Celebrating 35 years of Strengthening American Indian Economies [1980–2015]

First Nations Development Institute

Our Mission

...to strengthen American Indian economies to support healthy Native communities. We invest in and create innovative institutions and models that strengthen asset control and support economic development for American Indian people and their communities.

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.
The colonization of Native communities over the course of 500 years has resulted in systematic asset-stripping, entrenched economic and social inequalities, and ultimately, underdeveloped Native communities with weakened institutional and physical infrastructure. But Native communities are resilient and have survived despite these disparities. To combat these prolonged inequalities, First Nations champions the rebuilding efforts of strength-based, grassroots Native-led organizations and tribal programs by providing them with financial resources, technical assistance, professional training and peer-mentoring support.

**Poverty Rates**
- 29.2% American Indian
- 15.9% U.S. as a whole

**High School Graduation Rates**
- 68% Latino students
- 62% Black students
- 51% AI/AN students

*AI/AN is American Indian/Alaska Native
Since 1980, First Nations has been exclusively committed to Native American control of tribal assets. We have been working in partnership with Native nations and communities to restore control and culturally-compatible stewardship of those assets.

A positive and collaborative approach, asset-building focuses on cultivating traditional knowledge and practices, and creating new ones to build Native capacities, capabilities and communities. Assets in Native communities include: natural resources, human capital, physical assets, social capital, political assets and cultural heritage.

We believe that Native nations are uniquely knowledgeable about their own communities. They know the strengths, challenges and needs of their communities better than outside agencies. It strengthens the effectiveness of Native nations to find solutions to their own challenges and allows them to best leverage their resources on their own terms. In brief, it works because it helps protect and enhance tribal sovereignty.

First Nations’ 5 FOCUS AREAS

1. NOURISHING
   Native Foods & Health
   Native food systems, food security, health and nutrition, and food sovereignty efforts.

2. INVESTING
   in Native Youth
   Native Youth and Culture Fund, college scholarship/internship programs, and youth-oriented financial education.

3. STRENGTHENING
   Tribal & Community Institutions
   Nonprofit and tribal capacity-building activities including the Urban Native Project, Native Arts Capacity Building Initiative, organizational mentoring, fundraising capacity-building, and coalition-building.

4. ADVANCING
   Household & Community Asset-Building Strategies

5. ACHIEVING
   Native Financial Empowerment
   Native financial and investor education, consumer protection and financial fraud education, combating predatory lending, and research.

First Nations’ 5 EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES to Achieve Results in the Focus Areas

• Direct Financial Support through Grantmaking
• Technical Assistance & Training
• Coalition-Building
• Advocacy
• Policy & Research
ACCOUNTABILITY to Our Supporters & the Communities We Serve

You can be sure your donation will be used effectively and wisely to promote strong, healthy and culturally-vibrant Native communities.

For the fifth year in a row, First Nations has received the highest rating of Four Stars from Charity Navigator.

Only 6% of the charities it rates in the U.S. achieve this highest distinction for five or more consecutive years.

Further, 87% of your donated dollars to First Nations goes directly to our programs and the communities that need this support the most.

For any questions regarding your support, please feel free to contact the • FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE LEADERSHIP TEAM •

Michael E. Roberts, MBA | Tlingit
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100% of our board members are Native. Our board is led by Benny Shendo, Jr. | Jemez Pueblo.
For a complete list of our board, visit www.firstnations.org/about/board.

HOW WE USE YOUR GIFT

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
<td>$11,650,093</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASH &amp; EQUIVALENTS</td>
<td>$3,546,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRANTS RECEivable</td>
<td>$4,796,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENDOWMENT FUND</td>
<td>$2,342,148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIXED ASSETS - NET OTHER ASSETS</td>
<td>$827,782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRANTS PAYABLE</td>
<td>$1,618,230</td>
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<td>NET ASSETS</td>
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Condensed Statement of FINANCIAL POSITION

Complete audit available at www.firstnations.org

AUDITED FINANCIALS COVERS JULY 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2015

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87% PROGRAM 7% ADMINISTRATIVE 6% FUNDRAISING

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