

IMPACT REPORT 2019

WE BELIEVE...

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.

First Nations'
GUIDING PRINCIPLE



FIRST NATIONS
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

OUR APPROACH...

First Nations Development Institute (First Nations) supports Native people in their efforts to control and develop their assets, and -- through that control -- build the capacity to direct their economic futures in ways that fit their cultures.

Our approach takes a comprehensive view of assets that reflects the holistic nature of Native communities and Native economies and includes: ■

TYPES of ASSETS

Financial Assets
Natural Resources
Cultural Heritage
Human Capital
Physical Assets
Institutional Assets
Social Capital
Legal and Political Assets
Creative Assets (*such as stories*)

First Nations has been working in partnership with Native communities for 40 years. **Through the decades, we have learned that asset-based development truly works and is an effective strategy for preserving community resources for the next seven generations.** We believe that it is only through Native control of Native assets that the economic well-being of Native communities will be improved and sustained.

ADVANCING OUR MISSION *through* HIGH-IMPACT PROGRAMS

First Nations' mission is to strengthen American Indian economies to support healthy Native communities. ■

STRENGTHENING TRIBAL & COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS

Through grant support, technical assistance and training, First Nations provides Native communities with the tools and resources necessary to create new community-based initiatives and to strengthen the capacity of existing programs.

NOURISHING NATIVE FOODS & HEALTH

First Nations supports efforts to increase access to fresh and healthy foods, create economically viable food-related business models, off-set household income spent on foods and create policies to exert greater control over local food systems.

INVESTING IN NATIVE YOUTH

Native youth represent the future of Native communities, and their health and well-being determine the health and well-being of a community overall. By investing in youth and giving them a sense of place rooted in traditions, a community ensures that it will have bright and innovative future leaders.

ACHIEVING NATIVE FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT

First Nations promotes increased financial knowledge and enhanced financial capability, which ultimately leads to financial empowerment for Native people.

ADVANCING HOUSEHOLD & COMMUNITY ASSET-BUILDING STRATEGIES

First Nations supports household and community asset-building strategies. Working with tribal colleges and community development financial institutions or CDFIs, ideas are shared through peer learning and programs are bolstered through grantmaking.

OUR STRATEGIES to build assets...

2019

BY THE

NUMBERS

103

Technical Assistance Support Sessions

6,026

People Educated through Convenings, Webinars & Conferences

EDUCATE

GRASSROOTS PRACTITIONERS

272

Travel Scholarships Provided for Conferences & Convenings

21

Academic Scholarships Provided to Students

11

Publications Produced in 2019

ADVOCATE
for SYSTEMIC CHANGE

5,403

Publications Downloaded from Online Knowledge Center

148

Grants Awarded

CAPITALIZE
NATIVE COMMUNITIES

Total Amount Invested: \$4,532,078

Total Amount Requested: \$15,315,702

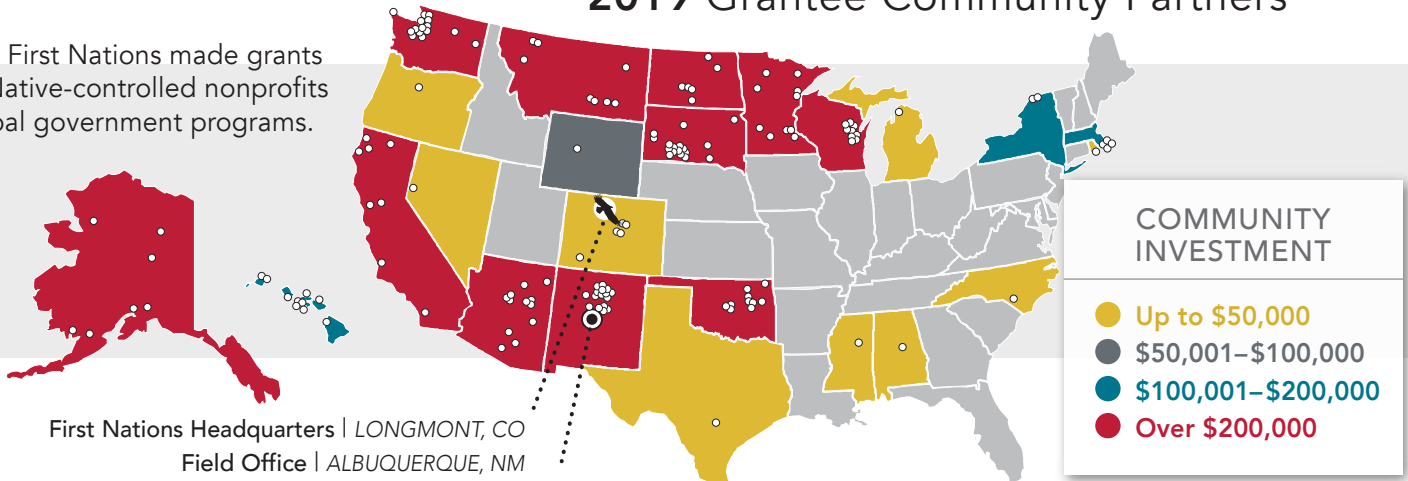
AMOUNT REQUESTED THAT COULD NOT BE FUNDED

UNMET NEED

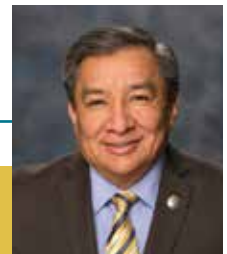
74%

In 2019, First Nations made grants to **148** Native-controlled nonprofits and tribal government programs.

2019 Grantee Community Partners



ACCOUNTABILITY



BENNY SHENDO

A MESSAGE FROM FIRST NATIONS' BOARD CHAIR 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 eighth year in a row, First Nations has received the highest rating of Four Stars from Charity Navigator. Only **4%** of the charities it rates in the U.S. achieve this highest distinction for eight or more consecutive years.



In 2019, First Nations again earned the Platinum GuideStar Nonprofit Profile Seal of Transparency, the highest level of recognition offered by GuideStar. First Nations is also an Accredited Member of the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance. Further, **81%** of donated dollars to First Nations go directly to our programs and the communities that need this support the most.

Digital versions of First Nations' full Annual Report can be found at firstnations.org/knowledge-center.

FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP TEAM



Michael E. Roberts, M.B.A.
Tlingit
PRESIDENT & CEO
mroberts@firstnations.org



Raymond Foxworth, Ph.D.
Navajo
VICE PRESIDENT
Grantmaking, Development
& Communications
rfoxworth@firstnations.org



Jackie Francke, B.S.
Navajo
VICE PRESIDENT
Programs & Administration
jfrancke@firstnations.org



GOVERNANCE

100%
of our board
members are
Native and our
board is led by:

Benny Shendo
Jemez Pueblo
CHAIRPERSON

Marguerite Smith
Shinnecock
VICE-CHAIR

Susan Jenkins
Cherokee
TREASURER

Shyla Sheppard
Mandan/Hidatsa
SECRETARY

For a complete list of our board members and biographies visit firstnations.org/about/board

firstnations.org

2432 Main Street, 2nd Floor | Longmont, Colorado 80501
303.774.7836 info@firstnations.org