

When the Tide is Out, The Table is Set: A Native Food Security Webinar

November 16, 2026

ABOUT FIRST NATIONS

Founded in 1980, First Nations began our national grantmaking program in 1993. Through 2025, we have successfully managed grants totaling $110.6 million to Native American projects and organizations.

Our mission is to uplift and sustain the lifeways and economies of Native communities through advocacy, financial support, and knowledge sharing.

We envision a world in which Tribal Sovereignty is upheld, and Native ingenuity and knowledge are honored and respected.



CORE PROGRAMS

We provide grants, technical assistance, and research and policy advocacy across five program areas



NATIVE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS INVESTMENTS
Advancing Native food sovereignty and security, strengthening Tribal food economies, and supporting the living relationship between community, place, and foods.



STEWARDING NATIVE LANDS
Financial resources, training, technical assistance, and research and advocacy to help Tribes and Native communities regain and restore their lands.



CALIFORNIA TRIBAL FUND
Support for California-based, California Native-led nonprofits and tribal programs for controlling and protecting their land, water, food systems, and culture.



NATIVE ARTS, LANGUAGE, AND KNOWLEDGE
Strengthening and sustaining Native communities and knowledge-holders through intergenerational connections and the transference of arts, languages, and knowledge.



RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY FOR NATIVE ECONOMIC JUSTICE
Research, tools, resources, and opportunities for Native communities, policy makers, and funders to invest in and advance Native economic justice.

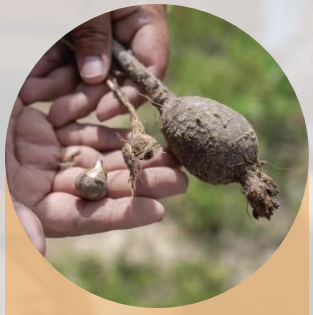
NATIVE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS INVESTMENTS – IMPACT AREAS

The Native Agriculture and Food Systems Investments program advances food sovereignty and security, strengthens Tribal food economies, and supports the living relationship between community, place, and foods.

The Native Agriculture and Food Systems Investments program includes these strategic focuses:



NATIVE FOOD SOVEREIGNTY
Projects support the inherent right of Tribal communities to exercise self-determination and self-governance in all aspects of their food systems



NATIVE FOOD SECURITY
Projects support the consistent access and abundance of culturally relevant foods to meet the community's needs and preferences to ensure a healthy Tribal community food system



NATIVE FOOD ECONOMIES
Projects are dedicated to fostering the cultivation, relationship, and management of a Native food economy



NATIVE FOOD NETWORKS
Projects create communities of learning and knowledge exchange, encouraging Native communities to grow and advocate for their Indigenous food systems

Native Food Security: Focus Areas

Native Food Distribution
Increasing access to healthy, culturally relevant foods within Native communities.

Food Life Cycle
Strengthening the movement of food across the cycle – origin, tending, harvesting, sharing – by identifying Native food security challenges.

Wild Food Harvesting
Sustaining the practices of traditional hunting, fishing, and gathering, reinforcing our connections to cultural foodways.

Resilient Native Foodways
Supporting and strengthening food security in response to climate change and natural disasters.



LONG-TERM COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Latrell Kaye

Program Manager
Indian Pueblo
Entrepreneur Complex



Stephen 'Steve' Webster

Director of Farm and
Culinary Operations
Ukwakhwa



Giselle 'Gise' Oliva-Metoxen

Director of Programs and
Development
Ukwakhwa



Danielle Antelope

Co-Director
FAST Blackfeet

When the Tide is Out, The Table is Set.

This saying comes from Coast Salish communities in the Pacific Northwest, for whom low tide is a time to harvest.

What is a similar teaching from your community?

Indian Pueblo Entrepreneur Complex

- Providing training, mentorships and tools to food entrepreneurs.
- Creating the Entrepreneur Complex as a community asset that provides resources to the Indigenous Food sector.
- Expanding technical support: technical supplies, business visits to Pueblo communities, and networking opportunities.



Ukwakhwa

- Food sovereignty through Haudenosaunee heirloom corn and bean production at scale.
- Access and Knowledge to Seed "Seed Giveaway"
- Foodways – Basket work – full process harvest to use, less waste
- Building out Native-to-Native supply chains – Seed to Table / Meal Prep



FAST Blackfeet

- FAST Blackfeet Forever Home

•Ō’yō’·ṗ’ Food Pantry: Combating Food Insecurity on the Blackfeet Nation

•Nutrition Education: Building back traditional food knowledge and combating diet-related health disparities

•Growing Health: Promoting the production of local and traditional foods + medicines and reclaiming food sovereignty





Advice and Q+A



When the Tide is Out, The Table is Set
Matching Gift Campaign

Your contributions will go toward First Nations' food security campaign.

- Every gift will be matched by First Nations up to **$500,000**
- **Give by December 31, 2026.**
- Donate at: **firstnations.org/tide/**

Share with others!

Native Food Security Grant

RFPs open in **February 2027**!
Stay updated by subscribing to our weekly newsletter.

"This Week at First Nations" e-newsletter subscribe at:
www.firstnations.org/email-signup/

Yaw^ko
(Thank You)

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