Native Agriculture & Food Systems Initiative

Gather Food Sovereignty Grant Opportunity

Introduction and Q&A

November 17, 2020
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
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.

Assets in Native Communities
- Natural Resources
- Social Capital
- Human Capital
- Political Assets
- Physical Assets
- Languages
- Cultural & Artistic Heritage
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 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
As of FY 2019

- 40 Years of grantmaking
- 1,928 Grants Awarded
- 6,026 People educated through convenings, webinars, and conferences in 2019 alone
- 5,403 Publications downloaded from our online knowledge center in 2019 alone
- $40.2 MILLION Dollars invested through grantmaking
First Nations’ Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative (NAFSI) Framework

- **Health**: Increasing access to locally produced healthy foods will reduce diet-related diseases and improve the health of Native peoples.

- **Economic Development**: The development and cultivation of food markets and businesses fosters the entrepreneurial spirit of Native peoples that leads to economic development.

- **Culture**: 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.

- **Native Nationhood**: Native communities create policies and programs aimed at Native food systems control and build strong Native institutions and governance capacity.
First Nations NAFSI Project Team

A-dae Romero Briones
Director of Programs - NAFSI

Jackie Francke
Vice President of Programs

Richard Elm-Hill
Program Officer

Rebecca Tortes
Lead Program Officer

Leiloni Begaye
Program Coordinator

Rana LaPine
Program Officer
First Nations will award up to thirteen grants of approximately $32,000 to organizations in Native communities with the goal of promoting food system policy activity and development. The grants will support work contributing to building a national movement that will fulfill a vision of Native communities and food systems that are self-directed, well-resourced, and supported by community policies and systems. This opportunity is targeting emerging projects focused on developing Tribal Food Sovereignty.
2020 Gather Food Sovereignty Grant
Information:

- Grant Award Ceiling: $32,000
- Grant Term: begins on March 1, 2021 – February 28, 2022
- Application Deadline: January 14, 2021
- Award or Declination Information: Expected February 26, 2021
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 that demonstrate:

• That they can help strengthen Native American, Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian communities
• Proper alignment with funding priorities
• Ability and/or experience necessary to successfully accomplish the proposed project
• Strong leadership reflecting the community served
• Feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and sustainability of proposed projects or programs
• Strategic plans for collaborating and forming partnerships.
Selected grantees under this opportunity must use funding to support work contributing to building a national movement that will fulfill a vision of Native communities and food systems that are self-directed, well-resourced and supported by community policies and systems. Emerging projects are encouraged to apply.

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

- Conducting a community food assessment to examine the economic impact of food system assets and plan next steps
- Projects aimed at increasing local food system control, including increasing access to fresh, healthy foods.
- Increasing local food distribution and marketing to end-use institutions and larger markets
- Strategic community planning around food sovereignty projects
- Increasing the capacity of food producers to manage environmental, community, and social/political impacts of policy on their food system
Unallowable Activities

Examples of unallowable activities under this funding opportunity include:

• Lobbying
• Entertainment
• Capital Construction
• Funding of individuals
• Development campaigns
• Endowments
• Scholarship or tuition assistance
Grant Requirements

• Post-Award Grantee Orientation Webinar
• Reporting & Evaluation – Progress and Final Report including evaluation data and budget expenditure reporting
PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

- A brief history of your organization or tribal program
- A description of the project and who 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
OBJECTIVES

S - Specific: What, exactly, in detail, do you want to achieve?

M - Measurable: How will you know when you’ve reached your goal? Quantify it!

A - Achievable: What resources are needed – do you have them (including time)?

R - Realistic and Relevant – What’s the outcome – the change – you’re expecting?

T - Timed – Break it into steps. When will each step be completed?

FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
OBJECTIVES

Keep it simple: By (when), (who and how many), will do (what).

Example 1: By July 31, 2021, 30 youth will have participated in three workshops on farming and harvesting traditional wild rice for community consumption.

Tip: Your dates should be varied so that progress and activities can be measured.
Whom does the project serve?

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 that 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 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.
TIPS FOR FILLING OUT THE ONLINE APPLICATION

05 Be sure to save your work in the online system often!!!!!!!!.
IMPORTANT NOTE!

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 Thursday, January 14, 2021**, 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

Rana LaPine
• rlapine@firstnations.org
For program or grant specific questions and for questions about the online application system

Jacque Demko
• jdemko@firstnations.org
For questions about the online application system

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

To receive future grant announcements and news from First Nations, be sure to sign up at www.firstnations.org. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click “Join our mailing list.”