foods</td>
<td>Tama</td>
<td>IA</td>
<td>27,439</td>
<td>This project utilizes Indigenous foods knowledge to empower youth and increase access to healthy traditional foods. Through guided peer learning, youth create modern connections to Native nutrition and healthy living while increasing access to and retaining control of Meskwaki heritage seeds and healthy traditional foods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Joseph Foundation</td>
<td>Lapwai</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>18,900</td>
<td>The grant creates the opportunity for Nez Perce youth to learn leadership skills and about their culture from tribal elders. It increases youth involvement with the Appaloosa horse, and builds understanding of the significance of Nez Perce traditional regalia/horse trappings and showmanship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nez Perce Tribe</td>
<td>Lapwai</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>19,682</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Directions Development Corporation</td>
<td>Orono</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>The project develops mechanisms through which Wabanaki youth are afforded access to arts and cultural traditions, and which increases the number of tribal youth who are engaged in structured learning with their elders while engaging in a fun and worthwhile activity. It also provides multi-generational small business, financial capabilities and technical support to participants in Wabanaki communities across Maine. Further, it helps help invigorate and expand programming and fully launch the Wabanaki Marketplace for Wabanaki artists and art enthusiasts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hannahville Indian Community</td>
<td>Wilson</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>29,385</td>
<td>The project created a properly-equipped area to wash, dry, weigh and package the produce the community is growing in its greenhouse/ aquaponics facility. This allows the community to retain a strict bio-security process within the facility and increase the efficiency of the operation and the quality of the produce.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Housing &amp; Community Development Corp.</td>
<td>L’Anse</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>This effort increases efficiencies in tribal members’ fish production as well as total production volume in a manner that safeguards fish populations. It also increases tribal member control of production and builds awareness of and access to local fresh-caught fish.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bii Gii Wiin Community Development Loan Fund</td>
<td>Minneapolis</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College</td>
<td>Cloquet</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>23,650</td>
<td>The effort increases the number of community members who pursue agriculture as a viable career while strengthening local food sovereignty. It helps forge a network of agricultural mentors by bringing in national experts who present and consult on topics that were highlighted as needs in the Fond du Lac Food System strategic planning session.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College</td>
<td>Cloquet</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>The grant creates a network of mentors who can demonstrate successful farming and sound business planning. The project also leverages the existing Agricultural Extension programming to increase outreach to youth to encourage an interest in agriculture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Sioux Indian Community</td>
<td>Morton</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>The professional development grant was used by the tribe to send its Tribal Historic Preservation Office Site Manager to the 2016 Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums Conference. This training positioned the Site Manager to identify new strategies for expanding the Lower Sioux arts programming and network with key museum and art personnel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe</td>
<td>Onamia</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis American Indian Center</td>
<td>Minneapolis</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>The grant helps the organization utilize the Two Rivers art gallery to its full potential, providing a venue for local American Indian artists to exhibit their work and gain exposure. It also helps leverage other assets and revenues to sustain the gallery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Indian Opportunities Industrialization Center</td>
<td>Bemidji</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>Conference sponsorship for the 2nd Annual Minnesota Asset-Building Summit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie Island Indian Community</td>
<td>Welch</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
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<td>State</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians</td>
<td>Red Lake</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Conference sponsorship for the Fall 2016 Great Lakes Intertribal Food Summit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians</td>
<td>Red Lake</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>The project is working to create a local foods economy by leveraging existing land, human and traditional knowledge resources to encourage entrepreneurial producers to engage in commercial food production. This involves developing mentor/mentekee relationships to better utilize existing agricultural assets, and creating a strategic business plan to control food production and availability, thus further extending tribal sovereignty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians</td>
<td>Red Lake</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Earth Reservation Tribal Council</td>
<td>White Earth</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>23,651</td>
<td>This supported effort aims to create a new tribal food system and utilize an approach that involves tribal planning and development assets, with an emphasis on youth and elder roles in the system developed. It also will tap into regional expertise from other Minnesota tribes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Earth Reservation Tribal Council</td>
<td>White Earth</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>This supported effort aims to create a new tribal food system and utilize an approach that involves tribal planning and development assets, with an emphasis on youth and elder roles in the system developed. It also will tap into regional expertise from other Minnesota tribes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Earth Reservation Tribal Council</td>
<td>White Earth</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>Gizhiigin’s ultimate purpose is create a viable arts economy on the White Earth Reservation by utilizing a network of artists, consultants, other professionals and local service organizations to build the community’s capacity, increasing access to arts and media for youth, leveraging Gizhiigin’s resources to establish a foothold in the arts market, and advancing the tribe’s cultural interests.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choctaw Fresh Produce</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>MS</td>
<td>33,418</td>
<td>This effort aims to strengthen the connection between CFP’s organic farming operation and tribal members, and leverage CFP’s farming assets to provide more fresh produce to the tribal community. CFP has developed significant production capacity that has seen increasing demand from off-reservation customers who are willing and able to pay premium prices. However, CFP wants to ensure it supplies as much of the fresh produce to the tribal community as possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choctaw Fresh Produce</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>MS</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>The grant helps create nutrition and healthy eating informational handouts and how-to videos for the tribal community and the Diabetes Prevention Initiative to encourage more healthy eating habits. The effort also will create a new youth-run farmers’ market to strengthen the connection between tribal youth (and their parents) and the local food system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center Pole</td>
<td>Garryowen</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confederated Salish &amp; Kootenai Tribes</td>
<td>Pablo</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>34,343</td>
<td>The grant supports the teaching of the Food is Sacred, Food is Medicine philosophy to youth and community participants. The project will increase access to healthy, locally-produced food and create a network of local food producers, and also create events and curriculum to make traditional food knowledge and practices more commonplace with Salish people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crow Tribe of Montana</td>
<td>Crow Agency</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>This effort aims to create a sustainable youth farm and ranch program on the Crow reservation by providing opportunities for youth to learn from Crow experts, ranchers and farmers using traditional and cultural methods. It will increase awareness and knowledge of local food systems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAST Blackfeet</td>
<td>Browning</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This project utilizes information collected in the Blackfeet Reservation food sovereignty assessment to create new material to present findings in a variety of ways, including creative infographics, Facebook postings, community events and other public gatherings. The new material will increase awareness of food insecurity on the Blackfeet Reservation, allowing leverage with existing community programs to further educate people on the importance and role of food sovereignty and use of traditional foods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Belknap Community Economic Development  Corporation</td>
<td>Harlem</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>This grant helps create an alternative way to ensure healthy and fresh produce for residents of Fort Belknap. A community garden has already been established, but it can only be accessed for a short growing season. A greenhouse ensures fresh produce will be available longer. Having fresh produce year-round is a needed resource for health and diet on the reservation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Grant Amount</td>
<td>Project Description</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Belknap Community Economic Development Corporation</td>
<td>Harlem</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This project is developing a trail-maintenance program for tribal youth trained in conservation and environmental methods, plus the use of additional volunteers. This will provide an environment for learning and training for area schools and the tribal college, as well as a health component for tribal residents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Belknap Community Economic Development Corporation</td>
<td>Harlem</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Belknap Indian Community</td>
<td>Harlem</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation</td>
<td>Poplar</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>18,615</td>
<td>This grant supports expansion of the tribal language-restoration efforts offered to the youth on the reservation, in order to preserve Dakota and Nakoda cultural ways.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intertribal Agriculture Council, Inc</td>
<td>Billings</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Conference sponsorship for 2016 Great Lakes Intertribal Food Summit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People’s Partner for Community Development</td>
<td>Lame Deer</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>This grant supports the implementation of Individual Development Accounts for student-parents. A partnership between Chief Dull Knife College and People’s Partner for Community Development will assist in financially empowering student-parents in the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saokio Heritage</td>
<td>East Glacier</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>12,893</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina</td>
<td>Pembroke</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This grant supports educational opportunities that honor, leverage and utilize local language, culture and knowledge. Among other activities, it will involve youth in cultural documentary production and film screenings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College</td>
<td>New Town</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>34,343</td>
<td>Create an environment supportive of culturally-based nutrition consciousness through gardens, composting and other practices, while increasing production of produce for the cafeteria.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spirit Lake Nation</td>
<td>Fort Totten</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal Nations Research Group</td>
<td>Belcourt</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turtle Mountain Tribal Arts Association</td>
<td>Belcourt</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project creates a new awareness of and helps preserve the dance styles of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, which enriches participants’ grasp of tribal heritage and culture. It involves learning tribal history through stories shared by established dancers as well as experience making regalia and learning traditional dance forms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska Indian Community College</td>
<td>Macy</td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>14,500</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diné Community Advocacy Alliance</td>
<td>Fruitland</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>The project helps create a healthy Diné nation by increasing consumption of fresh fruits, vegetables and water while lessening consumption of sugary beverages and highly-processed, unhealthy food.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dzil Dit L’ooy School of Empowerment, Action and Perseverance</td>
<td>Navajo</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Create a curriculum that preserves the practice of Diné Kinaaldá ceremonies to ensure youth have the opportunity to connect with this important tradition, underscoring each student's valuable role within the Diné community and creating a forum to discuss traditional, modern and alternative male and female roles in the culture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keres Childrens Learning Center</td>
<td>Cochiti Pueblo</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>The grant helps increase the number of youth and young adults (parents) who speak and retain the Keres language, especially through elder involvement and intergenerational learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pueblo of San Felipe</td>
<td>San Felipe</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Willow Center</td>
<td>Taos</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>This project helps gain control of the food system at Taos Pueblo by focusing on education and youth immersion in traditional, sustainable agriculture, while increasing consumption of Taos Pueblo-produced healthful foods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
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<td>Project Description</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Fe Indian School</td>
<td>Santa Fe</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Fe Indian School</td>
<td>Santa Fe</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Fe Indian School</td>
<td>Santa Fe</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>1,474</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Fe Indian School</td>
<td>Santa Fe</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>This project helps educate, empower and develop youth, outside of the academic setting, in order to improve decision-making, self-confidence and overall well-being, while helping them avoid risky behaviors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Fe Indian School</td>
<td>Santa Fe</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project creates spaces for tribal youth in northern New Mexico to experience the teachings and knowledge that exist in their communities, in order to expand and deepen their focus on cultural identity, female leadership, and sense of place and belonging.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pueblo of Santo Domingo</td>
<td>Santo Domingo Pueblo</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>19,705</td>
<td>Create a new program to teach and mentor youth in traditional practices in order to retain those practices as well as the language and traditional food sources of the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tewa Women United</td>
<td>Santa Cruz</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tewa Women United</td>
<td>Santa Cruz</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>1,004</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tewa Women United</td>
<td>Santa Cruz</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>6,029</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tewa Women United</td>
<td>Santa Cruz</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>3,205</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tewa Women United</td>
<td>Santa Cruz</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>7,733</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Native American Farmers Association</td>
<td>Santa Fe</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>Sponsorship for 20th Annual Indigenous Sustainable Food Systems Design Course, a six-day intensive training in ecological design, natural farming and earth restoration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yakanal</td>
<td>New Laguna</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>14,700</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zuni Youth Enrichment Project</td>
<td>Zuni</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zuni Youth Enrichment Project</td>
<td>Zuni</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zuni Youth Enrichment Project</td>
<td>Zuni</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>1,049</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zuni Youth Enrichment Project</td>
<td>Zuni</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake Reservation</td>
<td>Nixon</td>
<td>NV</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>The grant supported the Summer Cultural Day Camp to teach youth the Pyramid Lake Paiute culture through a language-immersion program, as well as traditional dances and games (with support of elders and community members), in an effort to preserve and perpetuate tribal culture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Fork Te-Moak Shoshone Indian Reservation</td>
<td>Spring Creek</td>
<td>NV</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker River Paiute Tribe</td>
<td>Schurz</td>
<td>NV</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe</td>
<td>Hogansburg</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Grant Amount</td>
<td>Project Description</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Seneca Nation of Indians</td>
<td>Irving NY</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Seneca Nation of Indians</td>
<td>Irving NY</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chahta Foundation</td>
<td>Durant OK</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee Nation</td>
<td>Tahlequah OK</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma</td>
<td>Concho OK</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition</td>
<td>Oklahoma City OK</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>The funding supports the Oklahoma Asset-Building Policy and Practice Project.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition</td>
<td>Oklahoma City OK</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>Matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition</td>
<td>Oklahoma City OK</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition</td>
<td>Oklahoma City OK</td>
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<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition</td>
<td>Oklahoma City OK</td>
<td>1,269</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
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<td>Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition</td>
<td>Oklahoma City OK</td>
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<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Policy Institute</td>
<td>Tulsa OK</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>The funding supports the Oklahoma Asset-Building Policy and Practice Project.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma</td>
<td>Ponca City OK</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminole Nation of Oklahoma</td>
<td>Wewoka OK</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission</td>
<td>Portland OR</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>The funding supports the organization’s salmon-marketing program, which creates a resource for the tribes, tribal fishers and their families to better help them control and benefit from tribal natural resources.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Klamath Tribal Health &amp; Family Services</td>
<td>Klamath Falls OR</td>
<td>34,343</td>
<td>The grant helps create a community commercial-grade learning kitchen that will serve as a part of the local food system where the nutritious food grown in the adjacent community garden can be cleaned, packaged and prepared for delivery to those who need it most.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern California Tribal Court Coalition</td>
<td>Talent OR</td>
<td>37,761</td>
<td>This project increases the well-being of tribal members and tribal food sources by controlling the release of chemical toxic substances within tribal jurisdiction, leveraging research to develop model pesticide legislation for tribal governing bodies, and utilizing existing legislation that bans genetically-modified organisms to create educational materials for community workshops on restoring food traditions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern California Tribal Court Coalition</td>
<td>Talent OR</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>Conference sponsorship for “Restoring Balance: A Food Sovereignty Gathering.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheyenne River Chamber Of Commerce</td>
<td>Eagle Butte SD</td>
<td>23,100</td>
<td>The “Expanding Cheyenne River’s Art Market” Project perpetuates Native arts while creating new opportunities for Native artists to sell their work through an expanded art market, which will increase income generated by art sales.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheyenne River Youth Project, Inc.</td>
<td>Eagle Butte SD</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This project increases the ability of youth to create traditional Lakota art while developing their skills in turning their art into a business. This will create a new generation of culture bearers and will help retain and revitalize the culture.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunkpati Investments, Inc.</td>
<td>Fort Thompson SD</td>
<td>19,803</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** This document is a summary of grants awarded to various organizations in the field of Native American development, focusing on initiatives related to food sovereignty and nutrition education. The grants are administered by the First Nations Development Institute, with specific allocations and descriptions provided for each project.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Keya Foundation</td>
<td>Eagle Butte</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>22,160</td>
<td>This project creates a stronger Native arts economy through coalition-building and establishing a pilot arts supply store while utilizing the current Lakota Artistry Cooperative more effectively and efficiently to better support individual Lakota artists.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation</td>
<td>Lower Brule</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This project helps determine the feasibility of developing a carbon sequestration program for tribal lands. If feasible, the tribe will see increased revenue that will be used to promote self-sufficiency for the Department of Wildlife, Fish and Recreation and, potentially, the tribe overall. Additionally, this project will promote environmental stewardship and enhance habitat available to fish and wildlife.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oglala Sioux Tribe</td>
<td>Pine Ridge</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>The grant supports Natural Resources and Forestry in providing guidance and technical assistance in the assertion and retention of treaty and reserved right with regard to compliance with tribal, state and federal law in the protection, conservation management, and preservation of health diversity, and productivity of the tribe’s natural and water resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oyate Networking Project/Oyate Teca Project</td>
<td>Kyle</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oyate Networking Project/Oyate Teca Project</td>
<td>Kyle</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oyate Networking Project/Oyate Teca Project</td>
<td>Kyle</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oyate Networking Project/Oyate Teca Project</td>
<td>Kyle</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>1,160</td>
<td>The Medicine Root Community Garden Project increases the availability of fresh, healthy and locally produced foods for the Pine Ridge Reservation while expanding the number of community-based entrepreneurial opportunities that are available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REDCO (Rosebud Economic Development Corporation)</td>
<td>Mission</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>The grant supports improved utilization of the Keya Wakpala Community Garden to substantially increase the production and distribution of healthy food for the community. It also expands the scope of the farmers’ market and educates community members about incorporating traditional (wild) Lakota foods into their everyday diets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REDCO (Rosebud Economic Development Corporation)</td>
<td>Mission</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REDCO (Rosebud Economic Development Corporation)</td>
<td>Mission</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>The grant helps create a partnership between the REDCO Community Food Sovereignty Initiative and the Boys with Braids Rosebud organization that deeply engages tribal youth and the larger community in healthy behavior and activity, using healthy foods as a catalyst.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosebud Sioux Tribe</td>
<td>Rosebud</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>The funding supports the creation of a management plan that outlines current wildlife/habitat conditions while aligning conservation efforts with best management practices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate</td>
<td>Agency Village</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>The grant helps create a strong foundation for tribal artists to become self-sustaining in their business pursuits while helping with the perpetuation of Native art forms. The artists will attend entrepreneurship, marketing and financial literacy trainings, and be assisted in developing individual business plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation</td>
<td>Porcupine</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>This grant supports increased economic opportunity on the Pine Ridge Reservation through agriculture while also helping develop an improved food system. The project involves leveraging the demonstration farm by implementing a farmers’ market and the creation of value-added products.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation</td>
<td>Porcupine</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>This project positions the Thunder Valley Artist Advisory Council to play a leadership role in shaping the design of Thunder Valley’s Empowerment Center and ensuring the incorporation of Lakota art in the design. The advisory council will also receive professional development to increase its small-business management capacity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Grant Amount</td>
<td>Project Description</td>
</tr>
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<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation</td>
<td>Porcupine</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This funding supports a project aimed at retaining the Lakota language by significantly increasing the number of tribal youth familiar with or fluent in the language. It also focuses on increasing youth leadership skills and their understanding of healthy lifeways and physical activity in order to combat the prevalence of negative health indicators on the reservation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation</td>
<td>Porcupine</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>This project increases knowledge of traditional foods for community members, which will also increase consumption of healthy foods in order to address health disparities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ogallala Commons, Inc.</td>
<td>Nazareth</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>10,200</td>
<td>The funding supported Ogallala Commons’ community internship program during 2016. Through this program, motivated youth, college students and adults work to carry out projects that add value to local communities and institutions while the interns gain work experience and new skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah Diné Bikéyah</td>
<td>Salt Lake City</td>
<td>UT</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>The grant supported a project to create greater awareness among tribal youth of the traditional knowledge and cultural values of their respective tribes in the Bears Ears region, especially as it relates to land management and ecology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for World Indigenous Studies</td>
<td>Olympia</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalispel Tribe of Indians</td>
<td>Usk</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>28,270</td>
<td>This project increases food security for the community and aims to develop a community system to provide access to fresh, healthy foods. It does this by expanding existing gardens and creating new family gardens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lummi Nation Service Organization</td>
<td>Bellingham</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muckleshoot Indian Tribe</td>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>26,418</td>
<td>This campaign aims to increase awareness of the sugar content of popular beverages while providing culturally-appropriate alternatives. Resources include a healthy beverage toolkit with promotional health posters, recipe book, curriculum and a healthy beverage-station model. The project includes nutrition education for health champions working in tribal communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nisqually Indian Tribe Health Services</td>
<td>Olympia</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>19,595</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nooksack Indian Tribe</td>
<td>Deming</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>30,478</td>
<td>The Nooksack Seeds of Health project increases public health education for chronic disease prevention through a collaborative, cross-system campaign for health advocacy and social services. Through an enhanced community garden, participants learn how to access produce and come to understand its connection to individual health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Indian College</td>
<td>Bellingham</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>The funding supports a program that serves as a central location where students can access or be referred to resources or services, which will help them provide for their families. It also helps students gain skills, knowledge, attitudes and values that encourage them to attain self-sufficiency and higher educational attainment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quileute Tribe of the Quileute Reservation</td>
<td>La Push</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project provides training and skill-development for youth in the area of media production. They will use these skills to produce a series of video documentaries, involving tribal elders and community members, that showcase and preserve tribal history and culture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squaxin Island Tribe</td>
<td>Shelton</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>32,385</td>
<td>The grant supports creation of a sustainable tribal community garden to grow traditional and non-traditional fruits, berries, nuts, vegetables, herbs and medicinal plants for community consumption. The food will be distributed to tribal members as a way to increase access to traditional, fresh and healthy foods, thus reducing food insecurity. Education and participatory community involvement in the garden’s development and implementation will improve community health and nutrition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suquamish Indian Tribe of the Port Madison Reservation</td>
<td>Suquamish</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>14,320</td>
<td>This project aims to increase the level of respect that youth show each other by highlighting the important roles each individual plays. It also increases the number of youth familiar with and comfortable using the Suquamish language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Project Description</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swinomish Indian Tribal Community</td>
<td>La Conner</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swinomish Indian Tribal Community</td>
<td>La Conner</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians</td>
<td>Odanah</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad River Housing Authority</td>
<td>Odanah</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>The Hope through Tradition project creates positive mentoring opportunities and relationships between youth and community members while offering a new sport to tribal youth – Baaga’adowe (lacrosse).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Menominee Nation</td>
<td>Keshena</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>34,332</td>
<td>The project aims to maximize the availability, accessibility and cultural understanding of local food. It increases food production at the Collaborative Garden through volunteer engagement, creates financial incentives for low-income individuals to access food at the farmers’ market, and it increases youth and elder understanding and consumption of traditional squash. It is also developing a five-Year agriculture business plan for self-sufficiency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Menominee Nation</td>
<td>Keshena</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>1,615</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Menominee Nation</td>
<td>Keshena</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>2,664</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Menominee Nation</td>
<td>Keshena</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>Distribution and matching funds provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Menominee Nation</td>
<td>Keshena</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>Distribution provided through First Nations’ NativeGiving.org fundraising platform for numerous Native American organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission</td>
<td>Odanah</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>31,336</td>
<td>This effort aims to strengthen tribal food systems and tribal control by increasing access to traditional Anishinaabe food knowledge and tribal wild rice harvesters for all 11 member tribes through community education and outreach. It also supports the development of entrepreneurial food ventures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission</td>
<td>Odanah</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>18,250</td>
<td>The “Waatebagaa” project increases youth knowledge and interest in treaty-reserved natural resources, establishing a new generation of tribal leaders to protect and preserve natural resources in the ceded territory. It also supports needed youth-elder interactions by providing intergenerational learning opportunities focused on traditional Anishinaabe activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency</td>
<td>Tomah</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin</td>
<td>Black River Falls</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>14,630</td>
<td>This project increases awareness of cultural objects as they relate to the greater culture of the Ho-Chunk Nation. It is also intended to foster a better understanding of how students connect to their culture, creating a better sense of self as a Ho-Chunk individual.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin</td>
<td>Keshena</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>26,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menominee Tribal Clinic</td>
<td>Keshena</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>This project increases local control over data on the local food system. It increases data-driven knowledge and creates community plans based on data collected from a community food sovereignty assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin</td>
<td>Oneida</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>This grant will increase nutrition education for Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) recipients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodland Indian Art, Inc.</td>
<td>Oneida</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>The funding supports the building of organizational capacity in order to better manage and market the Woodland Indian Art Show and Market. It will result in a solid base of volunteers, stronger fiscal policies, more collaborations and partnerships, a sound communication plan, and additional funding resources.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2016 Donors

First Nations’ work is made possible by the extraordinary generosity of the following foundations, corporations, tribes and individuals. First Nations is honored by your support of the organization’s efforts to build strong American Indian communities.

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