

# Honoring Indigenous Knowledge



**Makwa Bear**  
by Gordon Coons

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE  
2020 ANNUAL REPORT



## FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

In 1980, First Nations Financial Project was founded in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Funded by a \$25,000 grant from the Ford Foundation, the project – renamed First Nations Development Institute in 1991 – became the first nonprofit social enterprise exclusively committed to Native control of tribal assets.

In 2020, we celebrate the 40th anniversary of **First Nations** and the progress made through this initial project that has grown into a leading Native-led nonprofit in service of strengthening Native economies and communities.

With the theme of our anniversary, **Honoring Indigenous Knowledge**, we look back at the successes of our community partners, and we look ahead with optimism for all they are achieving for Native culture, youth, land, and assets. Together, we can reclaim, restore, and rebuild all that has been lost and bring back and celebrate traditional knowledge and messages of strength and sustainability.

## Mission

Our mission is 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.



## ABOUT THE COVER ART

To help First Nations commemorate this important date, **Native artist Gordon Coons** contributed his original artwork featuring “Makwa/Bear” in the Ojibwa Woodland Art Style.

Gordon writes, “I chose Makwa/Bear because it is one of the most widespread Clans or Totems (dodem) in the Native American Culture. Makwa/Bear clan members are associated with leadership, wisdom, strength, healing and medicine. It is this responsibility of leadership, wisdom, strength, healing and medicine that guides members of Mawka/Bear clan to follow the path of honoring Indigenous knowledge.”

First Nations provides Native communities the same qualities as members of the Makwa/Bear clan provide to their tribes.

## ABOUT GORDON COONS

Based in Minneapolis, Gordon Coons (Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa/Ottawa) is a painter, printmaker, and fumage artist. Largely self-taught, he paints in the Ojibwa Woodland style and creates fumage (smoke art) by burning cedar. He embellishes his fumage pieces with 24-karat gold leaf. He also prints with linoleum blocks and sculpts in stone and wood.



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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

### *To Respond, Heal, Challenge, and Reimagine We Will Always Honor Indigenous Knowledge*

The year 2020 is not one that will be forgotten. On the 40th Anniversary year of First Nations Development Institute, the world experienced a deadly pandemic and the aftershocks that continue to plague communities locally and globally.

For many people this year, adapting to “new” ways has become the first priority. Business models have been reinvented, people have changed their daily routines, and through the seasons, some have even re-thought their long-time traditions.

But for First Nations and for the people of Indian Country, we have stayed focused as always on the “old” ways – our cultures, our rich history, our traditional knowledge, and our deep relationships that are the foundation of our strength and our resilience.

Because, of course, as President and CEO Michael Roberts points out on the following pages, COVID-19 is not the first devastating threat our people have faced. Our populations have been excluded and minimized before the virus came into our worlds, due to existing service barriers in health care, broadband and Internet access, overburdened distribution lines, weakened infrastructures, and more.

Long before this year, we continued to face our “usual” issues surrounding social justice, economic justice, and environmental justice. In 2020, the pandemic only exasperated vulnerabilities that had been here all along—present in the everyday lives of people in Native communities but invisible and ignored by the broader public.

But, despite the pandemic and the threats that came before, we are still here.



Michael speaks of the grit and determination ingrained in Native peoples, and I – and I’m sure you as well – would be quick to agree. While the pandemic underscored the challenges throughout Indian Country, it has also highlighted our resilience. Through the pandemic, we have pivoted as well, but we have not changed our priorities. We have stayed focused on our traditions and cultures, our ways of living in and alongside the world around us. We have honored our Indigenous knowledge, and we have held steady.

As a result, in 2020, we have grown even stronger. In this report, we showcase that grit and determination.

We look back at the origins of First Nations Development Institute and our commitment to believing and investing in the communities we serve and their know-how of their own people and solutions. We commemorate the events of 2020, a year that – despite the pandemic – still delivered bright spots for Native peoples.

First Nations received an outpouring of support for our COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund, allowing us to distribute over \$3.1 million in grants to support Native communities as they continue operations and bolster their infrastructures through the pandemic. With this support, First Nations was also able to strengthen our own operations and programs, launching new initiatives like the California Tribal Fund and the Native Youth Business Plan Competition, and sharing insights and technical assistance on



topics like land buy-back, accessing forested lands, Native farm to school programming, and saving natural resources. And, we were able to dive deeper into the social and health indicators that influence life in Indian Country both before and after COVID-19. First Nations-led research has revealed insights on the effect of the pandemic on Native-led nonprofits, the need to advance biocultural diversity and sustainable land management practices, and the ways philanthropy can better support Indigenous-led organizations, programs, and services.

This year, First Nations explored topics and published findings on environmental justice to help stop environmental degradation and racism and build more sustainable futures for Native communities. We also directly supported Native American-led efforts to combat abusive extractive industries that are impacting Native communities, resources, and land.

More bright news came throughout Indian Country. A new election resulted in the first Native American Secretary of the Interior. A national spotlight was shown on the struggles present in Native communities, the importance of Native food systems, and the genius of Native approaches to agriculture, education, conservation, and land stewardship. With a shifting national consciousness, mascots nationwide were reimagined and replaced. A new Washington Football Team took the field, and philanthropists like MacKenzie Scott brought renewed focus to issues like racial equity, climate change, and public health.

It indeed has been a big year. For First Nations and our community partners, stakeholders and friends, it has been a year of responding, healing, and challenging and reimagining systems that long ignored Native communities. And the support received this year has positioned our 40-year-old organization well to continue to invest in Native peoples, traditions, and solutions, no matter what the future brings.

The pandemic and the threats that came before it have only reinforced what we have always known: We are resilient, and we will be here.

With gratitude for all of you, we enter 2021 focused on the commitment we began 40 years ago. And we go on, honoring our Indigenous knowledge.

Respectfully,



**Benny Shendo, Jr.** (*Jemez Pueblo*)

**Chairman**

**Board of Directors**

First Nations Development Institute



# STAYING TRUE TO OUR NEW OLD WAYS...



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



### A YEAR FOR COMMITMENT AND GRATITUDE

For 40 years, First Nations Development Institute has had the privilege of serving and supporting Native communities throughout Indian Country through thoughtful partnership and philanthropy.

When Rebecca Adamson sat at her kitchen table in 1979 the country was in a deep recession and there was a great deal of uncertainty. But with much of what was happening in Indian Country, there was also a new hope, with the recent passage of the Indian Self-Determination Act. This was one of the first pieces of legislation that specifically allowed Native peoples in this country to legally chart their own destinies. And it was in this time, this moment, that First Nations was conceptualized, and Rebecca and the soon-to-be First Nations' board of directors embraced a vision much bigger than themselves. With sheer will, they launched First Nations Financial Project, which would become First Nations Development Institute.

First Nations was founded with this fearless passion, values, and a commitment to serve Native communities throughout the United States. And today, our mission remains true to its origins -- to strengthen American Indian economies and to support healthy Native communities.

In many conversations I've had this year with private philanthropic funders, they've asked me: What are we doing *new* and *different* here at First Nations, with the presumption that COVID-19 has markedly changed the way we do business. And I've been happy to tell them that, at First Nations Development Institute, we are doing absolutely nothing new or different. Today, in 2020 and beyond, we are doing what we've always done: Invest in and, where necessary, help create innovative institutions and models that strengthen asset control and support economic development for American Indian people and their communities.

The other part of the "old" work that we have been doing is imploring our partners in philanthropy to fund the urgent and long-term needs of Native communities. And, I am happy to report that both our private philanthropic partners and individual donors have stepped up in a big way to fund First Nations COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund for relief and recovery efforts, which in turn has allowed us to meet some of the needs of our partners in Native communities.



# Honoring Indigenous Knowledge

Another aspect of our old work has been conducting research and other advocacy efforts to elevate Native voice and presence within philanthropy. Given that philanthropic funding to Native-controlled institutions decreased by more than 30% during the 2008 financial collapse, First Nations has been diligent to do our part to not see a similar situation post-pandemic.

After all, if we are to be honest, COVID-19 is not the first or the only epidemic, pandemic, or economic reckoning that Native people have had to deal with – it is just the latest one. But to be fair, this one is a pretty big one. That is why, since the COVID-19 outbreak, First Nations has redoubled efforts around advocacy on the part of Native grant seekers looking for financing from private philanthropy.

Still, with this recent pandemic and its economic shocks and aftershocks as a backdrop, we take a moment for thoughtfulness and thanksgiving. We reflect on what has been an extraordinary year of partnership, collaboration, and for our Native communities, a once-again proving of unmatched resilience.

We have always said that, with the support of individuals, foundations, corporate and tribal donors, First Nations Development Institute improves economic conditions for Native Americans through technical assistance and training, advocacy and policy, and direct financial grants.

But most importantly, it is the pure genius of our community partners, and their herculean efforts that the real work in community, the true service to their families and neighbors, takes place.

And, in 2020, that is what we celebrate.

We off-handedly talk about everyday heroes. But in Indian communities, we have everyday, every-week and every-year heroes, and these folks are the ones who have done the yeoman's task of keeping their communities safe and alive in the past year: Taking care of, feeding, and transporting their elders and loved ones to protect them from the effects of the pandemic.

In 2020 and every year, we honor that genius – paired with grit, determination, blood, sweat and tears – with which Native communities have continued to come together. And, we continue to be grateful and happy to play a small part in finding them the resources they need to stay healthy and safe through a pandemic and beyond.

Gunalcheesh! (Thank You!)



**Michael E. Roberts** (*Tlingit*)

**President & CEO**

First Nations Development Institute







"The history of First Nations is very simple. It was created to be an advocate for Indian people."

– Thomas Vigil (*Jicarilla Apache/Jemez Pueblo*), Former Chairman of the Board, First Nations Development Institute

## 40 YEARS OF HONORING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

In 1980, with some seed money from the Administration for Native Americans, Rebecca Adamson (*Cherokee*) went to New York to knock on the doors of foundations. She had no contacts. She managed to get into the Ford Foundation and talk to a program manager named Siobhan Oppenheimer-Nicolau (to become known fondly as "Oppie"), who would become a board member of a yet-to-exist First Nations Development Institute.

Adamson requested \$25,000 and Oppie asked what she wanted to do with the money. Adamson replied that she didn't know, but the people in the communities she wanted to serve would. And with a \$25,000 grant from the Ford Foundation, First Nations was born.

Current First Nations President Mike Roberts (*Tlingit*) is familiar with this creation story. "As Indian people, we love creation stories, and that's a particularly good one," he says. "For me, and more importantly for the lasting legacy of the organization, this creation story has two huge takeaways: Imperfect action beats perfect inaction every time, and First Nations' work should be guided by and responsive to the communities with whom we work."

Through the years, First Nations has continued to grow and evolve, ever pivoting to meet the needs of Native communities. That initial \$25,000 launched the organization into a 40-year journey of building collaborations, strategizing our approach, and giving Native-led organizations funding, training, and support to thrive and best serve their communities in ways they know best.

Today, First Nations has awarded over 2,150 grants to Native and Native-led organizations, valued at over \$43 million.



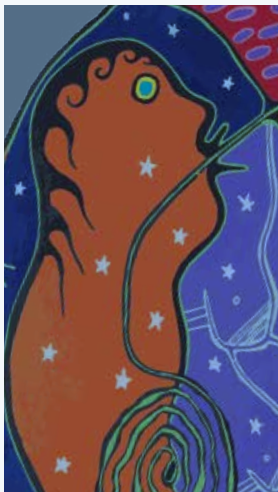


# THIS YEAR AT FIRST NATIONS

In 2020, we are honored to commemorate some key achievements.

## SPOTLIGHT ON NATIVE FOOD SYSTEMS

This year marked the release of **GATHER**, the feature-length documentary celebrating Indigenous food systems and the efforts underway nationwide to reclaim and rebuild them. The result of a three-year collaboration between First Nations and award-winning director Sanjay Rawal, **GATHER** is an intimate portrait of the growing movement among Native Americans in the aftermath of centuries of genocide to ensure the health, strength, and future of Native communities. In 2020, DVDs of the film were distributed to First Nations' community partners, and made available on iTunes.



## A TRANSFORMATIVE GIFT

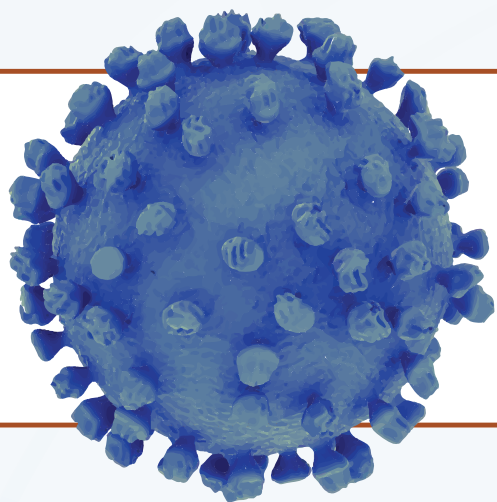
This year, the board and staff of First Nations were honored to announce the receipt of an **\$8 million** transformative, unrestricted gift from novelist and philanthropist **MacKenzie Scott**. The gift was part of a \$1.7 billion outpouring of support to 116 organizations that address racial equity, climate change, public health, and more. First Nations President and CEO Michael Roberts expressed the organization's gratitude for the generosity and vision of Ms. Scott. "We are humbled to be included with this esteemed list of nonprofits that are standing up and leading change for excluded and marginalized populations," Roberts said. "This funding will go far in helping Native People reclaim, restore, and rebuild for an equal, just world."

## CELEBRATING THE NATIVE AMERICAN VOTE IN THE 2020 ELECTION

The 2020 election was historic. American voters turned out in record numbers, and political participation by communities of color influenced election outcomes in many states. Native Americans were among these critical populations, playing a significant role in shaping returns across the country.

In swing states like Wisconsin and Arizona, Native Americans participated at extremely high rates as part of the coalition of voters supporting Joe Biden. The Navajo Nation, with critical voters in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah, reported turnout rates as high as 90%. Also, county-level election results in parts of Wisconsin that are home to Native reservations reported high rates of participation and support for Biden and Harris. Native voters undoubtedly played a critical role in this historic election. And, in another win, the election of President Biden also led to the nomination of Rep. Deb Haaland (D-NM) as the first Native American Secretary of the Interior.





# COVID-19: EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

## RESPONDING LIKE A GOOD RELATIVE

*No red tape, no strings attached: First Nations Deploys COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund*

2020 was a year marked by devastating loss throughout the world and especially in Indian Country. The lack of food, resources, infrastructure, funding, and health care that has been here all along was now exacerbated, and Native communities faced severe challenges.

Beginning in March 2020, First Nations responded by continuing our three-prong approach to systemic change: educating, advocating, and capitalizing. We created the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund to meet the needs of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian communities to minimize the immediate risks and mitigate the long-term effects of the pandemic.

Grants through the Emergency Response Fund were made efficiently and swiftly to high-concentration areas in California, New Mexico, the Pacific Northwest, New York, the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Nation, and COVID-19 hotspots nationwide.

Grants were distributed promptly, without bureaucracy or an arduous application process. In addition, all donations to the Emergency Fund were passed through without administrative fees. 100% of donations went directly to Native communities.

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE

16

Rounds of Grant Support

291

Grants Funded

\$3,139,000

Grants Distributed

17,749

Pounds of Food Donated

\$335,670

Value of Personal Protective  
Equipment Donated

28,000

Gallons of Water Donated



"I am especially proud of First Nations' actions and approach to community investments during the COVID-19 pandemic. First Nations' fundamental belief is that communities have the solutions and know best what's needed. Our job is just to be a vehicle to get funds quickly to people on the ground fighting the good fight. It is refreshing to see funds already out the door, unrestricted without the barriers of extensive applications and other red tape that holds up vital resources when they are most urgently needed."

New Mexico Senator, Benny Shendo, Jr., (*Jemez Pueblo*)  
First Nations Board Chairman





## RESILIENCE, RELATIONSHIPS, AND ADAPTABILITY GO ON

*Through the hardships of the year, First Nations stayed focused, pivoting as needed to continue our strategies of education, advocacy and capitalizing Native communities.*

### WE ARE RESILIENT IN CHARTING A PATH FORWARD

Just one of our many publications this year set out to inform society and the philanthropic sector about the need in Indian Country. In June 2020, First Nations launched a survey to better understand the effects of COVID-19 on Native-led nonprofit organizations. First Nations received nearly 300 responses, mostly from community-based organizations, that illuminated a huge degree of uncertainty as Native nonprofits continued to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in their communities and look to bounce back from the economic crisis resulting from the global pandemic. Findings are shared in *The Native Nonprofit Sector and the COVID-19 Pandemic: Charting a Path Forward*.

The year culminated with:

**89** sessions of  
technical assistance support

**37,592** people reached  
through programs

**53** travel scholarships  
provided for conferences and  
convenings (prior to COVID)

**25** academic scholarships  
provided to students

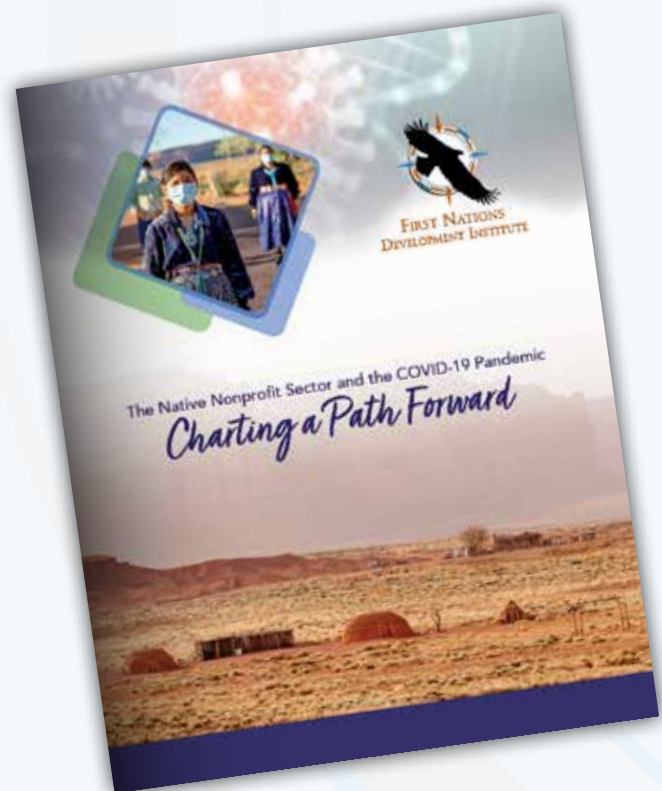
**427** grants funded  
(136 Program grants,

**291** COVID-19  
Emergency Response Fund grants)

**\$6.5** million in total  
grants funded

**15** publications

**4,447** publications  
downloaded from online  
Knowledge Center





## WE ARE RESILIENT IN HONORING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

In 2020, we continued our six strategic focus areas, creating a comprehensive approach to strengthening Native communities and economies based on the Native cultures, ways and knowledge that have existed since time immemorial and serving a People who have endured hardships even more challenging than COVID-19.

As always, we believe that 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. We continue to invest in and create innovative institutions and models that strengthen asset control and support economic development for American Indian people and their communities.

### *Honoring Indigenous Knowledge* **PUTTING TRUST IN NATIVE COMMUNITIES**

"We believe that Native Nations are uniquely knowledgeable about their own communities. They know best their own strengths, challenges, and needs. Asset-building bolsters the effectiveness of Native Nations to develop solutions to their own challenges and allows them to best leverage resources on their own terms and develop their own solutions." – First Nations, 2020 Impact Report





## STRENGTHENING TRIBAL AND COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS

First Nations' Strengthening Tribal and Community Institutions program champions community-driven solutions and strengthens overall economic development in Native communities. We do this by providing our partners with resources and tools, including direct grants, training and technical assistance, and research, and by leading efforts to change inequitable systems that can impede community development and access to resources by Native American communities.



## NATIVE ARTS INITIATIVE

Starting in 2014, through the Native Arts Initiative, First Nations has partnered with Native-led nonprofits and tribal programs in the Upper Midwest, Southwest, and Pacific Northwest to support efforts to perpetuate, revitalize, and proliferate traditional artistic and cultural assets in their communities. We provide direct grants and training and technical assistance to strengthen the organizational capacity of Native arts and cultural hubs, focusing on institutional assets, arts and cultural assets, human capital, social assets, and economic assets.

When the pandemic hit, many of our community partners had to delay or alter programs, in light of COVID-19 restrictions. With the support of **Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies** and other funders, First Nations was able to pivot arts funding into general operations grants to our community partners so that they could continue to thrive through the challenging year.







## *Honoring Indigenous Knowledge* **PRESERVING NATIVE KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS AND LIFEWAYS**

General operating grants through First Nations' Native Arts Initiative create an enabling environment in which our community partners are better positioned to implement their strategies and solutions to perpetuate Native arts. At community partner Diné Be' liná, a weaver teaches and shares textile fiber arts as part of the organization's mission to restore the balance between Navajo culture, life and land and to preserve, protect, and promote the Navajo way of life, with enormous value placed on the Navajo-churro sheep.

*Photo Credit: Diné Be' liná*

## **BUILDING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY CAPACITY IN NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES**

With funding from **Comcast NBCUniversal Foundation**, this project continued in 2020 as part of an ongoing effort to increase the digital technology capacity of our community partners in response to the decades-long digital exclusion experienced in Indian Country.

This year, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) provided rural tribes with a seven-month window of opportunity through the FCC's "2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Window" to claim unassigned spectrum over their tribal lands. To support tribes' efforts to take advantage of this opportunity, First Nations provided technical assistance and micro-grants to tribes who submitted Rural Tribal Window applications to the FCC and were ready to begin the broadband planning and build-out process for their communities. We also facilitated several panel-based webinars to explore the many approaches to funding tribal broadband projects, including state and federal grant funds, private funding, and public-private partnerships.





*All program activities of the Native Fundraisers Community of Practice are grounded in the six core values of creativity, innovation, humor, knowledge sharing, storytelling, and relationships.*

## NATIVE FUNDRAISERS COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

The Native Fundraisers Community of Practice (NFCoP), funded by **W. K. Kellogg Foundation**, **San Manuel Band of Mission Indians**, and **Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies**, is focused on building the long-term sustainability of Native-led organizations and tribal programs that address issues of Native community and economic development. The NFCoP provides staff of these entities with strategies to strengthen their grantwriting and fundraising skills within a framework of narrative change and authentic storytelling using First Nations' Reclaiming Native Truth research and messaging guide.

In 2019, First Nations convened its first cohort of 20 fundraisers and four advisors at two comprehensive in-person trainings and supported their efforts to complete an online grant writing course as well as develop at least two grant proposals for submission to private foundations and the federal government. In 2020, First Nations transitioned the in-person training program to a 10-month, 100% virtual program due to the pandemic.

Using this new format, First Nations has continued the NFCoP, moving forward with the second and third rounds of cohorts, with 30 Native nonprofit professionals participating in 15 virtual training sessions on developing prospect research lists, grantwriting, evaluation methods, budgeting, and storytelling strategies. Participants this year took part in multiple virtual training sessions. They also received a subscription and hands-on training for using Candid's Foundation Directory Online, a fundraising platform to explore funding opportunities.



## STRENGTHENING NATIVE AMERICAN PHILANTHROPY

At First Nations, we know that the work of our Community Partners is innovative and strong, resulting in solutions tailored to their needs. Unfortunately, the philanthropic sector has not always recognized this, as evidenced by the state of giving to Native and Native-led organizations. With our continued knowledge that Native communities are the changemakers, in 2020, we continued to advocate for greater equity and inclusion within philanthropy through research and reporting.

In addition to **Charting a Path Forward** (see page 12), First Nations also published **Searching for Inclusion in Philanthropy: A Guide to Equitable Practices in Foundation Hiring**, which sheds light on the inequitable hiring practices of U.S. foundations as they relate to the hiring of Native Americans and offers compelling guidance to improve the hiring process so that we can see more talented and qualified Native people working in philanthropy.

Also this year, First Nations again worked with our Community Partners and **Nonprofit Quarterly** to underscore critical issues surrounding environmental justice in Indian Country and ways that philanthropy might more effectively support this work.





## INTRODUCING THE CALIFORNIA TRIBAL FUND

California's tribal communities face unique challenges. The history of California colonization is wrought with extractive industry from gold to oil that outpaced any other part of the continental United States. Much of California's Native history has been kept secret and hidden from national consciousness. This history, along with missions, enslavement, and genocide, resulted in spread of disease and rapid environmental degradation. Further, this trauma imposed on California Native communities has spanned generations and has led to long-term losses in people, health (environmental and human), land, and culture. Adding to this, research indicates that — in keeping with national data on philanthropic gifts to Native causes — giving in California is disproportionate to Native Peoples' needs.

As part of First Nations' overall mission to invest in and create innovative institutions and models that strengthen asset control and support economic development for American Indian people and communities, the California Tribal Fund addresses these two issues – both the unique circumstances of California Native communities and the lack of philanthropic support for California Native causes.

The fund began as a collaboration between First Nations and board members and staff of the California Indian Basketweavers' Association. Launched in 2020, the fund is made possible with funding from **The California Endowment, Swift Foundation, Highlands 3:23 Fund, Ceres Trust, the Campbell Foundation, Regenerative Agriculture Foundation, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and 11th Hour Project**. As part of its initial outreach, 24 California Native-led organizations received funding through the fund's California COVID-19 Recovery and Resiliency Fund, which provides financial support to California Native-led organizations for their response and recovery efforts associated with COVID-19.







## INVESTING IN NATIVE YOUTH

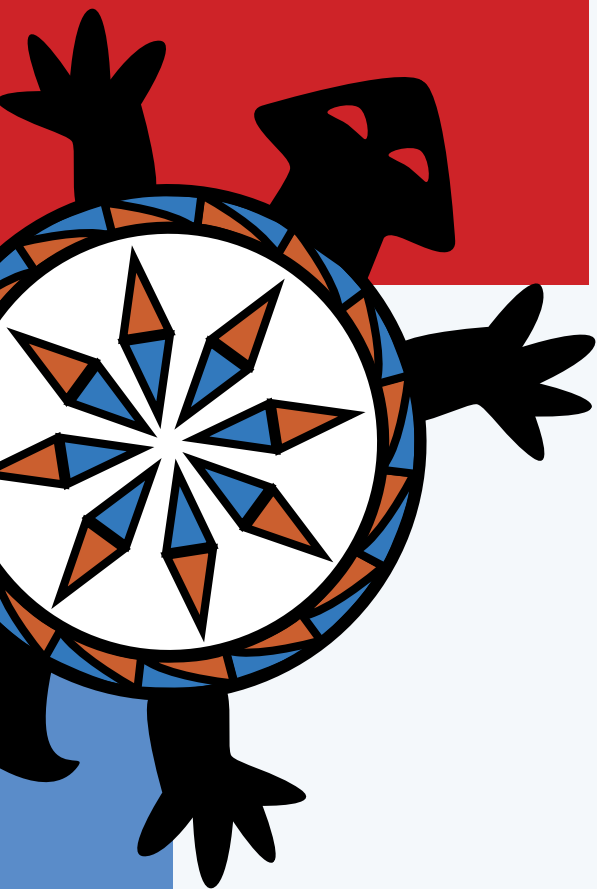
First Nations believes that Native youth represent the future of Native communities, and that their health and well-being determine the future health and well-being of a community overall. By investing in youth and giving them a sense of place and tradition in the community, a community ensures that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

### NATIVE YOUTH AND CULTURE FUND

The cornerstone of First Nations' youth efforts continues to be the Native Youth and Culture Fund, which annually provides grants to numerous youth-related projects to support the perpetuation of traditional ecological knowledge, spirituality and the intergenerational transfer of knowledge systems, and focuses on empowering youth and building their capacity as future leaders.

With generous support from the **Kalliopeia Foundation** and the **Susan A. and Donald P. Babson Foundation**, a total of \$377,500 was granted to 23 organizations and tribal programs as general operating support grants of up to \$18,500.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many programs for 2020 were not able to operate as normal because of shutdowns, social distancing, and other safety protocols. Yet, many organizations were able to shift quickly to work with youth virtually, provide food when access was limited, update technology to position themselves and youth for working and learning remotely, pay staff and other administrative costs when other funding avenues became unavailable, and provide other supportive services. These organizations were able to use funding from First Nations in the best possible way to meet the needs of youth and their communities during this challenging year.







## *Honoring Indigenous Knowledge* **PASSING DOWN TRADITIONS**

At First Nations' Community Partner Zuni Youth Enrichment Project, Zuni traditions are passed down through youth-centered activities anchored in Zuni traditions and culture. These activities strengthen the organization's mission to promote resilience among Zuni youth, so they will grow into strong and healthy adults who are connected with Zuni traditions.



## **THANK YOU CRITICAL ROLE FOUNDATION**

First Nations was honored to be part of the first philanthropic outreach of the Critical Role Foundation, which launched a campaign to support the Native Youth and Culture Fund. The campaign resulted in over \$200,000 going directly to invest in and promote eight First Nations' Community Partners throughout the year, including Zuni Youth Enrichment Project, Keres Children's Learning Center, Yuchi Language Project, Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project, One Positive Thing in Kiana, The Hanalei River Heritage Foundation, K'idadiilyehii Youth Leadership Program, and Children of the Setting Sun.



Zuni pottery maker Noreen Simpicio guides a class of ZYEP students on how to make Zuni pottery designs, which were ultimately used in a mosaic of pottery shards to showcase Zuni traditions.

## NATIVE LANGUAGE IMMERSION INITIATIVE

2020 marked the fourth year of the Native Language Immersion Initiative (NLII), a project launched in 2017 to build on longtime efforts to support the revitalization and perpetuation of Native languages. Funded by the **National Endowment for the Humanities, Kalliopeia Foundation, Lannan Foundation, NoVo Foundation, Wells Fargo, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation**, and many individual donors across the US, the NLII is designed to build the capacity of and support existing Native language immersion education programs in tribal communities.

Since the NLII began, more than **30 Native organizations** and tribes have received **over \$4 million** in funding to build the capacity of and directly support their Native language immersion programs. In addition to direct financial resources, this initiative seeks to cultivate a community of practice among Native language immersion programs and share insights gained through the four-year initiative through a publicly disseminated national report.

In September 2020, First Nations awarded a fourth round of \$90,000 grants under the NLII program to nine tribes and Native nonprofits. Grantee cohorts met virtually during fall and winter 2020 to network and share information about their language immersion programs. These meetings have supported a community of practice among language revitalization organizations and will continue into 2021.

Throughout spring and summer 2020, First Nations worked with existing grantees to modify and adjust programming objectives and goals in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Grantees repurposed funds to support virtual and socially-distant learning and teaching activities.

*Language is a core part of who we are as Indian people. Each of us has our respective languages that connect us to our place of birth, teach us how to pray, and show us who we are as Indian people. **Language is sacred.***

*– Benny Shendo, Jr.,  
First Nations Board Chair*





## NATIVE YOUTH BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

First Nations, in partnership with the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED), this year sponsored a Native Youth Business Plan Competition to help Native students increase their knowledge and enhance their business, entrepreneurial, and academic skills to prepare them for business and entrepreneurship opportunities in the future.

The competition was designed to provide an educational experience for students by learning the process of creating and presenting a business plan. It also simulates the real-world experience of entrepreneurs seeking start-up funds.

In the inaugural competition this year, teams of students in each category – high school and college or university – submitted abbreviated business plan proposals for review by First Nations and NCAIED staff. Each plan was evaluated based on:

- ▶ the value created by the new product or service
- ▶ the attractiveness of the market opportunity
- ▶ the competitive advantage of the proposed venture
- ▶ the operational and technological viability
- ▶ the capability of the management team
- ▶ the clarity and persuasiveness of the plan
- ▶ and the capital requirements and financial forecast.

Then, selected teams received additional mentoring from Native business professionals to further strengthen their proposals. From there, nine youth teams attended the Reservation Economic Summit (RES) in March 2020 where they received additional support and learning opportunities via a youth-specific track of entrepreneurship-related workshops.

The youth teams went on to compete onstage, and winning teams in each division were awarded cash prizes to support teams in making their business ideas a reality.

Photo courtesy of National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development



### Honoring Indigenous Knowledge INVESTING IN FUTURE NATIVE LEADERS

The Native Youth Business Plan Competition is one of the many ways First Nations invests in Native Youth and gives them opportunities to learn, be mentored, and connect with Native leaders who set an example for collaboration, success and advancement. It's the type of opportunity that competition mentor Nate Lee said is imperative in creating sustained and repeatable financial success in our Native communities. *"It must start with our youth, and that includes opportunities to showcase their talents and raise the bar. The future of business is bright for our Native communities as we fill the pipeline of talented and ambitious Native youth, but we must go further to keep that pipeline full by preparing the next class of kindergartners."*

First Nations' Senior Program Officer Kendall Tallmadge, who helped organize and facilitate the Native Youth Business Plan Competition, said, *"These students represent a bright next generation of innovation and excitement. It was an honor to be in a position to hear their ideas and see how they are valuing their culture and heritage through innovative business designs to make a difference in their communities."*

## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Native Agriculture and Food Systems College Scholarship program encourages American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian college students to enter agriculture and agricultural-related fields so that they can better assist their communities with efforts to invest in, develop, and gain control of local food systems. To qualify for the scholarship, students must demonstrate how they will use their degrees within their own or another Native community.

First Nations awarded 25 scholarships in the amounts of \$1,500 and \$1,000 for the 2020-2021 academic year. Selected students represent 18 different tribal nations and are studying in fields ranging from agricultural business, to forestry, to equine science. Eight students are working on graduate-level degrees, and 17 are working on undergraduate degrees.







# Dakota Wicohan

## DRESSED TO DANCE: FOSTERING DAKOTA CULTURE AND PRIDE

For one Dakota community in Minnesota, where youth are prone to low self-esteem, bad influences, and suicide, something great is happening. Young people are designing and making their own regalia, reconnecting with their culture and an art form at risk of vanishing. Through funding from First Nations, Dakota Wicohan is providing kids opportunities to regain pride in who they are, and in doing so, changing health outcomes and transforming lives.

Dakota Wicohan is a cultural resource center focused on the celebration and transmission of Dakota cultural lifeways, arts, and language. The center brings together artists, activists, supporters, teachers, and learners, including elders and youth, in preserving Dakota traditions, providing a source of healing, and uniting people.

Founded in 2002, the organization is a long-term grantee of First Nations through both the Native Arts Initiative and the Native Youth and Culture Fund. Through one of its most recent First Nations-funded projects, Dakota Wicohan expanded its arts programming with the Growing Dakota Artists Program. Now, with the latest grant from First Nations, the organization is again building on the power of art, this time with a purpose to further engage youth and provide new opportunities.

All youth programming of Dakota Wicohan is designed to improve decision-making skills and increase “Wicozani,” meaning mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health. Dakota Wicohan has found that the poorer youth rate their Wicozani, the greater their suicide ideation; and the greater their suicide ideation, the less important they viewed their Wicozani to be to their quality of life. Dakota Wicohan’s approach is based on the Dakota belief that strong Wicozani and suicidal ideation cannot coexist. Dakota Wicohan youth programming has been found to increase Wicozani, which has resulted in more youth graduating from high school, and fewer youth – only 1% – ending up in the juvenile justice system.

## NOURISHING NATIVE FOODS & HEALTH

First Nations recognizes that accessing healthy food is a challenge for many Native American children and families. Without access to healthy food, a nutritious diet and good health are out of reach. To increase access to healthy food, we support tribes and Native communities as they build sustainable food systems that improve health, strengthen food security and economies, increase control over Native agriculture and food systems, and promote Native food sovereignty.



## TRIBAL HUNGER, NUTRITION AND HEALTHY FOODS

In this project made possible by the **Agua Fund**, First Nations provided grants to two Native-led community-based organizations within the Navajo Nation: Tolani Lake Livestock & Water Users Association and Tsaile-Wheatfields Dinéh Water Users. The two grantees worked toward their communities' needs for accessing water, supporting local farmers with their Food Safety plans, and furthering conservation efforts such as holistic and regenerative grazing methods on Native lands.

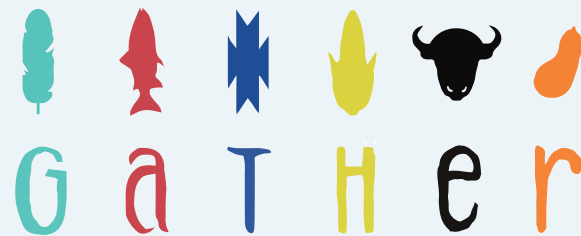
## GATHER FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

With the generous support of the **Indigenous Peoples Fund at Tides Foundation** and **The 11th Hour Project of The Schmidt Family Foundation**, along with additional organizational funders and individual donors, First Nations continued work this year on the **GATHER Food Sovereignty Project**, which features several key components:

*GATHER Food Sovereignty Grants.* First Nations awards grants to Native-led organizations to support work that contributes 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 and that focus on developing tribal food sovereignty. In 2020,







First Nations awarded funds to 10 grantees to advance their work toward food sovereignty by investing in their local Native food systems leading to improved economies, health, and community policies. The 10 community partners were chosen from over 97 applicants, and another round of funding will be awarded in 2021. In response to COVID-19, four GATHER Food Sovereignty Grants were directed to Native communities to support efforts in addressing pandemic-related food shortages.

*GATHER Film.* Gather film focuses on the growing Native American food sovereignty movement and raises national and international awareness of the need to invest in Native food systems. The film provides a much-needed view into how Native communities are rebuilding food systems, along with a call to action for improved policies and regulations, increased funding, and more long-term efforts to sustain and improve those systems. GATHER premiered in 2020 through a series of virtual film screenings and viewing parties. First Nations also provided Native communities, nonprofits, and education institutions with access to the film upon request. Promotional work continues in the new year, with a Netflix release in 2021.

## NATIVE AMERICAN FOOD SOVEREIGNTY INITIATIVE

In the final year of this project, funded by the **W. K. Kellogg Foundation**, First Nations built on previous work by expanding peer learning, networking, capacity building, and philanthropic engagement, and increasing access to resources for Native-controlled institutions/organizations and food producers working toward Native food sovereignty. Work in 2020 included the second cohort for the 10-month Native Fundraisers Community of Practice (see page 16), several philanthropic and food-related publications, as well as a cohort collaboration called Indigenous Food Systems Community of Practice with the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Funders (SAFSF) to support agricultural funders.

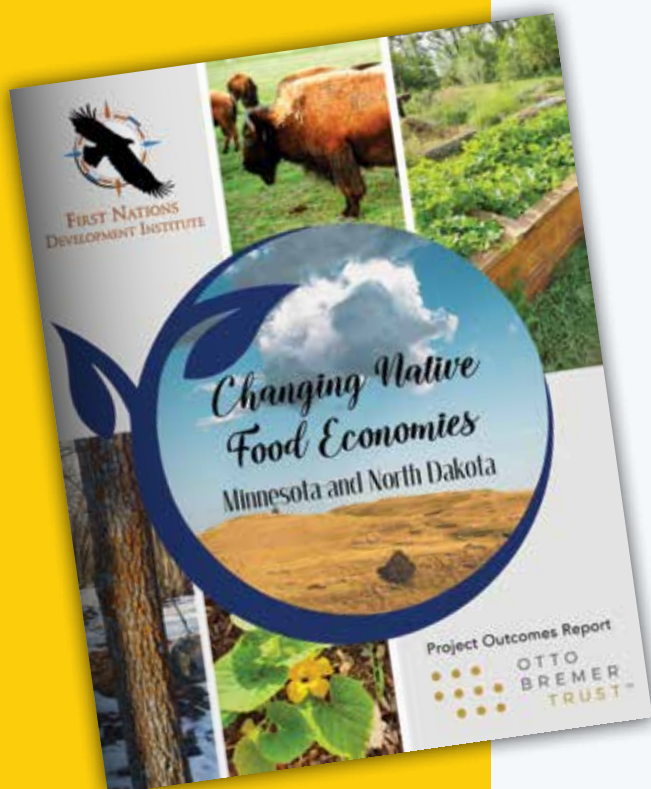
## CHANGING NATIVE FOOD ECONOMIES

With funding from the **Northwest Area Foundation**, this project is designed to sustain the previous cohort's work on changing Native food economies. This project comprises the two tribes and two tribal organizations from 2018 along with three additional grantees. This year, seven grantees were awarded \$40,000 each, and technical assistance opportunities were provided to all grantees in both individual and group formats.

## CHANGING NATIVE FOOD ECONOMIES IN MINNESOTA AND NORTH DAKOTA

To help tribes regain control of their community food systems, in 2018 First Nations launched the "Changing Native Food Economies in Minnesota and North Dakota" project. Funded by the **Otto Bremer Trust**, the project involved developing a multi-pronged approach to support three Native communities by providing financial, technical, and peer networking support.

The accompanying report captures the three project designs, outcomes, best practices, and lessons learned from each of these Native communities to share for the benefit of other tribes that are pursuing control of their Native food systems.





## KEEPSEAGLE FAST-TRACK FUNDING

The Keepseagle settlement was the result of a class-action lawsuit that sought to hold the **U.S. Department of Agriculture** (USDA) accountable for discrimination against Native American farmers and ranchers in USDA loan servicing, processing, outreach, and technical assistance. As part of the settlement process, the Native American Agriculture Fast-Track Fund (NAAFTF) awarded – to a select number of organizations, including First Nations – funds to support agricultural, business assistance or advocacy services to Native Americans.

This year, 44 applications were received for the 2020 Keepseagle grants. From these, 20 grantees were selected for organizational support and 14 for equipment sharing, meeting a critical need in Indian Country, as equipment is imperative, but grants to access equipment can be difficult to acquire. Three supplemental grants were given: one to Fort Peck Community College, one to Pueblo of Jemez, and one to Blackfeet.

A portion of Keepseagle funds were directed to two additional communities in the form of COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund grants. In addition, technical assistance opportunities were made available to all Keepseagle grantees through First Nations webinars. Two Business of Indian Agriculture trainings scheduled for 2020 were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, an online curriculum is being developed.

## NATIVE FARM TO SCHOOL

With support from the **USDA Food and Nutrition Service**, Native Farm to School continues as a food sovereignty project that provides educational opportunities and support to program coordinators, school staff, teachers, community and youth organizers, and knowledge keepers of all ages to ensure young tribal leaders can experience traditional foodways inside culturally inclusive school food systems. Throughout 2020, several aspects of the project were completed, including the creation of Native Farm to School booklets, a Native Farm to School Webinar Series, and a Native Farm to School Directory.

Through a separate grant from the **US Environmental Protection Agency**, the **Continuing the Tradition of Indigenous Farming and Environmental Stewardship** project built the capacity of Native American Farm to School programs in New Mexico that provide quality experiential and/or classroom-based environmental and agricultural education to Native American students and engage communities in their programs. A revised guide called *Native Farm to School Guide: Connecting Traditional Foods, Stories, Language, and Community* was also created.



## FORGING LAST MILE PROTEIN SUPPLY CHAINS IN INDIAN COUNTRY

With support from First Nations' **Keepseagle Endowment** and **Ronald W. Naito Foundation**, the Forging Last Mile Protein Supply Chains in Indian Country project aims to build the local food system of six Native American communities by laying the groundwork that will increase consumers' access to locally produced meat from sustainably managed livestock. These models will create more community control and reduce the "last mile" of food supply chains between Native food producers and Native families.

First Nations is providing direct financial assistance through grants to these communities and delivering technical assistance based on their needs. A widely-disseminated report will also be developed to document the process of creating these grantee models that will inspire their adaptation in other rural Native communities.

## FERTILE GROUND ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

This project continues to provide grants to promote policy activity and development by supporting 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. In 2020, first-round grantees completed their projects and submitted robust final reports suggesting important future policy needs. In light of COVID-19, the deadline to submit further reports was extended to 2021.

## RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT OF INDIGENOUS CALIFORNIA LAND STEWARDS, PRACTITIONERS OF KINCENTRIC ECOLOGY

Produced in 2020, this publication guides regional, national, and international organizations on how to support Indigenous peoples in their efforts to advance the rights and opportunities of the stewards of biocultural diversity and sustainable land management practices.





## *Honoring Indigenous Knowledge* **CULTIVATING NATIVE FOOD RESOURCES**

Food resources have existed on the **Spirit Lake Indian Reservation** for decades, but what was missing was a collaborative and structured community approach to leveraging those resources and pursuing market opportunities. Support from First Nations has made it possible to establish a community-wide food systems project on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation to strengthen the existing resources and reduce economic leakage.

Now, with a Farmers Market, Farm-to-Table Committee, and Healthy Community Coalition, Spirit Lake's Food Distribution Program has the mechanisms in place to promote community engagement in food systems and Native-led entrepreneurial endeavors in agriculture and increase community access to locally grown fresh produce and traditional foods.





## ACHIEVING NATIVE FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT

Having financial knowledge and experience has long-term benefits for the health and future of Native communities, reducing poverty rates and unemployment, and improving social indicators of health. First Nations works in partnership with tribes and Native communities throughout the U.S. to deliver education programs, ranging from helping individuals and families understand the basics of financial management, to helping individuals understand financial markets and a variety of financial instruments for borrowing and saving. Our projects result in increased investment levels and economic growth in Native communities, leading to increased family economic security. Throughout 2020, First Nations transitioned many presentations and trainings to an online format, reaching 60 participants in four webinars on financial empowerment.



### BUILDING NATIVE COMMUNITIES: FINANCIAL SKILLS FOR FAMILIES TRAIN- THE-TRAINER WORKSHOPS.

In 2020, First Nations conducted one train-the-trainer workshop certifying 50 individuals in the Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families curriculum. This training expands First Nations' ability to help more members of Native communities adapt traditional skills for financial management by learning about building a healthy economy, developing a spending plan, working with checking and savings accounts, and understanding and accessing credit.



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### \$PENDING FRENZY!

Spending Frenzy is an interactive financial education program that lets participants use play money to spend, save and learn to budget and make wise financial choices. In 2020, First Nations continued to distribute Spending Frenzy workshop kits across North America, and also transitioned the kit into a mobile app, making it possible to reach larger audiences and increase its impact.



## NEW FINANCIAL EDUCATION RESOURCES

Achieving Native financial empowerment starts with having a solid understanding of savings, investments, and smart financial practice. In 2020, First Nations published three new publications in our **Building Native Communities** series to provide important overviews on investments accounts, retirement planning, and purchasing investments.



## INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE

With support from and in partnership with the **FINRA Investor Education Foundation**, First Nations delivers fraud awareness trainings, resources, and materials to Native American individuals and professionals who are in a position to combat or prevent investment fraud. In 2020, First Nations continued to conduct community workshops and trainings, disseminate fraud awareness materials, and deliver webinars on topics designed to reduce the incidence of investment fraud in Native American communities.

## CONNECTING AND TEACHING THROUGHOUT: COVID-19

*Insights from First Nations' financial education trainer Shawn Spruce*



When I realized I had to take Building Native Communities (BNC) virtual, I was more than a little worried that the workshops would lose the high-touch, interactive elements that make BNC a hit. How would I create and maintain energy while keeping participants engaged on a webcam? Is it possible to facilitate cool ice breaker activities via Zoom? What exactly is it about face-to-face interaction that makes in-person training so valuable? And more importantly, how can the same valuable experience be created in a virtual format?

I was pleasantly surprised at the adaptability of BNC materials. Concerned about Zoom burnout for people subjected to ad nauseam video conferences during the pandemic, we shortened the training to two days. Sessions were streamlined and made more content-focused. In an effort to better manage class participation, we also hosted smaller trainings for 20 to 25 participants, as opposed to 40-plus for in-person workshops. Virtual breakout rooms allowed me to separate participants into smaller discussion groups for classic BNC activities like Evaluating a Loan Application, in which students underwrite borrower case studies.

“By building assets, tribal communities can improve the well-being of their residents and move toward self-sufficiency.”

## ADVANCING HOUSEHOLD & COMMUNITY ASSET-BUILDING STRATEGIES

Since 1980, First Nations has been committed to strengthening tribal assets, helping Native communities restore and retain those assets and their culturally compatible stewardship. Focused on cultivating traditional knowledge and practices to build healthy, vibrant Native communities, the asset-building approach takes a comprehensive view of assets, which include natural resources, cultural heritage, human capital, physical assets, institutional assets, social capital, legal and political assets, and creative assets.

2020 Luce Indigenous Knowledge Fellow Lloyd Sing explains that traditional Hawaiian carving is a dying cultural art form, especially among younger generations. He says, “I want more young people to take an interest in carving because if they don’t, we will lose this traditional practice as well.”



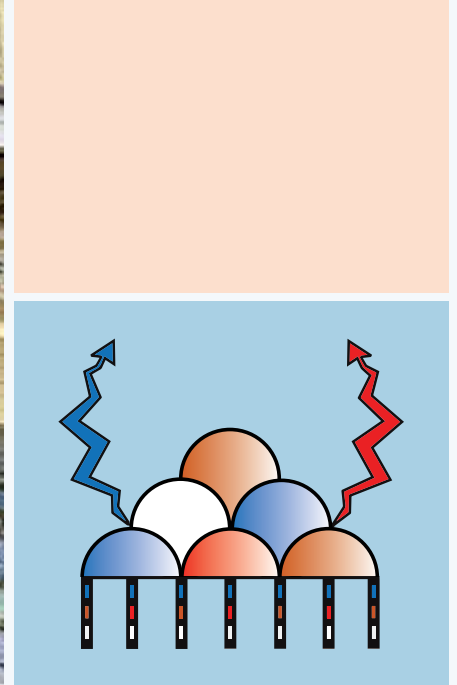
### LUCE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE FELLOWSHIP

The Luce Indigenous Knowledge Fellowship supports Native knowledge holders and knowledge makers who embody exceptional creativity, progressive and critical thinking, and the potential to significantly move forward their field in ways that will ultimately lead to broad, transformative impacts for Indigenous communities. The program launched in 2019 as a 12-month, self-directed fellowship program intended to support 10 outstanding Native individuals engaged in meaningful work that benefits Indigenous people and communities in reservation and/or urban settings. In addition to receiving \$50,000 of support during the fellowship period, fellows also receive \$5,000 in professional development support and \$25,000 in the post-fellowship year. Fellows also gather three times during the fellowship year to pool their collective knowledge, and create a community of practice that crosses fields, geographies, and tribal cultures.

In 2020, the first cohort of fellows was selected and began their fellowship period on January 1, 2020. Fellows convened once in-person in February before the pandemic began. Remaining fellow convenings were moved to a virtual setting over the course of six online sessions focused on a variety of topics and capacity-building interests. The pandemic halted some fellow activities and forced several to shift gears and goals to adjust to virtual settings and other priorities. However, fellows remained undeterred in advancing their knowledge fields. In addition to completing many goals and priorities for the year, fellows also produced a video sharing a Message of Hope to Indigenous People.

During fall 2020, the application and selection process also began for a second cohort of fellows, who will begin their fellowship period on May 1, 2021.





## *Preserving Culture through Art: Spotlight on Hanna Sholl*

First Nations' programs are integrated, and many times multiple program goals align. This is the case of Hanna Sholl (Sugpiaq/Alutiiq), who is among the first cohort of Luce Indigenous Knowledge fellows, and who illustrates how art, culture, knowledge sharing, and institutional strengthening come together.

As an educator and culture bearer, Sholl works with tribal youth and adults, using art to preserve and share knowledge of Alutiiq history and legends. "Through art, I want to remind our people that our ancestors were strong and independent," says Sholl. "This legacy of strength and independence is ours to remember and ours to embrace!"

Over the past decade, Sholl has primarily worked out of her kitchen. The Luce Indigenous Fellowship allowed her to create a space for and purchase materials to work on three ongoing art collections and start a fourth art collection. Together, these four art collections honor and celebrate ancestral Alutiiq knowledge and stories as well as address present day issues relevant to Indigenous communities.

"The fellowship didn't just allow me to buy materials and equipment," notes Sholl. "In 2020, it also encouraged me to enter into the political realm of art and to ask: 'How do we use art to make real changes? How do we use art to make a bigger impact in our communities?'"



*"How do we use art to make real changes? How do we use art to make a bigger impact in our communities?"*







## STEWARDED NATIVE LANDS

As the original land stewards of North America, Native American communities have sustainably and effectively managed their natural resources for thousands of years through cultivating, adapting, and transferring traditional ecological knowledge over many generations. First Nations' Stewarding Native Lands program provides financial support and technical assistance to Native communities that are engaging in the conservation and stewardship of their lands, as well as protecting their natural and cultural resources through the pursuit of environmental justice. Through this support, we aim to improve Native control of and access to ancestral lands and resources to ensure the sustainable, economic, spiritual and cultural well-being of Native communities.



## SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS-LED ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Since 2018, the **Broad Reach Fund at the Maine Community Foundation** has provided funding to First Nations for the express purpose of supporting Native-led initiatives to oppose destructive oil, gas, and mining development and to secure permanent protections for Native lands and resources threatened by natural resource extraction. In 2020, First Nations received a third year of funding for a total of \$220,000 with \$150,000 set aside for re-granting to tribal organizations working on opposing extraction projects. The grants awarded ranged from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for general operating support.

## MAPPING ECOLOGICAL STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

Since 2016, First Nations has partnered with the **Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies** to catalyze tribal initiatives in the Northern Great Plains that focus on stewarding tribal grassland and other natural resources in keeping with cultural traditions, while contributing to tribal economic and community development. In 2020, First Nations provided direct funding support to four tribes, hosted a regional peer-networking event, and provided targeted technical assistance to tribes located in Montana and South Dakota.





## COMMUNITY FOREST PROGRAM TRIBAL OUTREACH

In 2020, First Nations partnered with the **USDA Forest Service** to support the department's effort to expand awareness and understanding of the Community Forest Program among tribal governments and Native conservation organizations, particularly those located in the Northern Great Plains and the Southwest. Through this project, First Nations is helping build the capacity of interested tribal entities to develop competitive Community Forest project proposals. First Nations is also collecting lessons learned, which will inform tribal outreach strategies and best practices for both the Community Forest and the Forest Legacy programs at the USDA Forest Service. First Nations hosted its first outreach webinar on the Community Forest Program geared toward tribes and Native conservation organizations, which brought together 21 participants.

## BUILDING NATIVE AMERICAN CAPACITY FOR CONSERVATION OF GRAZING LANDS

With funding from the **USDA-NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant Program**, the Building Native American Capacity for Conservation of Grazing Lands project was designed to assist Native producers to develop conservation plans addressing the unique circumstances of land ownership on many reservations, and to strengthen efforts that teach tribal members, farmers, ranchers and communities about the impact of agriculture on their food systems, economy, and livelihood. Continuous teaching and capacity building are critical to regaining control of Native farming and ranching assets today and for the future. First Nations is continuing the momentum of existing efforts to serve Native producers on the Colorado Plateau and the Four Corners region.

## *Honoring Indigenous Knowledge* SAVING NATURAL RESOURCES

Federally endangered and culturally important, black-footed ferrets are specialized predators of prairie dogs and bring balance to the prairie dog ecosystem. In addition, ferrets were thought to have knowledge of underground medicines, and Native peoples would often use ferret pelts in regalia or medicine bundles, or emulate ferrets through face painting. The Lower Brule Sioux Tribe in Lower Brule, South Dakota, is restoring black-footed ferrets to tribal lands, which has national, ecological, and cultural significance.

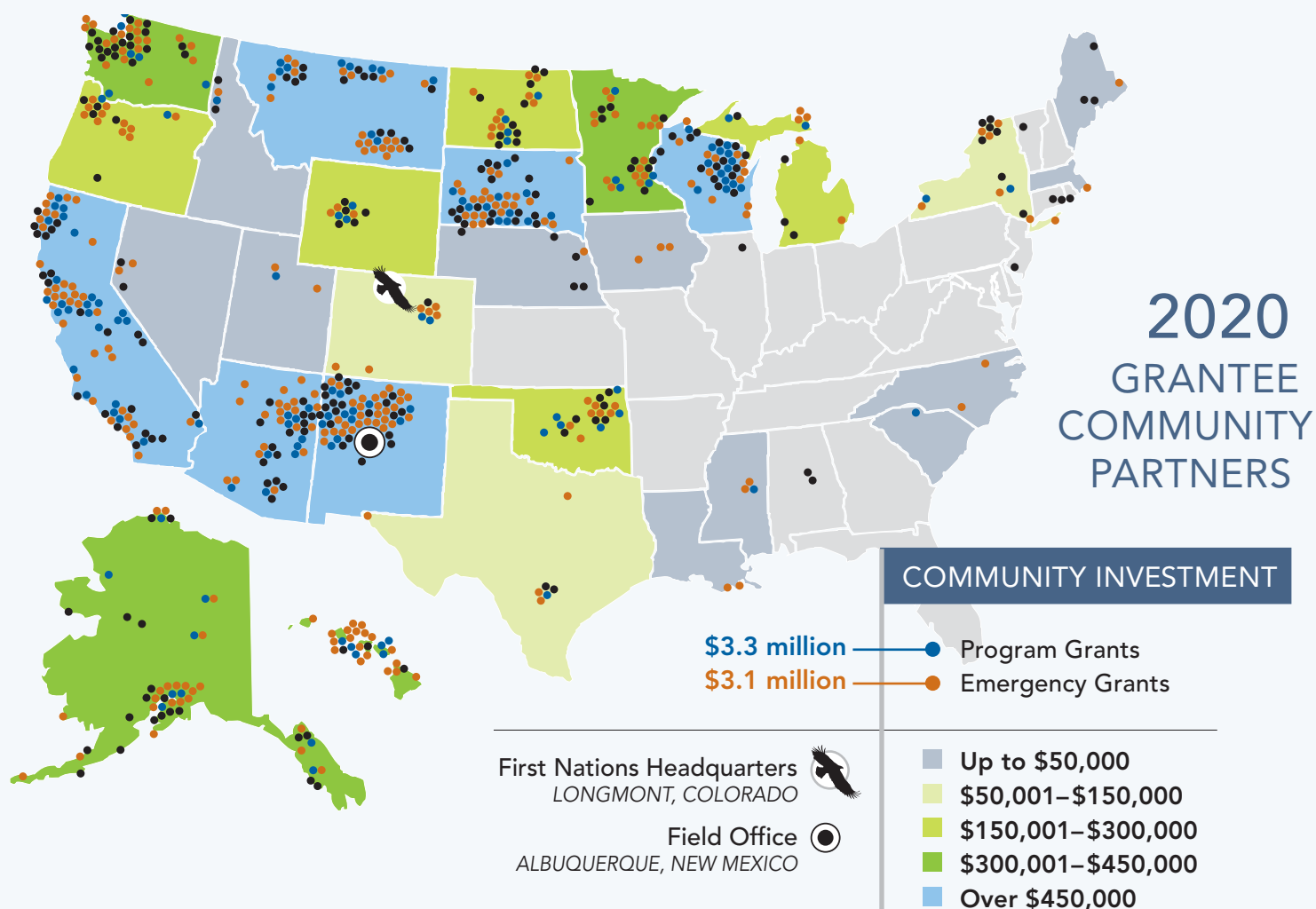


# GRANTS, GRANTMAKING & PHILANTHROPIC SERVICES

During 2020, First Nations provided 136 grants totaling more than \$3.4 million to Native tribes and organizations across the U.S. In addition, First Nations awarded \$3.1 million to 291 organizations through the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund.

This adds to our grantmaking history, during which we have successfully managed 2,150 grants totaling more than \$43 million to Native American projects and organizations in 40 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. Territory American Samoa.

In addition to providing financial support, First Nations also offers specialized training and technical assistance workshops, convenings and conferences to Native nonprofit and tribal entities. First Nations works closely with each partner to ensure that we connect the appropriate strategies and resources to develop and expand effective programming and that we support asset-based, sustainable, and culturally relevant development efforts.





## 2020 GRANTS

# STRENGTHENING NATIVE COMMUNITIES

Our 2020 grant recipients are listed in alphabetical order by state.

Name	City	State	Project Description
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	Anchorage	AK	COVID-19 Response
Alaska Village Initiatives	Anchorage	AK	COVID-19 Response
Anchorage Tribes Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska	Anchorage	AK	COVID-19 Response
Arctic Slope Native Association, Ltd.	Utqiagvik	AK	COVID-19 Response
Chickaloon Native Village	Chickaloon	AK	COVID-19 Response
Chilkat Indian Village	Haines	AK	COVID-19 Response
City of Hoonah	Hoonah	AK	COVID-19 Response
Eastern Aleutian Tribes	Anchorage	AK	COVID-19 Response
First Alaskans Institute	Anchorage	AK	Summer Internship Program Cultural Immersion Orientation
First Alaskans Institute	Anchorage	AK	COVID-19 Response
First Alaskans Institute	Anchorage	AK	Sponsorship for FAI's 37th Youth Conference
Gwich'in Steering Committee	Fairbanks	AK	COVID-19 Response Survey
Gwich'in Steering Committee	Fairbanks	AK	This project will increase tribal environmental asset control on or near Native lands
Ida'ina K'eljeshna Friendship Dancers	Anchorage	AK	COVID-19 Response
Ilisagvik College	Barrow	AK	This project will establish an Elder Residency Program at Ilisagvik College
Ilisagvik College	Barrow	AK	COVID-19 Response
Kodiak Area Native Association	Kodiak	AK	COVID-19 Response
Native Peoples Action	Anchorage	AK	COVID-19 Response
Native Village of Goodnews Bay	Goodnews Bay	AK	COVID-19 Response
Native Village of Port Heiden	Port Heiden	AK	COVID-19 Response
Native Village of Tyonek	Tyonek	AK	COVID-19 Response
Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government	Venetie	AK	This project will increase tribal environmental asset control on or near Native lands
Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government	Venetie	AK	COVID-19 Response
One Positive Thing In Kiana	Kiana	AK	OPT-In Kiana Youth will work with cultural mentors to build cultural, subsistence and leadership skills and to develop presentations for the Alaska Federation of Natives and LeadOn for Peace and Equality
Organized Village of Kake (OVK)	Kake	AK	This project will increase community access to traditional Tlingit foods by re-establishing the seasonal tradition of growing Tlingit potatoes alongside fish camps on Kuuiu and Kupreanof Islands, so the community can re-assert their relationship to ancestral fishing grounds, enhance food security, improve intergenerational knowledge transmission and increase consumption rates of traditional foods
Organized Village of Kake (OVK)	Kake	AK	COVID-19 Response
Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska	Unalaska	AK	COVID-19 Response
Salamatof Tribe	Kenai	AK	Salamatof Tribe Education Program Culture Camps
Sealaska Heritage Institute	Juneau	AK	Sponsorship of "Our Language Is Encoded Within Us" art installation
Sobermiut: Reviving Our Spirit, Inc.	Anchorage	AK	COVID-19 Response Survey
Southcentral Foundation	Anchorage	AK	COVID-19 Response

Name	City	State	Project Description
Ajo Center for Sustainable Agriculture	Ajo	AZ	The project will help retain tribal agricultural practices and cultural traditions through six new workshops, field trips and farm swaps, a gathering, and a farmer-to-farmer networking; It leverages experience of the established farmers, and will create joint guidelines for administering agricultural training programs to increase participation and capacity of farmers
Ajo Center for Sustainable Agriculture	Ajo	AZ	COVID-19 Response
Ajo Center for Sustainable Agriculture	Ajo	AZ	COVID-19 Response Survey
Change Labs	Tuba City	AZ	COVID-19 Response
Diné Citizens Against Ruining our Environment	Winslow	AZ	This project will increase tribal environmental asset control on or near Native lands
Ganado Farm Board	Ganado	AZ	This project will support securing the anado Irrigation Water Delivery Vehicle
Havasupai Tribe	Supai	AZ	COVID-19 Response
Hopi Education Endowment Fund	Kykotsmovi	AZ	COVID-19 Response
The Hopi Foundation	Kykotsmovi	AZ	COVID-19 Response
The Hopi Foundation - Natwani Coalition	Kykotsmovi	AZ	This project will result in the creation and delivery of a reservation-wide Food Assessment to assess the current state of Hopi food and farming practices; The project will leverage the resulting data to support the development of a collaborative action plan to measurably increase food sovereignty over the next 10 years
The Hopi School, Inc.	Kykotsmovi	AZ	COVID-19 Response
The Hopi School, Inc.	Kykotsmovi	AZ	COVID-19 Response Survey
The Hopi Tribe	Kykotsmovi Village	AZ	COVID-19 Response
Hualapai Tribe	Peach Springs	AZ	COVID-19 Response
Mesa Media, Inc	Polacca	AZ	COVID-19 Response Survey
Nahata Dziil 14R Ranch Corporation	Sanders	AZ	COVID-19 Response
Nalwoodi Denzhone Community	San Carlos	AZ	COVID-19 Response Survey
Native American Advancement Foundation	Tucson	AZ	Language and Sacred Sites in The GuVo District of the Tohono O'odham Nation
Native American Culinary Association	Show Low	AZ	This program will create networks of support and education in a post-pandemic world through digital and experiential learning experiences; This program will leverage and utilize traditional ecological knowledge to retain and control Indigenous Foodway narratives in order to create solution-focused training for individual and community health practices
Navajo Nation	Window Rock	AZ	COVID-19 Response
Painted Desert Demonstration Project, dba The STAR School	Flagstaff	AZ	COVID-19 Response
Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona	Tucson	AZ	COVID-19 Response
San Carlos Apache Tribe	San Carlos	AZ	This project will create and implement traditional Apache knowledge-based resources to increase physical health and a sense of identity and purpose among tribal youth by leveraging (1) a database of ancestral knowledge and analysis gathered over the past 30 years, and (2) existing grants and resources by partnering with programs
San Carlos Apache Tribe	San Carlos	AZ	COVID-19 Response
Tohdenasshai Committee Against Family Abuse	Kayenta	AZ	COVID-19 Response Survey
Tolani Lake Livestock and Water Users Association	Winslow	AZ	Sustaining Resilient Ranches in Tolani Lake Chapter
Tolani Lake Livestock and Water Users Association	Winslow	AZ	COVID-19 Response
Tsaile Wheatfields Dineh Water User	Tsaile	AZ	COVID-19 Response
White Mountain Apache Tribe	Whiteriver	AZ	The project will utilize the community farmers and ranchers to create economic opportunities and increase fresh local food access for the White Mountain Apache reservation community while leveraging resources at Ndee Bikiyaa Market
White Mountain Apache Tribe	Whiteriver	AZ	COVID-19 Response





Name	City	State	Project Description
White Mountain Apache Tribe - Water Resources, Ndee Bikiyaa, The People's Farm	Fort Apache	AZ	White Mountain Apache Farmer Shared Equipment Program
Advocates for Indigenous California Language Survival	Fresno	CA	This project will improve organizational capacity by increasing online presence, evaluating efficacy of programs, and utilizing funds to increase staffing to reach communities statewide, make and retain meaningful partnerships, and stabilize program management
American Indian Council of Mariposa County	Mariposa	CA	COVID-19 Response
Barbareno Band of Chumash Indians	Santa Barbara	CA	COVID-19 Response
Bishop Paiute Tribe	Bishop	CA	For the Youth by the Youth, Connecting and Engaging Youth at the Cultural Center
Bishop Paiute Tribe	Bishop	CA	This project will be a vital part of a multi-faceted effort to increase access to high-speed internet at the lowest possible cost to tribal members no matter their location on the reservation and its surrounding area
Bishop Paiute Tribe	Bishop	CA	This project will increase the Cultural Center organizational capacity by generating a museum website. During the pandemic, an online and virtual presence is needed to advocate, protect and promote the Cultural heritage and Lifeways of the Indigenous people; this includes Indigenous food systems, water, languages, traditional ecological knowledge, and land
Buena Vista Rancheria Me-Wuk Indians	Sacramento	CA	COVID-19 Response
California Indian Basketweavers' Association	Woodland	CA	COVID-19 Response
California Indian Basketweavers' Association	Woodland	CA	This project will build capacity for CIBA Board members to develop and carry out virtual programming, increasing membership enrollment and membership participation. Additionally, this project will help develop the tools needed to cultivate relationships with agencies and landowners to provide more land access for basketweavers to gather
California Indian Basketweavers' Association	Woodland	CA	COVID-19 Response
California Indian Environmental Alliance	Berkeley	CA	COVID-19 Response Survey
California Indian Museum & Cultural Center	Santa Rosa	CA	Advancing Cultural Opportunities to Reclaim Nutrition (ACORN) - Equipment
California Indian Museum & Cultural Center	Santa Rosa	CA	The project leverages Elder and Native youth knowledge and skills to create cold water leaching stations, an educational video and workshop; The resources will retain community knowledge about cold water leaching of acorns and be utilized by acorn producers to facilitate and increase their production of acorn meal
California Indian Museum & Cultural Center	Santa Rosa	CA	COVID-19 Response Survey
California Indian Museum & Cultural Center	Santa Rosa	CA	This project creates a resilience hub at CIMCC; It leverages the facility, staff and curriculum to provide power, connectivity, cleaner air and programs to Native people to increase their safety and wellness during disasters; knowledge of clean energy alternatives, use of traditional foods, and control over Native food systems
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe	Havas Lake	CA	COVID-19 Response
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe	Havas Lake	CA	Chemehuevi Indian Tribes Cultural Center Emergency Support
Clear Lake Pomo Cultural Preservation Foundation	Clearlake Oaks	CA	COVID-19 Response
Clear Lake Pomo Cultural Preservation Foundation	Clearlake Oaks	CA	COVID-19 Response
Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians	San Fernando	CA	COVID-19 Response
Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians	San Fernando	CA	This project will create the Virtual Language Through Song Series for the development and teaching of seasonal songs; The tribe will leverage an existing virtual model, technological infrastructure, and access to cultural people; The songs will be demonstrated/celebrated at tribal events, thereby increasing value to FTBBI's scheduled community events
Gabrieleno / Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians	San Gabriel	CA	COVID-19 Response
Gabrieleno / Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians	San Gabriel	CA	This project will help us maintain cultural workshops and provide virtual cultural workshops to tribal members, host workshops by having tribal members to pick up traditional supplies: elderberry, and basketweaving supplies, and use a virtual platform for online instruction and assistance
Hoopa Valley Tribe	Hoopa	CA	COVID-19 Response

Name	City	State	Project Description
Indian Cultural Organization	Redding	CA	This project will utilize traditional medicine-gathering and medicine-making knowledge and practices to continue resilience and distribution efforts to the greater Winnemem Wintu tribal community; This program will increase the participation and capacity of tribal members through the support of monetary stipends, reimbursed gas costs, and program supplies
Intertribal Friendship House	Oakland	CA	COVID-19 Response
Ione Band of Miwok Indians	Plymouth	CA	This project will increase the organizational capacity to provide supportive services for tribal elders that will allow them much-needed support during the COVID-19 pandemic; This will increase capacity to connect to tribal elders through a multitude of platforms
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians	San Juan Capo	CA	COVID-19 Response
Karuk Tribe	Happy Camp	CA	COVID-19 Response
Karuk Tribe	Happy Camp	CA	COVID-19 Response
Maidu Summit Consortium	Chester	CA	COVID-19 Response
Manchester Band of Pomo Indians	Point Arena	CA	COVID-19 Response
Mesa Grande Business Development Corporation	Ramona	CA	This funding will enable the BDC to purchase and install a 20x24 high tunnel structure as part of a larger garden project to develop and sustain a tribally-controlled food supply that will provide tribal members safe access to healthy, affordable organic produce without leaving the reservation
Mishewal Wappo Tribe	Santa Rosa	CA	COVID-19 Response
Miwok Heritage Center	Ione	CA	This project will empower the organization to create new resources about traditional Miwok foods and incorporate these resources into the existing website; This increases capacity to serve the Miwok people, wherever they reside
Movement Strategy Center	Oakland	CA	COVID-19 Response
National Indian Justice Center	Santa Rosa	CA	COVID-19 Response Survey
Native American Health Center	Oakland	CA	COVID-19 Response
Native American Pathways	HOOPA	CA	This project will create a Native youth mentorship program designed to uplift tribal traditions, food sovereignty and gathering practices. It will also retain and increase access to culturally inclusive COVID-19 messaging developed for the safety of community members and reservation residents
Nature Rights Council	McKinleyville	CA	COVID-19 Response Survey
Nature Rights Council	McKinleyville	CA	COVID-19 Response
Northern California Tribal Court Coalition	Eureka	CA	COVID-19 Response Survey
Northern California Tribal Court Coalition	Eureka	CA	This project will increase NCTCC's ability to deliver high-quality, virtual COVID-related programming through the purchase of better quality computer peripherals for live-streaming. The project will also enable NCTCC to compensate skilled volunteers for online conference facilitation and planning and leverage existing funding, resources, technology, and skills to host and produce online events
Pukuu Cultural Community Services	San Fernando	CA	This project increases organizational capacity to provide cultural and traditional knowledge opportunities during the age of COVID-19 in terms of technology, especially website and online apps, which will allow the organization to implement dynamic and engaging engagement options related to food sovereignty, environmental stewardship, and traditional knowledge transmission
Robinson Rancheria	Nice	CA	This project will create a community garden that will primarily serve elders in the community; It will increase capacity for food security and promote health and nutrition benefits; The community garden will utilize existing resources, such as the agriculturally zoned land, knowledge, and enthusiasm of members
Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples	Santa Monica	CA	COVID-19 Response Survey
San Luis Rey Mission Indian Foundation	Oceanside	CA	COVID-19 Response
Santa Rosa Rancheria / Tachi Yokut Tribe	Lemoore	CA	COVID-19 Response
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians	Santa Ynez	CA	This project will improve Chumash food sovereignty by creating tribal policy to utilize tribal lands for healthy and traditional food production in order to increase access to healthy foods. It will also create a food distribution program by leveraging existing tribal resources through training of staff to become master gardeners
Save California Salmon	Orleans	CA	Salmon People and Water Protectors Youth Project



Name	City	State	Project Description
Save California Salmon	Orleans	CA	Save California Salmon Water Protection and Education Project will enable the organization to continue to provide and expand online educational and organizing webinars, provide direct support to those engaging in the webinars, and create curriculum around water protection, advocacy, science, and traditional ecological knowledge
Southern California American Indian Resource Center (SCAIR), Inc.	El Cajon	CA	COVID-19 Response
Sustainable Economies Law Center	Oakland	CA	COVID-19 Response
Tule River Economic Development Corporation	Porterville	CA	COVID-19 Response
Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians	Tuolumne	CA	MeWuk Youth Cultural Enrichment Project
Wukchumni Tribal Council	Visalia	CA	COVID-19 Response
YTT Northern Chumash Nonprofit	San Luis Obispo	CA	COVID-19 Response
YTT Northern Chumash Nonprofit	San Luis Obispo	CA	This project will create multi-faceted strategic planning focused on developing tribal infrastructure utilizing collaboration from multiple tribal committees (strategic planning, membership, and constitution committees); Funding for this project would support capacity-building efforts in seeking federal acknowledgement and increase participation from the tribal community
Yurok Tribe	Klamath	CA	COVID-19 Response
Yurok Tribe	Klamath	CA	COVID-19 Response
Yurok Tribe	Klamath	CA	This project will provide much-needed support to the newly founded Yurok Tribe Food Sovereignty Division to create new programs and leverage additional funding by allocating staff time for grant research and application preparation, as well as increase community and tribal member participation in determining program priorities through outreach
Denver Indian Center	Denver	CO	COVID-19 Response
Denver Indian Center	Denver	CO	Emergency grant for elders in lieu of the Denver Indian Center annual elders dinner
Denver Indian Family Resource Center	Denver	CO	COVID-19 Response
Denver Indian Health and Family Services	Denver	CO	COVID-19 Response Survey
Southern Ute Indian Tribe	Ignacio	CO	COVID-19 Response
Spirit of the Sun, Inc	Denver	CO	COVID-19 Response
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe	Towaoc	CO	COVID-19 Response
The Women's Foundation of Colorado, Inc.	Denver	CO	Event sponsorship for the 2020 virtual Annual Women's Foundation of Colorado luncheon
Aina Momona	Kaunakakai	HI	This project will increase local food production on Molokai by training emerging Native leaders in traditional agriculture and natural resource management skills needed to restore a one-acre plot at the Keawanui Learning Site into a community food garden; This project increases the community's access to food production that is sustainable
Aina Momona	Kaunakakai	HI	COVID-19 Response
ALU LIKE, Inc.	Honolulu	HI	COVID-19 Response
Hanalei River Heritage Foundation	Anahola	HI	COVID-19 Response
Hawaiian Community Assets, Inc.	Honolulu	HI	COVID-19 Response
Holani Hana	Hana	HI	COVID-19 Response Survey
Hui Malama Ola Na Oihi	Hilo	HI	COVID-19 Response
Hui O Kuapa	Kaunakakai	HI	COVID-19 Response Survey
Ka'ipu Makani Cultural Heritage Center	Kaunakakai	HI	The Kāwao Ka'amola -'Umeke 'Ai project will expand upon Ka Ipu Makani Cultural Heritage Center's current Kāwao Ka'amola stewardship program efforts at Kaupapalo'i o Ka'amola, a spring-fed kalo agricultural system, and will specifically focus on strengthening and renewing Native Hawaiian youth engagement in traditional kalo farming, harvesting, and food processing practices
Kaehu	Wailuku	HI	Restore and maintain the Ka'ehu Bay coastal wetlands and shoreline using a community-based, inclusive, family-oriented approach to traditional environmental stewardship.

Name	City	State	Project Description
Ke Kula Nui 'O Waimānalo	Waimanalo	HI	COVID-19 Response
Ke Kula Nui 'O Waimānalo	Waimanalo	HI	COVID-19 Response Survey
Ke Kula 'O Pi'ilani	Wailuku	HI	This project will create a village of speakers around children by delivering curriculum for parents, caregivers, and community members that runs laterally with what the students are learning in school; and by creating an online community to increase the acquisition, fluency, and utilization of Hawaiian language outside of school
Kohala Unupa'a	Hawi	HI	COVID-19 Response Survey
Kualoa Heeiea Ecumenical Youth Project	Kaneohe	HI	COVID-19 Response
Kulaniākea	Honolulu	HI	The project will increase Kūlaniākea's internal capacity to produce culture-based educational materials for Native Hawaiian language learners in order to indigenize and reclaim the Hawaiian way of learning for students of different ages
Laulima Kuha'o	Lanai City	HI	COVID-19 Response
Laulima Kuha'o	Lanai City	HI	COVID-19 Response
Lunalilo Home	Honolulu	HI	COVID-19 Response
Sust' aina ble Molokai	Kaunakakai	HI	COVID-19 Response
Wai'anae Community Redevelopment Corporation	Wai'anae	HI	COVID-19 Response
Waimanalo Health Center	Waimanalo	HI	COVID-19 Response
Waimea Hawaiian Homesteaders' Association, Inc.	Kamuela	HI	COVID-19 Response
Waimea Hawaiian Homesteaders' Association, Inc.	Kamuela	HI	COVID-19 Response
World Indigenous Nations University Hawaii Pasifika (WINU HP)	Kula	HI	Project aims to preserve paakai (salt) traditions through a blend of cultural practices and modern scientific research
Great Plains Action Society	Des Moines	IA	COVID-19 Response
Meskwaki Food Sovereignty Initiative & Local Foods	Tama	IA	COVID-19 Response
Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa	Tama	IA	COVID-19 Response
Nez Perce Tribe	Lapwai	ID	The project will help the organization access the 2.5 GHz opportunity for the ability to provide increased bandwidth that wouldn't otherwise be available in the current fixed wireless infrastructure
Nez Perce Tribe	Lapwai	ID	COVID-19 Response
Isle de Jean Charles Band of Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw Indians	Montegut	LA	COVID-19 Response
United Houma Nation	Golden Meadow	LA	COVID-19 Response
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe	Mashpee	MA	COVID-19 Response
Indian Township Passamaquoddy Tribal Government	Princeton	ME	COVID-19 Response
American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan	Dearborn	MI	COVID-19 Response
Bay Mills Community College	Brimley	MI	COVID-19 Response Survey
Bay Mills Indian Community	Brimley	MI	This project will leverage the capacity of the Bay Mills Indian Community to increase access to, and retention of, Indigenous agricultural and naturally-occurring seeds through the creation of a seed bank and seed library; This will increase food availability and access, allowing more control over diet to support healthy lifestyles
Bay Mills Indian Community	Brimley	MI	COVID-19 Response
Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc.	Sault St. Marie	MI	COVID-19 Response
Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College	Baraga	MI	Implement weekly Nookomis/Mishomis teachings for Migiziinsag, KBOCC Daycare, and College courses
Ziibimijwang Incorporated	Carp Lake	MI	COVID-19 Response Survey
American Indian Community Housing Organization	Duluth	MN	COVID-19 Response
American Indian Community Housing Organization	Duluth	MN	COVID-19 Response



Name	City	State	Project Description
American Indian Community Housing Organization	Duluth	MN	COVID-19 Response Survey
The Circle Corp	Minneapolis	MN	COVID-19 Response Survey
Dakota Wicohan	Morton	MN	In the Isnati Ca Dowanpi Ceremony ("Becoming a Woman" for young Dakota women), at least 10 young women from the Upper and Lower Sioux communities of Minnesota will prepare for and attend this coming of age ceremony, one of the seven original ceremonies brought by the White Buffalo Calf Woman
Dakota Wicohan	Morton	MN	COVID-19 Response Survey
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	Cloquet	MN	COVID-19 Response
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	Cass Lake	MN	COVID-19 Response
Lower Sioux Indian Community	Morton	MN	COVID-19 Response
Lower Sioux Indian Community	Morton	MN	This project will increase capacity of at least 12 Dakota language teachers so they can expand Dakota language instruction from a total of 25 to 50 hours per week for students – 54 children ages birth to 5 years – in the Cansayapi Wakanyeza Owayawa Ti, Children Are Sacred School at Lower Sioux
MIGIZI Communications, Inc.	Minneapolis	MN	General Operations for Fire Recovery
Minneapolis American Indian Center	Minneapolis	MN	COVID-19 Response
Minneapolis American Indian Center	Minneapolis	MN	COVID-19 Response Survey
Minnesota Indigenous Business Alliance	Saint Paul	MN	This project will create a cohesive tribal-centric response to the federal rural broadband policies and the implications or opportunities for tribes to change the narrative and not just be viewed as consumers, but as Sovereign Nations and potential owners of their own broadband systems
Native American Community Development Institute	Minneapolis	MN	COVID-19 Response
Native Governance Center	Minneapolis	MN	COVID-19 Response Survey
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians	Red Lake	MN	Bison Hemp Farm Project
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians	Red Lake	MN	COVID-19 Response
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians	Red Lake	MN	COVID-19 Response
White Earth Reservation Tribal Council	Ogema	MN	COVID-19 Response
White Earth Reservation Tribal Council	Ogema	MN	COVID-19 Response
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians	Philadelphia	MS	COVID-19 Response
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians	Philadelphia	MS	This project will better utilize existing fiberoptic infrastructure and gain control of all available 2.5 GHz spectrum to increase access to broadband in all eight tribal communities to allow first responders, essential government employees, health care providers, and students to be able to function despite COVID-19 quarantine policies
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians	Philadelphia	MS	COVID-19 Response
Blackfeet Tribe	Browning	MT	COVID-19 Response
Blackfeet Tribe	Browning	MT	COVID-19 Response
Blackfeet Tribe	Browning	MT	This project will increase tribal environmental asset control on or near Native lands
Boys and Girls Club of the Northern Cheyenne Nation	Lame Deer	MT	COVID-19 Response
The Center Pole	Garryowen	MT	This project will create an integrated model living landscape that includes grassland restoration, traditional permaculture, and soil regeneration, based on traditional ecological knowledge, as a sustainable food sovereignty, education, and ecotourism center on the Crow Indian Reservation in southeastern Montana; In addition, the project will increase the community's investment in the restoration of reservation land, water, and wildlife through an internship training program and volunteer opportunities to help the reservation retain and increase the protection for and appreciation of its natural resources
The Center Pole	Garryowen	MT	COVID-19 Response
The Center Pole	Garryowen	MT	The project will increase traditional and healthy food access in the community by creating a healthy foods hub serving and distributing healthy and traditional foods; It will leverage data collected via the community food sovereignty assessment and will retain Indigenous food knowledge, increase health and help increase lifespans

Name	City	State	Project Description
Chippewa Cree Tribe	Box Elder	MT	The project will provide a much-needed service on the reservation by helping retain and control livestock on public roadways and other public areas considered trespassing
Chippewa Cree Tribe	Box Elder	MT	This project will create a GIS database for the tribe to be used by the NRD and other tribal entities. The database will retain all records and map all assets and tribal resources for decision making, creating baseline data for tribal resources, and allowing for quick access, within minutes to increase participation and knowledge for the tribe regarding where tribal assets are located. The database will track and record emergencies like wildland fire starts and other natural disasters, as well as all project work
Chippewa Cree Tribe	Box Elder	MT	COVID-19 Response
Crow Tribe of Montana	Crow Agency	MT	COVID-19 Response
FAST Blackfeet	Browning	MT	The O'yo'p' On Wheels Program will create a part-time position to service eight outlying communities on the Blackfeet Reservation with regular scheduled food deliveries; The project will use an existing client database to reach families in these communities; A consistent delivery schedule will increase participation in the overall food program
FAST Blackfeet	Browning	MT	COVID-19 Response
Fort Belknap Community Economic Development Corporation	Harlem	MT	This project will create a new tipi and cabin campground, which includes a cultural and education village on the southern end of the Fort Belknap reservation
Fort Belknap Community Economic Development Corporation	Harlem	MT	This project will increase the amount of community dollars spent at the Red Paint Creek Trading Post & Pantry by upgrading the distribution vehicle and trailer to transport more food pallets and allow families the ability to stretch their monthly food dollars and purchase more food and critical items locally.
Fort Peck Community College	Poplar	MT	This project will increase the number of participants so they benefit from programming that contributes to positive community by providing residents of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation with retained Agricultural and Cultural knowledge as it relates to homelands for continued survival and growth in times of uncertainty
Fort Peck Tribes Assiniboine & Sioux	Poplar	MT	COVID-19 Response
Intertribal Agriculture Council	Billings	MT	COVID-19 Response Survey
Little Big Horn College	Crow Agency	MT	COVID-19 Response
Mahchiwminahnahtik Chippewa and Cree Language Revitalization	BOX ELDER	MT	COVID-19 Response Survey
Missoula Indian Center	Missoula	MT	COVID-19 Response
NACDC Financial Services, Inc.	Browning	MT	This project will utilize ag-related business training, financial education, customized technical assistance, and credit builder and ag loans to Native farmers and ranchers on the reservations in Montana to increase individual assets and engagement of ag clients
National Indigenous Womens Resource Center	Lame Deer	MT	COVID-19 Response
Nk'wusm	Arlee	MT	Nk'wusm staff members will participate in trainings and host camps that teach students traditional games, harvesting traditional foods and tipi poles, and processing deer
Northern Cheyenne Tribe	Lame Deer	MT	COVID-19 Response
Northern Cheyenne Tribe	Lame Deer	MT	COVID-19 Response
Piegan Institute, Inc.	Browning	MT	COVID-19 Response Survey
Red Paint Creek Cooperative Inc.	Dodson	MT	COVID-19 Response
Red Paint Creek Cooperative Inc.	Dodson	MT	COVID-19 Response
Salish Kootenai College	Pablo	MT	COVID-19 Response
StrongHearts Native Helpline	Lame Deer	MT	COVID-19 Response
Western Native Voice	Billings	MT	COVID-19 Response
Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe	Hollister	NC	COVID-19 Response
Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina	Pembroke	NC	COVID-19 Response
Cankdeska Cikana Community College	Fort Totten	ND	COVID-19 Response
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation	New Town	ND	COVID-19 Response
Mni Wiconi Health Clinic	Mandan	ND	COVID-19 Response

Name	City	State	Project Description
Native Artists United	Mandan	ND	This project will help maintain and strengthen traditional forms of Lakota and Dakota art and spiritual practices for future generations through new cultural programming
Native Artists United	Mandan	ND	COVID-19 Response Survey
Sacred Pipe Resource Center	Mandan	ND	COVID-19 Response Survey
Sitting Bull College	Bismarck	ND	COVID-19 Response Survey
Spirit Lake Tribe	Fort Totten	ND	This project will establish a community-wide food systems project to leverage existing resources and reduce economic leakage from the current system
Spirit Lake Tribe	Fort Totten	ND	COVID-19 Response
Standing Rock Community Development Corporation	Fort Yates	ND	This project will create a pathway for members to retain lost knowledge of traditional planting and harvesting practices; It will create a living link between ancestors and future generations and serve the ultimate goal of restoring Indigenous food systems that empower self-determination
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe	Fort Yates	ND	The Traditional Foods Pathway Program will create a healthy food system for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe by incorporating traditional foods and food practices and increasing tribal program, tribal members, and local partnership participation; The project will leverage, retain, and increase traditional knowledge
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe	Fort Yates	ND	COVID-19 Response
Tribal Nations Research Group	Belcourt	ND	COVID-19 Response
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians	Belcourt	ND	COVID-19 Response
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska	Winnebago	NE	COVID-19 Response
Ben Farms	Shiprock	NM	Shiprock Shared Equipment Project
Ben Farms	Shiprock	NM	This project will create opportunities for Navajo youth to engage in multigenerational agricultural mentorship; By leveraging existing traditional and agricultural knowledge of experienced Navajo farmers, local youth will increase their understanding and practice of traditional growing methods, heal from past trauma and engage in entrepreneurial activities
Center of Southwest Culture	Albuquerque	NM	COVID-19 Response
Covenant Pathways	Vanderwagen	NM	The local indigenous Navajo and Zuni farmers are in need of the capacity to plant cover crops in fields larger than an acre. Our organization has been training local gardeners and farmers since 2016 of Healing the Soil with natures soil microbiology, a key Regenerative Agriculture principle
Covenant Pathways	Vanderwagen	NM	Utilizing microbiology, a regenerative farming principle, is the organization's primary premise for increasing nutrient density of foods cultivated in the southwest; The organization intentionally incorporates Native American cosmology, traditional stories, and terminology to leverage teachings that help contextualize and incorporate a description of the microbiology in Native languages
Covenant Pathways	Vanderwagen	NM	COVID-19 Response Survey
Dine Be lina, Inc.	Shiprock	NM	COVID-19 Response
Flowering Tree Permaculture Institute	Espanola	NM	COVID-19 Response Survey
Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Inc (IPCC)	Albuquerque	NM	COVID-19 Response
Indigenous Women Rising	Albuquerque	NM	COVID-19 Response
Institute of American Indian Arts	Santa Fe	NM	COVID-19 Response
Keres Children's Learning Center	Cochiti Pueblo	NM	COVID-19 Response Survey
Native Women Lead	Albuquerque	NM	COVID-19 Response
New Mexico Community Foundation	Santa Fe	NM	COVID-19 Response. Native American COVID fund for the Pueblo Cultural Center
New Mexico Farmers' Marketing Association	Santa Fe	NM	COVID-19 Response
Poeh Cultural Center	Santa Fe	NM	Participation in the Strategic Planning sessions will assist the Poeh in creating tangible and measurable objectives that allow the Poeh to more effectively utilize its resources to expand or create new cultural programming, increase community support and involvement, and to leverage Poeh resources to expand its physical capacity
Poeh Cultural Center	Santa Fe	NM	The Poeh will create new training opportunities for Native Artists with virtual trainings as well as create a database of video training resources during this Covid-19 pandemic



Name	City	State	Project Description
Poeh Cultural Center	Santa Fe	NM	COVID-19 Response
Pueblo de Cochiti	Cochiti Pueblo	NM	COVID-19 Response
Pueblo of San Felipe	San Felipe	NM	COVID-19 Response
Pueblo of Acoma	Acoma	NM	To continue the traditional practices of pueblo farming, Pueblo of Acoma will provide and teach youth the experience of ensuring their own sustainability for growing food for their community and family; The project will utilize the old Convento Courtyard – San Esteban del Rey Mission Church, partnering with the Haak'u Community Academy students to initiate and re-establish the waffle gardens and continue to understand the language and cultural significance of farming by using/building old tools, planting, songs, stories, weather watching, and seed-gathering education.
Pueblo of Acoma	Acoma	NM	COVID-19 Response
Pueblo of Jemez	Jemez Pueblo	NM	These funds will be used to build capacity to raise funds nationally from tribes and organizations and support expenses for travel and lodging when travel is necessary for in-person presentations
Pueblo of Laguna	Laguna	NM	COVID-19 Response
Pueblo of Picuris	Penasco	NM	COVID-19 Response
Pueblo of Pojoaque	Santa Fe	NM	Pojoaque Pueblo's "Language and Land" project will pilot a new summer camp that will immerse 6 to 10 tribal youth in a traditional ecologically-based learning environment
Pueblo of Sandia	Bernalillo	NM	This project will create language support systems for children 6 to 18 to retain language skills during after-school programming and utilize community members who are interested in becoming language teachers to leverage language acquisition and retention
Pueblo of Zia	Zia Pueblo	NM	COVID-19 Response
Red Willow Center	Taos	NM	COVID-19 Response
Santa Fe Indian Center	Santa Fe	NM	COVID-19 Response Survey
Santa Fe Indian Center	Santa Fe	NM	COVID-19 Response
Santo Domingo Pueblo	Santo Domingo Pueblo	NM	COVID-19 Response
Shiprock Traditional Farmers Cooperative, Inc.	Shiprock	NM	COVID-19 Response
Taos Pueblo	Taos	NM	COVID-19 Response
Tewa Women United	Santa Cruz	NM	COVID-19 Response Survey
Traditional Native American Farmers Association	Santa Fe	NM	COVID-19 Response
Wings of America	Santa Fe	NM	COVID-19 Response Survey
Yakanal	New Laguna	NM	This project will reignite the spirit of relationship to the bees within the Laguna Pueblo community; The project will have two stages: being intentional and mindful to engage elders with beekeeping knowledge and with youth gaining capacities to tend the bees; and responsible transfer of traditional knowledge through peer youth mentoring to establish beehives and their gifts in tribal lands
Zuni Youth Enrichment Project	Zuni	NM	Shiwi Delapna:we is a community theater connecting 50-plus youth, adults, and elders through the tradition of storytelling; During Zuni's traditional winter-storytelling season, community members collectively develop a script, background, and costumes, and rehearse roles based on recordings of Zuni elders from the 1960's (Doris Duke Collection); Shiwi Delapna:we culminates in a two-night showcase for more than 300 community members
Zuni Youth Enrichment Project	Zuni	NM	COVID-19 Response
Zuni Youth Enrichment Project	Zuni	NM	COVID-19 Response
Zuni Youth Enrichment Project	Zuni	NM	COVID-19 Response Survey
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Nixon	NV	COVID-19 Response
Reno Sparks Indian Colony	Reno	NV	COVID-19 Response
American Indian Community House, Inc.	New York	NY	COVID-19 Response
Aseshate:ka'te Grief Services	Hogansburg	NY	COVID-19 Response

Name	City	State	Project Description
Friends of the Akwesasne Freedom School Inc	Rooseveltown	NY	COVID-19 Response Survey
Resilience Education Training and Innovation Center Limited	Brooklyn	NY	COVID-19 Response
Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe	Akwesasne	NY	COVID-19 Response
Seneca Nation of Indians	Irving	NY	The Education Department holds a nine-week summer program for children 5 to 13 years as well as employees and youth ages 15 to 24. Funding will allow staff to develop and implement traditional ecological projects/learning opportunities using the Ganōnyō:g and the guide
Seneca Nation of Indians	Irving	NY	COVID-19 Response
Shinnecock Indian Nation	Southampton	NY	COVID-19 Response
Three Sisters Sovereignty Project	west fulton	NY	The Three Sisters Youth Mentorship Program was created to build a bridge of hope and possibility for the youth from Ahkwesasne
American Indian Resource Center, Inc.	Tahlequah	OK	Youth will complete camp courses and hands-on learning of pollinations, climate change, landscape mapping and indigenous land management
American Indian Resource Center, Inc.	Tahlequah	OK	COVID-19 Response Survey
Association of American Indian Physicians	Oklahoma City	OK	COVID-19 Response Survey
Cherokee Nation	Tahlequah	OK	COVID-19 Response
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma	Concho	OK	This project will provide broadband to the people of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Tribal government, Oklahoma citizens and businesses; Tribal citizens will benefit from access to knowledge, education, healthcare, job opportunities and government services; E-Business opportunities will encourage economic development for businesses in the tribe's service area
The Chickasaw Nation	Ada	OK	COVID-19 Response
Euchee (Yuchi) Language Project, Inc.	Sapulpa	OK	COVID-19 Response
Euchee (Yuchi) Language Project, Inc.	Sapulpa	OK	COVID-19 Response Survey
Kialegee ETVLWV (Tribal Town)	Wetumka	OK	This project will provide a communal support to gather to provide history and language skills; This project will assist youth to develop their language and provide an opportunity for elders to work with youth and create a media presentation of a Mvskoke translated book
Kiowa Gourd Clan	Carnegie	OK	Feeding Kiowa people during COVID-19
Mah hi vist Language Center	El Reno	OK	This project will provide food for students of language classes and activities
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma	Pawnee	OK	COVID-19 Response
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma	Quapaw	OK	The purpose of the Quapaw Internship Program is to retain local talent for the Quapaw Tribe's workforce by creating opportunities for interns to increase their knowledge of and gain hands-on experience in their agriculture program of interest
SONS of Mvskoke	Mounds	OK	COVID-19 Response Survey
Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission	Portland	OR	COVID-19 Response
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon	Warm Springs	OR	COVID-19 Response
National Indian Child Welfare Association	Portland	OR	Conference Sponsorship for NICWA Annual Conference
National Indian Child Welfare Association	Portland	OR	COVID-19 Response
National Indian Child Welfare Association	Portland	OR	COVID-19 Response Survey
Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest, Inc.	Portland	OR	COVID-19 Response
Native American Youth & Family Center	Portland	OR	COVID-19 Response
Native American Youth & Family Center	Portland	OR	COVID-19 Response
Tananawit	Warm Springs	OR	COVID-19 Response
Tananawit	Warm Springs	OR	COVID-19 Response Survey

Name	City	State	Project Description
Warm Springs Community Development Organization	Warm Springs	OR	COVID-19 Response Survey
Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center	Pendleton	OR	This project will leverage the new collaboration between the CTUIR Department of Natural Resources and Yellowhawk Community Wellness by increasing the capacity and technical assistance to provide the CTUIR community with data, knowledge, resources, and long-term strategic planning around CTUIR First Foods and Food Systems
Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center	Pendleton	OR	COVID-19 Response
The Catawba Indian Nation	Rock Hill	SC	The Catawba Community Resource Center will promote literacy in the tribal community by leveraging books, seeds, digital tools (such as a 3D Printer & Laser cutter), and programming
Anpo Wicahpi Pine Ridge Girls School	Porcupine	SD	COVID-19 Response Survey
BEAR Project	Pine Ridge	SD	COVID-19 Response
Boys and Girls Club of the Missouri River Area	Wagner	SD	COVID-19 Response Survey
Brave Heart Society	Lake Andes	SD	This project creates a culturally specific adaptation of a beginning farmer curriculum mentored by successful farmers; Native participants will be equipped with skills and knowledge to develop and profit from agricultural enterprises on Native lands, and leverage resources to increase control of local farmland and sustainable food systems
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe	Eagle Butte	SD	COVID-19 Response
Dakota Indian Foundation	Chamberlain	SD	COVID-19 Response Survey
Enemy Swim Day School	Waubay	SD	COVID-19 Response
Four Bands Community Fund, Inc.	Eagle Butte	SD	COVID-19 Response Survey
Four Directions, Inc.	Chamberlain	SD	COVID-19 Response
Generations - Indigenous Ways	Interior	SD	COVID-19 Response
Great Plains Tribal Chairmens Health Board	Rapid City	SD	COVID-19 Response
Hesapa Birth Circle	Rapid City	SD	COVID-19 Response
Lakota Youth Development	Herrick	SD	This project will create the next generation of Native farmers as they utilize their tribal lands and community to live sustainably; This leverages resources (bees, chickens, and gardens) in order to increase sovereignty and empower youth through innovative solutions
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe	Lower Brule	SD	The ultimate purpose of this project is to 1) increase the pronghorn population, 2) increase the black-footed ferret population, 3) retain institutional knowledge by retaining current staff, 4) increase tribal knowledge of wildlife ecology, 5) leverage this project with other existing projects, and 6) utilize the expertise of staff to continue to build the program
Magpie Buffalo Organizing	Rapid City	SD	This project will increase tribal environmental asset control on or near Native lands
Makoce Agriculture Development	Porcupine	SD	This project will create a poultry and value-added supply chain
Makoce Agriculture Development	Porcupine	SD	The unit will help create access and opportunity for community poultry producers through the integration of shared value-added mobile poultry processing; It will increase access to poultry production for local consumption and leverage more opportunities for a local food supply chain toward developing a locally controlled food system
Makoce Agriculture Development	Porcupine	SD	COVID-19 Response
Oglala Sioux Tribe	Kyle	SD	COVID-19 Response
Oyate Networking Project/Oyate Teca Project	Kyle	SD	Medicine Root Garden Shared equipment
Oyate Networking Project/Oyate Teca Project	Kyle	SD	COVID-19 Response
Oyate Networking Project/Oyate Teca Project	Kyle	SD	COVID-19 Response Survey
Pine Ridge Area Chamber of Commerce	Kyle	SD	This project will improve food systems on the Pine Ridge Reservation by establishing a legal, fully functioning American Indian governed nonprofit solely dedicated to increasing capacity and well-being of Oglala Stockgrowers and Landowners
Pine Ridge Area Chamber of Commerce	Kyle	SD	COVID-19 Response
Pine Ridge Area Chamber of Commerce	Kyle	SD	COVID-19 Response Survey
Rosebud Ranch and Farming Enterprise	Rosebud	SD	Building Capacity of Lakota Ranchers
Rosebud Sioux Tribe	Rosebud	SD	COVID-19 Response





Name	City	State	Project Description
Rosebud Sioux Tribe	Rosebud	SD	This project will increase tribal environmental asset control on or near Native lands
Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate	Agency Village	SD	COVID-19 Response
Tanka Fund	Kyle	SD	COVID-19 Response Survey
Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation	Porcupine	SD	COVID-19 Response
Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation	Porcupine	SD	COVID-19 Response Survey
Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation	Porcupine	SD	This project will enhance current efforts to design and create an authentic Lakota language curriculum for our Lakota Montessori, Learners, and families
Timber Lake School	Timber Lake	SD	This project will create an intergenerational community garden on the campus of Timber Lake School to address food sovereignty and sustainability; Adults and elders would mentor youth as they work together in the planning of the garden, growing native plants and herbs, and harvesting and sharing of the produce
Lakota Waldorf Society	Kyle	SD	COVID-19 Response
Lakota Waldorf Society	Kyle	SD	This approach to immersion is through interactive dialog that supports the students in speaking Lakota throughout the day, in social situations, practical work contexts, and artistic activities, as well as classroom lessons
Yankton Sioux Tribe	Wagner	SD	COVID-19 Response
American Indians in Texas at the Spanish Colonial Missions	San Antonio	TX	COVID-19 Response Survey
Carrizo/Comecrudo Tribe of Texas	Floresville	TX	COVID-19 Response
Carrizo/Comecrudo Tribe of Texas	Floresville	TX	This project will increase tribal environmental asset control on or near Native lands
Osage Nation Foundation	Southlake	TX	COVID-19 Response
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo	El Paso	TX	COVID-19 Response
Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake	Salt Lake City	UT	COVID-19 Response
Utah Dine Bikeyah	Salt Lake City	UT	This project will increase tribal environmental asset control on or near Native lands
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation	Ft. Duchesne	UT	COVID-19 Response
Chehalis Tribal Loan Fund	Oakville	WA	COVID-19 Response Survey
Chief Seattle Club	Seattle	WA	COVID-19 Response
Children of the Setting Sun Productions	Bellingham	WA	This project is a continuation of the Youth Podcast Network, an inter-generational project within the Lummi reservation community; Youth will research, write, interview, record, edit and publish the podcast episodes, learning the requisite skills as they go
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation	Nespelem	WA	COVID-19 Response
Duwamish Tribe	Seattle	WA	COVID-19 Response Survey
Feed Seven Generations	Enumclaw	WA	This project will leverage partnerships with tribal farmers, farmer's markets and tribal consumers to increase control of their food system, create economic opportunities, improve health outcomes, and create a model for Washington Tribes to increase access to traditional and culturally significant foods
Feed Seven Generations	Enumclaw	WA	This project will leverage partnerships with tribal farmers and fisherman and tribal members to increase access to and control of their food system, create economic opportunities for producers/fisherman, improve health outcomes, and create a model for Washington Tribes to increase access to traditional and culturally significant foods
Heartbeat Family Support Services	Tulalip	WA	COVID-19 Response Survey
Hearts Gathered	Omak	WA	COVID-19 Response
Lhaq'temish Foundation	Bellingham	WA	COVID-19 Response
Makah Cultural and Research Center	Neah Bay	WA	COVID-19 Response
Makah Cultural and Research Center	Neah Bay	WA	COVID-19 Response Survey
Makah Indian Tribe	Neah Bay	WA	COVID-19 Response
Native Arts and Cultures Foundation, Inc	Vancouver	WA	Operational Support



Name	City	State	Project Description
Nimiipuu Protecting the Environment	Pullman	WA	This project involves planning regular school year activities at the outdoor Nimiipuu Canoe site for arts and cultural activities during the school year with 4th and 5th grade Lapwai Elementary School students and also summer outings or camps that will be geared toward learning about traditional practices, gathering, fishing, plant/tree identification, canoe carving and other crafts
Peacekeeper Society	Harrah	WA	COVID-19 Response
Port Gamble S'Klallam Foundation	Kingston	WA	COVID-19 Response Survey
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe	Kingston	WA	COVID-19 Response
Spokane Tribe of Indians	Wellpinit	WA	COVID-19 Response
Suquamish Indian Tribe of the Port Madison Reservation	Suquamish	WA	COVID-19 Response
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community	LaConner	WA	This project will increase local access to fresh, healthy foods, including traditional Swinomish foods by creating and retaining Swinomish food programming and markets; It will utilize and leverage existing social and natural assets for education, marketing, and outreach of these foods and associated physical and cultural health benefits
Tulalip Foundation	Tulalip	WA	COVID-19 Response
United Indians of All Tribes Foundation	Seattle	WA	COVID-19 Response
United Indians of All Tribes Foundation	Seattle	WA	COVID-19 Response Survey
Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians	Odanah	WI	The Bad River Food Sovereignty Initiative Program (FSI) will purchase equipment to assist in the further development of the tribe's agricultural resources
College of the Menominee Nation	Keshena	WI	This project will create a healthier Menominee community with greater access to locally grown healthy produce; The existing Kehtekaewak Farmers Market will play a key role in providing outreach and a launch point for the opportunity to enjoy food that is produced directly on the reservation
Forest County Potawatomi Community	Crandon	WI	Forest County Potawatomi Community Maple Sugar Operation
Forest County Potawatomi Community	Crandon	WI	The project will increase the economic opportunity and self-sufficiency of the Forest County Potawatomi Community and its members by strengthening the local food system through the creation of a Maple Sugaring Operation; It will also serve as an educational tool for area youth and provide best practices to regional tribes
Gerald L Ignace Indian Health Center, Inc.	Milwaukee	WI	COVID-19 Response Survey
Gerald L Ignace Indian Health Center, Inc.	Milwaukee	WI	COVID-19 Response
Ho-Chunk Nation	Black River Falls	WI	COVID-19 Response
Ho-Chunk Nation	Black River Falls	WI	Emergency grant to offer museum recovery support
i-collective Inc	Appleton	WI	This project will help create space for the Indigenous community to share knowledge, build networks and skills, and have long-term access to ancestral knowledge around healthy traditional foods
Little Eagle Arts Foundation	Wisconsin Dells	WI	COVID-19 Response
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin	Keshena	WI	COVID-19 Response
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin	Keshena	WI	This project will increase tribal environmental asset control on or near Native lands
Oneida Nation Arts Program	Green Bay	WI	COVID-19 Response
Oneida Nation	Oneida	WI	Community Works in a series of six workshops created to cultivate, inspire, and support people who work to make a difference in their community; Participants will increase their knowledge of current trends in not for profit management, digital media, and fundraising, ultimately strengthening and leveraging the talent and passion in Oneida
Oneida Nation	Oneida	WI	The purpose of this project is to increase Oneida control of its agricultural system and its national sovereignty through increased productivity and agricultural income
Oneida Nation	Oneida	WI	COVID-19 Response
Oneida Nation	Oneida	WI	This project will increase the number of proficient first language speakers within the Oneida community by creating an immersion-only classroom that utilizes the current On^yote^aka Tsi Nitwaw^not^ and Head Start "As it happens" curriculum
Oneida Nation	Oneida	WI	COVID-19 Response
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin	Bayfield	WI	COVID-19 Response

Name	City	State	Project Description
Sokaogon Chippewa Community	Crandon	WI	COVID-19 Response
Stockbridge Munsee Community	Bowler	WI	Stockbridge-Munsee Community Shared Equipment Program
Stockbridge Munsee Community	Bowler	WI	This program will create hands-on learning experiences for beginning and future farmers at the Stockbridge-Munsee Community through 11 workshops and tours, along with opportunities for the community's youth to gain year-round experience growing vegetables; This program will help increase community members' control and involvement in the local food system
Stockbridge Munsee Community	Bowler	WI	The project will support tribal efforts to claim and control broadband spectrum assets and to offer wireless broadband access for community further building on fiber optic broadband initiative
Stockbridge Munsee Community	Bowler	WI	COVID-19 Response
Waadookodaading, Inc.	Hayward	WI	COVID-19 Response
Woodland Boys & Girls Club	Neopit	WI	COVID-19 Response
Center for Popular Research, Education and Policy	Fort Washakie	WY	This project will create a Producers' Cooperative on the Wind River Reservation to build food sovereignty on the reservation; The Producers' Cooperative will be locally owned and controlled by Native farmers and ranchers
Eastern Shoshone Tribe	Fort Washakie	WY	COVID-19 Response
Northern Arapaho Tribe	Ft. Washakie	WY	Agriculture Lending and Education Initiative
Northern Arapaho Tribe	Ft. Washakie	WY	COVID-19 Response
Wind River Development Fund	Ft. Washakie	WY	The WRDF Agriculture Initiative will help retain and increase the Native farming and ranching industries through a series of technical assistance workshops designed to increase capacity building and capital access for Native farmers and ranchers on and around the Wind River Reservation
Wind River Development Fund	Ft. Washakie	WY	COVID-19 Response Survey

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We are humbled and grateful to the more than 10,000 people across the nation and beyond who have supported First Nations' emergency efforts and our core work throughout the year.

**This page is dedicated to all of you who have been good relatives.** We thank you for being part of our *Circle of Friends* — a growing community of dedicated individuals who share and support our vision of healthy vibrant Native communities. You are a key part of fulfilling this vision and a crucial link in our circle.

To First Nations, the circle represents the interconnectedness of all things. In our case, it's the interconnection of health, food systems, education, environment, housing, youth empowerment, language perpetuation, financial empowerment, economy and jobs.

**Your support and advocacy helps First Nations continue to build Native community assets addressing these areas, strengthening the circle and each of its elements.**

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First Nations Development Institute's 2020 Annual Report was prepared by the Communications/Public Education Department with assistance from all First Nations staff members and the organization's external design firm, Brian W. Vermillion, ver5design. Some of the design elements in this report mirror our companion publication – the 2020 Impact Report – that was created by graphic designer Shelley Flippo. Photographs used in this publication were provided by First Nations' staff members, grantees, partner organizations and others.

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