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.
First Nations has always been exclusively committed to Native control of tribal assets and to restore control and promote culturally-compatible stewardship of those assets.

**ASSETS in NATIVE COMMUNITIES**

- Natural Resources
- Human Capital
- Physical Assets
- Cultural & Artistic Heritage
- Social Capital
- Political Assets
- Languages

**Asset-Building Defined**
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.

**Why Asset-Building Works**
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 create solutions to their own challenges and allows them to best leverage their resources on their own terms. In brief, in the long term it works because it helps protect and enhance tribal sovereignty.

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

~ OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE ~
THE CORE OF ALL OUR WORK

**OUR CORE PROGRAMS**

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

Our strategies are designed to support the entire ecosystem of transformative change in Native communities and build a network of grantee partners that ultimately leads to asset-building in Native communities.
GRANTEE COMMUNITY PARTNERS

IN 2016, FIRST NATIONS MADE GRANTS to 175 NATIVE-CONTROLLED NONPROFITS and TRIBAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

- Up to $50,000
- $50,000-$100,000
- $100,000-$200,000
- Over $200,000

EDUCATE
Grassroots Practitioners

13,466 People Educated through Convenings, Webinars & Conferences

419 Technical Assistance Support

10 Educated Academic Scholarships Provided to Students

256 Travel Scholarships Provided for Conferences & Convenings

CAPITALIZE
Native Communities

175 Grants Awarded

7 Publications Produced

42,342 Publications Downloaded from online Knowledge Center

ADVOCATE
for Systemic Change

Unmet Need

NUMBER of GRANTS REQUESTED 593

$12,423,091

$2,843,631 23% GRANTS WE FUNDED

$9,579,461 77% GRANTS WE COULD NOT FUND

First Nations Headquarters
LONGMONT, COLORADO

Field Office
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA
ACCOUNTABILITY to Our Supporters and the Communities We Serve

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

We are proud that 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.

In 2017, First Nations earned the Platinum GuideStar Nonprofit Profile Seal of Transparency, the highest level of recognition offered by GuideStar.

First Nations is an Accredited Member of the Better Business Bureau’s Wise Giving Alliance.

82% of your dollars donated to First Nations go directly to our programs and the communities that need this support the most.

82% PROGRAM
10% FUNDRAISING
8% ADMINISTRATIVE

We encourage you to view our most recent complete audit and full annual report available at www.firstnations.org.

WHO WE ARE

Through integrity, accountability, passion, humility, simplicity and a focus on success, we have created a vibrant organizational culture where ideas can blossom, people can thrive and success can flourish. We use these values to guide our decision-making process in all aspects of our work. We are committed to seeing these values manifested in everything we do. They define who we are as grantmakers and are reflected in the 1,238 grants totaling more than $27 million that we have made so far (through year end 2016).

Governance

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