Native Agriculture & Food Systems Initiative Grant Opportunity

Fertile Ground Advocacy Campaign

Introduction and Q&A

March 15, 2019
WEBINAR MANAGEMENT

All participants will be muted for this webinar

If you have questions please "raise your hand" using the button shown below

You can enter your question(s) in the question box below
STRENGTHENING American Indian COMMUNITIES & ECONOMIES for 37 years

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 Approach
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.

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.
Our Strategies
How Change Happens

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.
Our Impact

- **$32.2 Million in Grants**
- **1,547 Grants Awarded**
- **1980 Founding Year**
- **In 2017:**
  - **44,475 People Educated through Covenings, Webinars and Conferences**
  - **62,802 Publications Downloaded from Online Knowledge Center**
**Our Core Programs**

- **Achieving Native Financial Empowerment**
  Native financial & investor education, consumer protection & financial fraud education, combating predatory lending, and research.

- **Nourishing Native Foods & Health**
  Native food systems, food security, health and nutrition, and food sovereignty efforts.

- **Advancing Household & Community Asset-Building Strategies**

- **Investing in Native Youth**
  Native Youth & Culture Fund, college scholarship/internship programs, and youth-oriented financial education, among other programs.

- **Strengthening Tribal & Community Institutions**
  Nonprofit & tribal capacity-building activities including the Urban Native Project, Native Arts Capacity Building Initiative, and coalition-building work, among other programs.
First Nations’ Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative (NAFSI) Framework

Native Food Sovereignty

- Traditional agriculture practices revitalize ceremonies of planting seasons, build the social bonds of the production process and strengthen the relationship of Native peoples to the land that sustains us.
- The development and cultivation of food markets and businesses fosters the entrepreneurial spirit of Native peoples that leads to economic development.

Native Nationhood

- Native communities create policies and programs aimed at Native food systems control and build strong Native institutions and governance capacity.

Economic Development

- Increasing access to locally produced healthy foods will reduce diet-related diseases and improve the health of Native peoples.
First Nations NAFSI Project Team

A-dae Romero-Briones
Director of Programs - NAFSI

Jackie Francke
Vice President of Programs

Mary Adelzadeh
Senior Program Officer

Richard Elm-Hill
Program Officer

Yadira Rivera
Program Officer

Rana LaPine
Project Coordinator
First Nations will award up to five grants averaging $75,000 to $100,000 to organizations in Native communities with the goal of promoting policy activity and development. The grants will support Native-led advocacy efforts to advance new policies and innovative policymaking approaches that will benefit Native American nutrition and health by improving access to healthy foods, reducing consumption of sugary beverages and foods, and strengthening food sovereignty work that is rooted in tradition, culture, and Indigenous knowledge.
2019 Fertile Ground Advocacy Campaign
Grant Information:

- Grant Award Ceiling: $100,000
- Grant Term: begins on May 1, 2019 – ends on April 30, 2020
- Application Deadline: April 9, 2019
- Award or Declination Information: Expected April 29, 2019
ELIGIBILITY

- Federal- and state-recognized tribal governments
- Native § 7871 organizations
- Native-controlled community organizations with fiscal sponsorship
- Native-controlled 501(c)(3) nonprofits
Grant Priorities

Priority will be given to projects demonstrating:

• Innovative change to existing policies or creation of new policies improving nutrition and health outcomes for Native people

• The ability and/or experience necessary to successfully promote and pass the proposed policy

• Strong leadership that reflects the community served
Allowable Activities

Selected grantees under this opportunity must use funding to advance Native American nutritional and health-related policies, policymaking approaches, community power, and change at the tribal, local, state and national levels. Projects should work to improve nutrition and health outcomes, including but not limited to leading community organizing, increasing Native access to healthy foods, nutrition and health outcomes. Youth-led projects are encouraged, as are projects that include engagement of youth advocates.

Examples of allowable activities under this funding opportunity include, but are not limited to:

• Policy advocacy
• Policy drafting
• Policy implementation
• Policy Research
• “Ground-softening” directly leading to policy work
• Policy meeting
Unallowable Activities

Examples of unallowable activities under this funding opportunity include:

• Lobbying
• Entertainment
• Construction
• Other non-advocacy expenses
Grant Requirements

• Post-Award Grantee Orientation Webinar
• Reporting & Evaluation – Progress and Final Report including evaluation data
• Regular data collection required using First Nations’ data tracking tools
• Cooperation with TA Provider
PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

- A brief history of your organization or tribal program
- A description of the project and whom it will serve
- At least three specific and measurable objectives to be accomplished during the project year
- A summary of project activities and how they will be implemented
- An estimated budget for the proposed project
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<td><strong>Specific:</strong> What, exactly, in detail, do you want to achieve?</td>
<td><strong>Measurable:</strong> How will you know when you’ve reached your goal? Quantify it!</td>
<td><strong>Achievable:</strong> What resources are needed – do you have them (including time)?</td>
<td><strong>Realistic and Relevant:</strong> What’s the outcome – the change – you’re expecting?</td>
<td><strong>Timed:</strong> Break it into steps. When will each step be completed?</td>
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OBJECTIVES

**Keep it simple:** By (when), (who & how many), will do (what)

**Example 1:** By July 31, 2019, 30 youth will have participated in three workshops on farming and harvesting traditional rice for community consumption.

**Tip:** Your dates must be varied so progress and activities can be measured!
Why do the recipients need the funds?

What specific conditions would you like to change?

Include demographics and other identifying information.

Include both qualitative and quantitative data, statistics, and anecdotes that tell the story of your organization’s work and who you will serve.
REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Tax-Status Documentation
A copy of the organization or Fiscal Sponsor’s IRS Determination Letter if the applicant is a 501(c)(3) organization or a community organization using a fiscal sponsor. Tribal programs and governments may submit proof they are a federal- or state-recognized tribe. This document should be uploaded as a PDF file.

Description of Board of Directors
Native-controlled nonprofits must submit a list of their Board of Directors, with tribal affiliation of each director clearly listed next to each name where applicable. Community organizations with fiscal sponsors should submit a list of their leadership team, with tribal affiliation of each team member where applicable. Tribal programs and governments should submit a list of their Tribal Council in lieu of a Board of Directors. This document should be uploaded as a PDF File.

Description of Key Leadership Staff
Native-controlled nonprofits and community organizations with fiscal sponsors should submit a list of key staff who will be responsible for overseeing and implementing the proposed project. Tribal programs and governments should submit a list of key staff responsible for overseeing and implementing the proposed project. This document should be uploaded as PDF file.

Budget Template
An estimated budget for the proposed project with a detailed cost breakdown that is reasonable and directly related to proposed grant activities. This form must be uploaded as an PDF file.

Project Timeline
A detailed project timeline that documents important project activities for each identified objective. Include staff who will be responsible for the implementation of the project activities and when they will be completed. The form must be uploaded as a PDF file.
TIPS FOR FILLING OUT THE ONLINE APPLICATION

01 Prepare your answers in a Word document and copy and paste your answers into the online application system.

02 Make sure you follow the format of each section and do your best to answer every question.

03 Always tie your answers to the grant program priorities listed in the RFP.

04 Submit all required attachments.
05 Be sure to save your work in the online system often!!!!!!!
Please allow yourself enough time to submit a complete application before the deadline, as **the system will automatically shut down at 5:00 pm Mountain Time on Tuesday, April 9, 2019**, and no data can be entered thereafter. We do not accept partial, faxed, emailed, or mailed applications. Applications that are not received on time due to user error will not be considered.

Requests to submit outside of the online system should be sent at least two weeks prior to the deadline and should be directed to 
[grantmaking@firstnations.org](mailto:grantmaking@firstnations.org)
ADDITIONAL HELP
303.774.7836

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For program or grant specific questions and for questions about the online application system.

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This webinar will be recorded and can be accessed on our website under the First Nations Knowledge Center at http: https://www.firstnations.org/knowledge-center.

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