



ASSOCIATION ON AMERICAN INDIAN AFFAIRS

Igniting Change

2023 Annual Report
Summary



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Cultural Sovereignty Advocates,

For over a century, the Association on American Indian Affairs has been a leader protecting sovereignty, preserving culture, educating youth and building capacity. We are honored to stand in the footsteps of those who have been knowledge keepers and allies of the Association. Our work not only better Native Peoples' lives but also directly impacts global health, environment, and education.

Through our Next Generations, Cultural Sovereignty, and Become an Ally programs, the Association is igniting change by integrating intergenerational healing mechanisms to break the cycle of trauma.

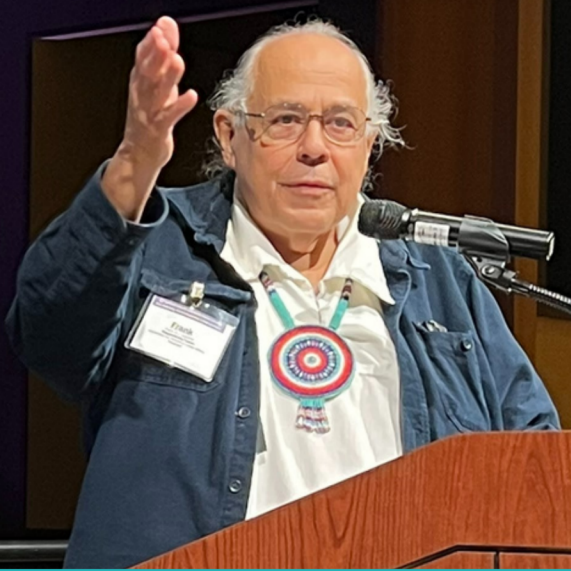
Igniting change means building a new fire. As many of our traditions provide, fire is a sacred and essential element that can clean, heal, and purify. If fire has been polluted, it can spread that pollution beyond those around the fire and affect those unaware. A new fire must be built when a sacred fire has been tainted or has died. We must collectively gather the love, strength, and courage to build a new fire, regardless of if we are Native or not, to create a world where diverse Native cultures and values are lived, protected and respected.

We cannot envision our next 100 years without YOU! Your commitment, time, advocacy, and investment are essential to pave the way for the next 100 years. Your support will fund programs vital for safeguarding and honoring diverse Native cultures and values.

As we embark on our next century of service, we urge you to continue your dedication to Native Country and join us in commemorating a century of advocacy and progress. Thank you for your commitment to Native Country and to each other.

Sincerely,

Frank Ettawageshik, Odawa
President of the Board of Directors



Vision

Create a world where diverse Native cultures and values are lived, protected and respected.

Mission

Lead the grassroots fight to protect Native Cultural Sovereignty.

Goals

Protect sovereignty, preserve culture, educate youth and build capacity.

About The Association

The Association on American Indian Affairs is the longest serving national Native non-profit. The Association was formed in 1922 to change the destructive path of federal policy from assimilation, termination and allotment, to sovereignty, self-determination and self-sufficiency. Throughout our over 100-year history, we have provided national advocacy on watershed issues that support sovereignty and culture, while working at a grassroots level with Native Nations to support the implementation of programs that affect real lives on the ground.

Board

Frank Ettawageshik, Odawa, President
Josh Riley, Choctaw, Vice President
Joseph Daniels, Sr., Potawatomi, Treasurer
Lisa "Tiger" Martin, Muscogee, Secretary
John Echohawk, Pawnee
Bradford Keeler, Cherokee
Rory Wheeler, Seneca
Jonathan Perry, Wampanoag

Staff

Shannon O'Loughlin, Choctaw, CEO and Attorney
Ericca "CC" Hovie, Ojibwe/Anishinaabe, Public Affairs and Communications Director
Kim Mettler, Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation, Next Generations Director
Julie Hamilton, Office Manager
Shannon Martin, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians, Tribal Museums Day Project

PROGRAMS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Cultural Sovereignty

Our Cultural Sovereignty program works to develop infrastructure - such as federal, state and Native Nation laws and policies that will support the return of our stolen lands, Ancestors, religious practices, languages, identity, and bringing home our children who died at boarding schools. In addition, we develop training, strategies and technical support to build capacity within Native Nations, and work to change perspectives of those who wish to hold onto our culture without free, prior and informed consent.

- Developed a \$1 million repatriation education grant proposal and was funded by the Mellon Foundation for 2024-2025.
- 9th Annual Repatriation Conference hosted 650 attendees at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Grand Resort in Shawnee, Oklahoma.
- Through monthly Tribal Partners Working Group meetings developed regulatory revisions to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, which went into effect in January 2024, and developed input for regulations on the Safeguard Objects of Tribal Patrimony Act.
- Developed an International Repatriation strategy, created an advisory council of experts, and built data on various countries' laws and policies as well as collection information from international museums.

Next Generations

The Next Generations Program promotes strong, resilient youth, families and Nations through advocacy, education, cultural connections, healing and wellbeing.

- Supported Native Country's win in the U.S. Supreme Court protecting the Indian Child Welfare Act, and federal Indian law.
- Provided funding for 336 Native youth from at least 30 different Native Nations, Tribes and communities at Native-led summer camps providing culture and health programs.
- Provided \$2,000 undergraduate and graduate scholarships to 20 Native students.
- Partnered with the University of Massachusetts at Amherst's Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science to provide an additional 15 scholarships at \$2,000 each for students in the biological sciences and Native studies programs.
- Provided four internships to Indigenous students to develop their skills and learn about working for a Native nonprofit.



Become an Ally

Become an Ally program works to promote understanding about Native Peoples, their sovereign Nations and diverse cultures, so society will make better decisions about the environment, economy, education, healthcare, and how we can all exist together on one planet. We work to build relationships that will support allyship, education and accountability through our various social media platforms and Red Hoop Talk podcast to deliver public education, create productive dialogue, and encourage action from our supporters about Native Nation issues. Learn how you can Become an Ally by visiting our website and supporting our vision.



300,000+
social media followers



102,000+
website visitors annually

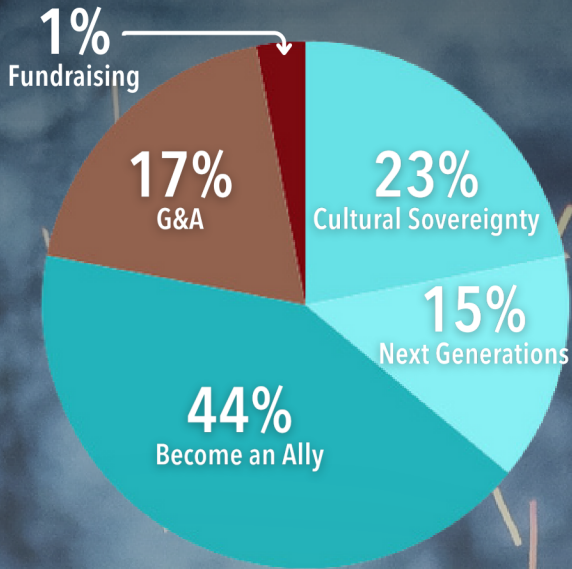


49,000+
impressions YouTube



10,000+
e-newsletter listserv

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



2023 Program Expenses

We are proud to report that the Association's net assets have increased 12.5% from 2022. Our net assets are \$2,162,542. Donations from the public and foundations were the largest source of revenue for the Association.

In addition, 82% of total expenses went toward our program areas. Total expenses were \$612,871 and \$501,828 were program expenses; specifically, expenses for programs were \$266,712 (or 44%) for Become an Ally, \$143,016 (or 23%) for Cultural Sovereignty, and \$92,100 (or 15%) for Next Generations.

General and administrative expenses, including fundraising, was 18% of our expenses, or \$111,043. This means that 82 cents on every dollar is going directly to support our programs!

Fueling Progress

Donor and Partner Recognition

Alermar Foundation Alexander Tait Annie E. Casey Foundation Ben Plucknett Charitable Trust
University of Denver Department of Anthropology Center for Mind-Body Medicine
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science
Estate of Diana J. Doering Ford Foundation Forest County Potawatomi Nation
Native American Rights Fund Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi NoVo Foundation
Poarch Band of Creek Indians San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Sustainable Arts Foundation

Join Us and Help Light the Way to Our Future

We invite you to show your commitment to Native Country by becoming a member for \$25 per year, or \$500 for a lifetime membership. Members receive our bi-annual journal that has been published since the 1930s, special calls to action, and invitations to participate in the governance of the organization. Members are an important part of the organization's governance and vote for members of our Board of Directors and for changes to our organizing documents such as our bylaws. We consider our members and donors to be allies advocating for our vision of a world where diverse Native cultures and values are lived, protected and respected.

**The Association is a 501c3 national Native-led nonprofit supported by its members.
We do not accept federal funding.**

Association on American Indian Affairs

6030 Daybreak Circle, Suite A150-217, Clarksville, Maryland 21029
Indian-Affairs.org | 240-314-7155 | general@Indian-Affairs.org

