

Celebrating 100 Years of Service

**ASSOCIATION ON
AMERICAN
INDIAN
AFFAIRS**



Protecting Sovereignty | Preserving Culture | Educating Youth | Building Capacity

Protecting Sovereignty | Preserving Culture Educating Youth | Building Capacity

The Association on American Indian Affairs is the oldest non-profit serving Native Country, to protect sovereignty, preserve culture, educate youth and build capacity. 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 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.

Vision

Our vision is to create a world where diverse Native cultures and values are lived, protected and respected.

Mission

Our mission is to lead the grassroots fight to protect Native Cultural Sovereignty.

Goals

Our goals are to protect sovereignty, preserve culture, educate youth and build capacity.

Values

- Fortitude
- Capability
- Accountability
- Advocacy
- Generosity



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Letter from the President

It is time to build a new fire.

Dear Cultural Sovereignty Protectors,

This year marks the Association's **100th year of service** to Indigenous Peoples and their Nations. We are humbled that we stand in the footsteps of so many amazing human beings who have been knowledge keepers and allies of the Association, dedicated to improving the lives of Native Peoples. We are blessed that the work we do in Native Country not only improves our lives as Natives - our advocacy also directly improves the health, environment and education of every other human being that shares this planet with us.

As we celebrate our 100th anniversary, it is time for us to build 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. It is time for us, together, to gather the love, strength and courage necessary to build a new fire that will warm and cleanse us, and heal that which has been damaged. This is work that must be done together - whether you are Native or an ally. Only then can we truly create a world where diverse Native cultures and values are lived, protected, and respected.

We cannot envision our next 100 years without YOU! We need your commitment, we need your time, we need your advocacy, and we need your investment to build a new path forward for the next 100 years. Your support will fund programs that protect sovereignty, preserve culture, educate youth and build capacity on the ground.

As we look toward our next 100 years of service, we ask you to continue your commitment to Native Country and help us commemorate 100 years of advocacy, action, and fighting for a better future for all of us.

Thank you for your commitment to Native Country.

Sincerely,



Frank Ettawageshik, Odawa
President of the Board of Directors



CULTURAL SOVEREIGNTY

Our Cultural Sovereignty Program has two pathways: once includes efforts that support repatriation - or the return of those things that make us who we are as Native Peoples, and includes our annual repatriation conference; and our Protect the Sacred initiative works to protect Sacred Places, our ecosystems and relationships therein.

Repatriation

The Association has been a national leader advocating for the repatriation of tangible and intangible Native cultural heritage since its founding. The Association contributes to the development of legislation that supports repatriation and has provided advocacy for the creation and passage of the National Museum of the American Indian Act, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, PROTECT Patrimony Resolution, and the Safeguard Tribal Objects of Patrimony (STOP) Act. The Association assists Native Nations in domestic and international repatriation efforts and provides comprehensive training and technical assistance upon request. The Repatriation Program at the Association is advised by its Repatriation Working Group and Tribal Partners Working Group. The Association also has an annual repatriation conference.

8th Annual Repatriation Conference - ReACTivating Our Ancestral Connections

The Association hosted its 8th Annual Repatriation Conference on October 11, 12 & 13, primarily sponsored by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi and their Four Winds Casino and Hotel in New Buffalo, Michigan. The Conference was themed "ReACTivating Our Ancestral Connections" and was supported by the idea that we must act together to reACTivate our relationships with one another, as well as our relationships with the past, to create a world where diverse Native cultures and values are lived, protected, and respected.

The Conference agenda was stacked with 3 keynote speakers, 9 plenary sessions, 3 morning sunrise ceremonies to start each day, 3 lunch presentations, and several cultural events. This year was our first in-person Conference since 2019. In 2020 and 2021, the Annual Repatriation Conferences were virtual only. During this year's Conference, there were a total of 46 speakers, 14 vendors and exhibitors, 13 volunteers, 10 sponsors, and 457 total in-person and virtual attendees.

The Conference is an opportunity for Native Nation leadership and representatives, spiritual leaders, museums, academics, lawyers, federal agencies, students, international institutions and others to gather and consult about the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, the Smithsonian Repatriation Act, as well as repatriation from international museums and private collectors world-wide. During the Conference this year, the National NAGPRA Program announced the publication of the NAGPRA proposed rulemaking that will completely overhaul the repatriation process for federal agencies and institutions that have received federal funding.



CULTURAL SOVEREIGNTY

International Repatriation

The Association continues to support Native Nation efforts at repatriation from foreign institutions and collectors, and working to educate foreign institutions about consulting with Native Nations, concerns about international processes to effectuate the return of cultural heritage, and why repatriation is necessary for Native health.

The Association maintains a database of foreign institutions, including information about their collections. The Association has also published a website, separate from Indian-Affairs.org, called, Restoring Ancestral Connections (restoringancestralconnections.squarespace.com). The website is dedicated to connecting Native Nations and foreign institutions to begin their relationship building towards consultation and repatriation.

There are no laws that support Native Nations in international repatriation. Thus, the Association has developed strategies for foreign legal and policy research, collections research and Native Nation coalition building to develop more efficient mechanisms for negotiating repatriation agreements with foreign institutions.

In addition, the Association has worked with partners for the passage of the Safeguarding Objects of Tribal Patrimony Act, with President Joe Biden signing the legislation on December 21, 2022. The Association has been part of this effort since 2016, when the sacred Acoma Shield was put up for sale in France. Since that time, the Association has provided support and education to Congress and the Senate, as well as working closely with the Pueblo of Acoma and their lobbyists and attorneys to develop the text for the STOP Act.

Private Collectors and Sales

The Association works to prevent the collection and sale of sensitive Native cultural heritage. The Association monitors auctions and sales and provides detailed auction alerts to Native Nations. The information that we collect helps us evaluate market trends, and advocate for stronger laws that would protect cultural heritage. The Association reported at least 130 auctions (71 domestic auctions and 59 foreign) selling just under 6,000 potentially sensitive items of cultural heritage. We have unfortunately seen that several U.S. dealers were increasing the exportation of sensitive items to other countries in order to sell those items before the Safeguarding Objects of Tribal Patrimony was passed. Federal agencies will begin consultation to implement the law in 2023.

Repatriation Working Group and Tribal Partners Working Group

The Association's voice on Repatriation efforts is guided by its Repatriation Working Group and Tribal Partners Working Group. The Repatriation Working Group is a mixed group of Native and non-Native practitioners, museums, lawyers and academics that develop strategies to support the return of cultural items back to their Nations.

The Tribal Partners Working Group is a closed group limited to individuals who represent Native Nations on matters involving domestic and international repatriation, including NAGPRA and protecting Sacred Places, including Boarding School gravesites. The closed group allows practitioners to have a safe space to talk about matters that are not meant for the public, and to build stronger coalitions throughout Native Country. The Tribal Partners Working Group meets monthly. This year as part of the Tribal Partners Working Group, the Association provided a four-part series about the enforcement of NAGPRA through the NAGPRA civil penalties process, which included direct interactions with the Civil Penalty officer of the National NAGPRA Program.



CULTURAL SOVEREIGNTY

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

The Association submitted comments on February 16, 2022, to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, regarding the Oversight Hearing on “The Long Journey Home: Advancing the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act’s Promise After 30 Years of Practice.” In addition, the Department of the Interior has been consulting with Native Nations for a full overhaul of the NAGPRA regulations. The Association has held many Tribal Partner meetings to learn what Native Nations want to have changed about the regulations, and we have submitted comments to the Department of the Interior accordingly.

On October 18, 2022, at the Association’s 8th Annual Repatriation Conference, the Department of the Interior announced its proposed rulemaking to revise those regulations and improve the implementation of NAGPRA. The Association held several large and small NAGPRA regulation discussions with our Tribal Partners and other experts, provided templates for Native Nations and other organizations to use, and submitted comprehensive comments to the Department of Interior on January 31, 2023.

The Association has also been working closely with the media regarding NAGPRA issues. In particular, we have had many interviews with ProPublica who launched an investigation into institutions who have not been compliant with NAGPRA. You may view the ProPublica NAGPRA reporting at [propublica.org/article/repatriation-nagpra-museums-human-remains](https://www.propublica.org/article/repatriation-nagpra-museums-human-remains).



Boarding Schools and Repatriation of Children

On May 26, 2022, the Association submitted comprehensive comments to the department of Interior regarding H.R. 5444 and S.2907: the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act. The Association is actively involved with the ongoing Boarding School efforts by the Department of Interior and the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. We participated in all federal consultations and listening sessions regarding boarding schools this year, including attending the in-person listening session in Pellston, Michigan on August 13, 2022. We are currently working with Native American Rights Fund and several Native Nation partners on building strategy for repatriation claims with the Division of Army Cemeteries regarding boarding school burial grounds like the Carlisle Indian Industrial Boarding School where the Army has determined that NAGPRA does not apply. The process that the Army uses is harmful and problematic for Native Nations, creating more burdens and ongoing trauma.



CULTURAL SOVEREIGNTY

Indigenous Collections Care (ICC) Working Group

The Association was invited to participate in the Indigenous Collections Care Working Group in 2021. Since that time, we have participated in monthly working group discussions contributing to the content and development of an Indigenous Collections Care Guide. The ICC is comprised of individuals from museums, institutions, organizations, and Tribal Representatives.

The Indigenous Collections Care working group advocates for different methodologies of collections stewardship that centers concepts of culturally appropriate care and privileges Indigenous Knowledge. The goals of the ICC are to prioritize Indigenous voices in all areas of collections care; develop a model that recognizes Indigenous Nations and communities as experts, and provides space for the inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge. The guide will be a model of collaboration and consultation on care, access, and interpretation of museum and institutional collections.

Protect the Sacred

Another aspect of Cultural Sovereignty is our relationships with our lands and ecosystems. Our diverse origin stories place us on our homelands to be co-dependent upon the land and water and everything that lives there. We cannot be healthy and whole without taking care of the lands, waters, soils, air, animals, plants, fish, birds; if our ecosystems and our relationships with those systems are healthy, so are we. Protecting the Sacred means protecting our relationships with all that we are dependent upon for a healthy life. We protect our relationships with animals, like the Wolf who is being threatened by hunting laws even though their numbers are critically low. We protect our relationships with Sacred Places, like Medicine Wheel, Oak Flat and so many other sacred sites and landscapes. We protect our air and water and work towards ecosystem balance against climate change.

The Association has been actively involved in protecting our relative the gray wolf this year. We attended Native Nation consultations regarding the protection of the gray wolf in June 2022 advocating for the Biden administration to restore federal protections for gray wolves across the lower 48 states.

Specifically, these are some of the points that were brought up in this consultation:

- Tribes have the right to make decisions about how they govern and protect their people, environment, culture, and natural resources.
- Tribes have been living peacefully with wolves for thousands of years and should be a partner in sustainable wolf management.
- Until now, the Biden Administration has not engaged in Tribal consultation on the issue of the gray wolf.
- The gray wolf populations will take years to recover, and action needs to be taken immediately to prevent any further damage.
- Secretary Deb Haaland and FWS Director Martha Williams have the authority to restore federal protections for gray wolves across the lower 48 states. They must do so before they are hunted to extinction.



THE NEXT GENERATIONS

Without strong and resilient youth and families, we cannot fulfill our mission. Our Next Generation Program includes Native youth summer camp grants, graduate and undergraduate scholarships, the Indian Child Welfare Act and investigations into wrongful adoption practices. In addition, we focus our scholarships, summer camps, internships and fellowships to support the development of Native youth into future leaders.

#ProtectICWA

The Association was the instigator using evidence-based methods to develop the Indian Child Welfare Act, and achieving its passage in 1978. ICWA protects the well-being and best interests of Native children and families by prioritizing family integrity and stability by keeping Native children connected to their Nations and culture when those children are involved in child placement decisions, such as adoption.

In 2022, the Association continued to partner with the National Indian Child Welfare Association, National Congress of American Indians, and Native American Rights Fund in our national campaign to protect the Indian Child Welfare Act, called the #ProtectICWA Campaign. The campaign was built to educate the general public, as well as decision-makers, about the importance of ICWA as the gold standard in child welfare, and more specifically, to counter the litigation attack brought by the Goldwater Institute and lawyers working to terminate Native Nation sovereignty.

That litigation attack is now before the U.S. Supreme Court. The *Haaland v Brackeen* case is a lawsuit brought by the state of Texas and several individual plaintiffs in 2018, who argued that ICWA is unconstitutional and an impermissible mandate on states. Since then, the case has worked its way through the federal district court and the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals; oral arguments have now been heard by the U.S. Supreme Court on November 9, 2022. A decision from the Supreme Court is expected in Spring of 2023.



The Association, along with 497 Tribal Nations, 61 Native organizations, 23 states and the District of Columbia, 87 congress people, 27 child welfare and adoption organizations, and others signed on to 21 amicus (friends of the court) briefs submitted to the Supreme Court in favor of upholding ICWA. The amicus briefs and Native Nation parties, including the U.S. Department of Justice - which is fighting to protect ICWA - provided the court with evidence-based research about how ICWA continues to support Native youth and families and is the gold standard in child welfare.

While we await the Supreme Court's decision, the fight to protect ICWA is far from over. The campaign is working to provide useful tools to decision-makers, educating states about implementing state procedures under ICWA, and is actively using the media and social media platforms to educate the public about why ICWA is the gold standard in child welfare and adoption.



THE NEXT GENERATIONS

Native Youth Justice

This year, the Association eliminated the use of the word “juvenile” in this initiative, as the word holds certain stigmas that youth often have a hard time getting away from, even long after they have left the system. Instead, the Association has decided to use simply “Native Youth” to replace the word juvenile. Changing labels and language is another way that we can best serve our youth and break down institutional barriers, decolonize and create opportunities for intergenerational healing.

The Association continues to work with its longtime partner in youth justice reform, the Annie E. Casey Foundation. This work currently has two main components: provide tools and support to state and local jurisdictions, and to build a community and network of Native youth justice practitioners within Native Country, which we call the Native Youth Justice Community of Practice.



The Native Youth Justice Community of Practice is a network of youth justice and Tribal Court practitioners across Native Country that come together virtually every other month to share knowledge, strategize, collaborate, and build best practices that will serve Native youth and alternatives to detention and punishment. In addition to Native Nation leaders, Tribal Court judges, probation officers and others within Native Country, we have also included our partners from the National Congress of American Indians, Tribal Law and Policy Institute, the National Indian Child Welfare Association, the National Center for Juvenile Justice, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the Burns Institute, retired judges, policy makers and academics to support the Community of Practice.

We have also developed other assets to outreach to local and state jurisdictions and provide information on why properly identifying Native youth, and working collaboratively with Native Nations, can provide stronger outcomes for Native youth. You can check out our webinar and separate video talking about the importance of collaboration and consultation between state and local governments and Native Nation court and youth service systems. These assets are available on our website at Indian-Affairs.org/nativeyouthjustice.



THE NEXT GENERATIONS

Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarships

Students continued their drive and focus in spite of the last three years' worth of challenges and virtual classrooms. Hybrid classes continued for some, and others found ways to adjust to this new normal. Each one of the Native students that are funded through the Association's 75-year legacy scholarship program are chosen because of their connections to their Native Nations, and desire to serve their Nations and Native Country as a whole. Addressing social, generational, economical, and environmental concerns was at the forefront of many aspirations for 2022.

The Association's scholarships are distributed to Native undergraduate and graduate students throughout their degree-seeking program through to graduation as long as the student retains a 2.5 grade point average and full-time status. Native students who are citizens of a federally recognized, state recognized, or non-recognized Native Nations, Tribes, Bands or Communities within the United States are eligible to apply for the Association's scholarship. And most importantly, for the 2022-2023 school year, the Association's Board of Directors increased the scholarship amount from \$750 to \$1,000 per student per semester, increasing needed support.



Eight of these scholars graduated in Spring 2022 and Fall 2022:

- Heather DeMoines, a citizen of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, graduated from Central Michigan University with a Master of Science in Office Administration;
- Shayla French, a citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Media/New Media Arts;
- Tavia Hart, a citizen of the Comanche Nation, graduated from Haskell Indian Nations University with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education;
- Alexander Joe, a citizen of the Navajo Nation, graduated from Fort Lewis College with a Bachelor of Arts in Accounting;
- Lynn Martell, a citizen of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, graduated from the University of North Dakota with a Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology;
- Desiree Quintana, a citizen of the Kewa Pueblo, graduated from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work;
- Marsha Uutela, a citizen of the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, graduated from Saint Norbert College with a Master of Business Administration in Tribal Management; and
- Danielle Waters, a citizen of the Wyandotte Nation, graduated from Northwest Indian College with an Associate of Arts in Social Service, Substance Abuse.



THE NEXT GENERATIONS

Native Youth Summer Camp Grants

The Association started funding grants to Native Youth Summer Camps in 1963 as a powerful way for the Association to achieve its vision, mission, and goals. There is significant research that shows when Native youth are connected to their culture, they fare better mentally and emotionally than those who are not. Healthy and strong Native youth will sustain strong and diverse cultures and protect Native Nation sovereignty for years to come.

The Association provides funding for summer camps that connects Native youth with culture, and supports engaging curriculum on health, wellness, and self-care. Between 2003 and 2022, the Association has granted \$235,000 to 170 Native Youth Summer Camps! This year the Association provided funding for 11 camps that offered educational opportunities regarding health and wellness, cultural practices, and languages.

The Association's 2022 summer camp program supported at least 229 youth from many Indigenous Nations, Tribes, and communities including Navajo/Diné, Sicangu Lakota, Muscogee (Creek), Seminole, Athabaskan, Inupiaq, Yup'ik, Pacific Island, Klamath, Paiute, Modoc Paiute, Pyramid Lake Paiute, Kickapoo, Washoe Paiute, Mauri, Tohono O'odham, Pit River, Oglala Sioux Tribe, Piscataway Conoy Tribe, Piscataway Indian Nation, Lipan Apache, Tap Pilam Coahuiltecan Nation, Mayan, Chippewa Cree, Assiniboine, Sioux, Gros Ventre, Salishand Blackfoot, Soboba Tribe, Tule River Tribe, Cherokee, Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho, Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation, Gila River Indian Community, and others.



The Association funded, with the support of the Ben Plucknett Charitable Trust, the following Native Youth Summer Camps:

- Dłóó' Yázhí Day Camp, Thoreau, New Mexico
- Fort Bidwell Padua'a Lake Pow Wow, Fort Bidwell, California
- Helena Indian Alliance Native Youth Leadership Camp, Helena, Montana
- Oglala Sioux Tribe Camp, Pine Ridge, South Dakota
- Piscataway Youth Aviation Camp, Frederick, Maryland
- Salamatof Youth Fish Camp, Kenai, Alaska
- Sons of Mvskoke, Glenpool, Oklahoma
- Texas Tribe Buffalo Project Iyanee' Youth Camp, Waelder, Texas
- Tiwahe Glu Kini Pi, Mission, South Dakota
- Tribal Youth Traditional Ecological Knowledge Summer Camp, Porterville, California
- University of Arizona Native American Youth Entrepreneurship Program, Tucson, Arizona



BECOMING AN ALLY

Whether you are a Native person or not, we all must learn to find common ground, obtain the facts about issues important to Indian Country, and work together for the best outcomes that support a world where diverse Native cultures and values are lived, protected and respected. Becoming an Ally is our program centered on public education to make a better world for all of us.



Public Engagement

The Association participates in many public engagement opportunities throughout the year. Many of these opportunities include participation in federal consultations, providing training or technical assistance, engaging the public through presentations, lectures and interactive opportunities, and using social media to educate and contribute to public discussion.

This year, the Association earned 143 media mentions, meaning that the Association was interviewed, consulted or provided background for various forms of publication. The Association was mentioned in 128 published articles, were a part of at least 10 radio events or podcasts, and were interviewed in at least 5 television or video news programs. A few included the Huffington Post, Harvard Museum Promises to Return Native American Children's Hair to Tribes, at huffpost.com/entry/native-american-hair-harvard-peabody-museum-n-636dd4a8e4b09d758bd5b270, and on Native America Calling, The Importance of Tribal Museums, at nativeamericacalling.com/thursday-december-1-2022-the-importance-of-tribal-museums/.

Red Hoop Talk

Red Hoop Talk is a live and streaming Native news and talk show about how we stay #ClosetoCulture. In 2022, we produced six episodes and now have 76 episodes total. The episodes include special guests from all over Native Country, including panels and open talking circles, to discuss how Native people work to protect culture and strengthen self-determination and sovereignty.

Red Hoop Talk is available on our website, IndianAffairs.org/redhooptalk, and YouTube channel youtube.com/@associndianaffairs/featured. Our YouTube channel has many other videos available to access that includes playlists about repatriation and our other programs.



BECOMING AN ALLY

100-Year Celebration & Tribal Museums Day

2022 marks the 100th anniversary of the Association's advocacy in Native Country! To honor and celebrate the Association's 100th anniversary, the Association launched its first annual Tribal Museums Day. Tribal Museums Day is held on the first Saturday in the month of December and engages Tribal Museums and Cultural Centers across Turtle Island to share their collective wisdom, values, and diverse cultures.

The inaugural event brought attention to more than 150 Tribal Museums and Cultural Centers as the primary source of Native Nation histories and diverse cultures. Celebrating Tribal Museums also stimulates tourism, entrepreneurship, and economies by inviting the public into Native Country to learn about Native Nation governments and services, as well as histories and lifeways and offer opportunities to purchase gifts and other items at museum gift shops and Native Nation stores.

Our first annual Tribal Museums Day streamed live on Saturday, December 3 from the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways with our event hosts, Shannon Martin (Gun Lake Potawatomi) and Joe Sowmick (Saginaw Chippewa). In addition to the Ziibiwing Center, the streaming event showcased the First Peoples Museum in Oklahoma City, the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque, NM, and the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian in Chicago.

We heard from all over Native Country that Tribal Museums Day increase traffic into museums, and some museums reported the highest sales on Tribal Museums Day than any other day of the year! You can watch the event and learn more about Tribal Museums Day on our website at Indian-Affairs.org/tribalmuseumsday.

Prior to the Tribal Museums Day streaming event, members and donors were invited to the Association's 100th Annual Membership meeting, where they learned about the impacts of the Association's programs for 2022, and plans for the future. During the membership meeting, members and donors can interact with the Association's Board of Directors, and vote on important issues. At this meeting, membership voted to renew the four-year term for Board of Director member and treasurer, Joseph Daniels, Sr., citizen of the Forest County Potawatomi Nation.



MEMBERSHIP

Your Commitment to Native Country

The Association provided discounted (\$10 off) membership for its 100th year, and introduced its new lifetime membership category. Any individual, whether or not you are Native or Indigenous, can be a part of the Association's family by becoming a member for \$25 per year, or for \$500 for a lifetime membership. Members receive our bi-annual journal that has been published since the 1930s. Members will also receive special "calls for action" and invitations to participate in the governance of the organization. Members participate in the Association's annual membership meeting and other special meetings and can vote for members of the Association's Board of Directors and for changes to the Association's corporate charter and by-laws.

Membership shows your commitment to Native Country and we consider our members to be allies supporting our positions and work to create a world where diverse Native cultures and values are lived, protected and respected.



FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

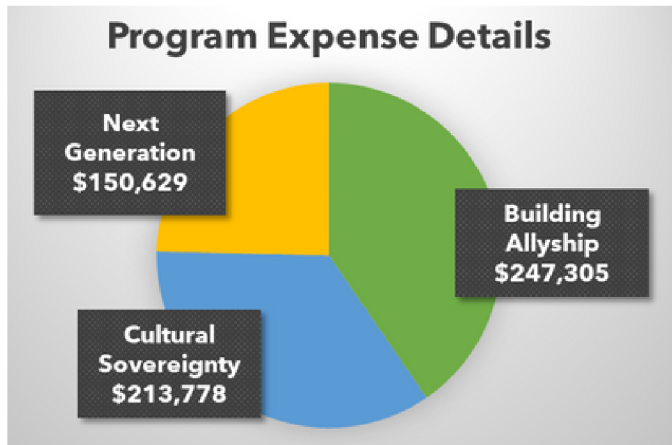
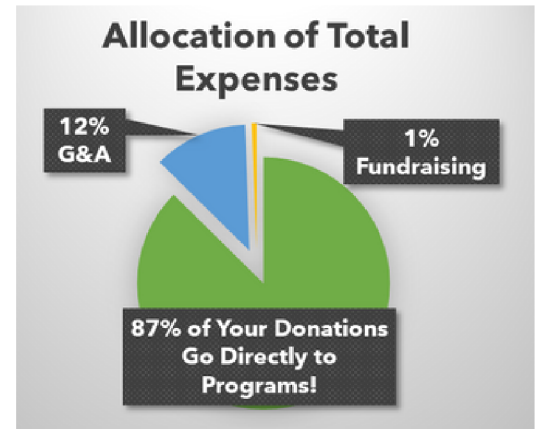
Building a Sustainable Fire



We are proud to report that the Association's income increased 19% from 2021. This year we are reporting income at \$1,066,052, compared to 2021's \$896,368 revenue reporting (not including our scholarship endowment and investment income from those restricted funds). Donations from the public and foundations were 91% of total revenue and the largest source of revenue for the Association. Thank YOU!!

We also had a successful 8th Annual Repatriation Conference in which we were able to fundraise \$89,725 with your help and support!

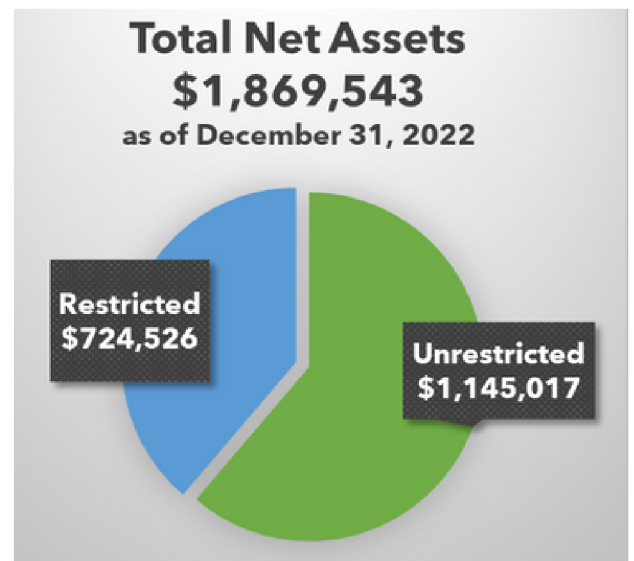
Total operating expenses in 2022 were \$699,885. The percentage of program costs were just over 87% or \$611,712, showing efficient and above ideal spending. General and administrative costs were \$84,171 or 12% of total operating expenses; fundraising expenses were \$4,002 or less than 1% of total operating expenses. These exceed Better Business Bureau and other nonprofit watchdog standards!



From our total program expenses of \$611,712, funds dedicated to our Cultural Sovereignty Program were \$213,778; program costs for the Next Generation Program were \$150,629; and the Building Allyship program funding was \$247,305.

Total net assets for 2022 were \$1,869,543, the majority of which were unrestricted funds. Unrestricted funds allow us to build capacity within the organization and respond to program needs more organically than restricted funding. Restricted funds are those in which the donor restricts how the funds must be used. Some of those restrictions deny staffing and other costs of operating our programs. Thus, restricted funding may not allow the organization to develop strategies that develop sustainable infrastructure and permanency for the organization.

This year, our unrestricted and restricted fund amounts traded places so that our unrestricted funding was greater than restricted: 61% of our funding was unrestricted and 39% was restricted. This helps us build capacity, allowing us to increase employment opportunities and staffing, and do more for our programs!



OUR DONORS

Gathering the Fuel

As a public membership non-profit, our success is directly related to your commitment to Native Country. The primary funders of the Association's programs are YOU! The Association has wonderful relationships with Foundations such as the Ford Foundation and NOVO Foundation, and also receives support from Native Nations. But the largest and most consistent donors are individuals, including legacy or estate gifts. The Association does not accept grants from federal or state government.

\$10,000 and up

Leslie L. Neumeister Melvin C. Weiss Estate Ford Foundation NOVO Foundation
Poarch Band of Creek Indians Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi
Annie E. Casey Foundation TikTok

\$2,500 - \$9,999

Ben Plucknett Charitable Trust Alexander Tait Mann Family Foundation Roger M. Boone
Bushong Family Foundation Snappy Dolan Geiman Richard F. Potthoff Cindy Thompson
Howard Bayne Fund Mendon F. Schutt Family Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation
Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology, Phillips Academy
Bernstein & Associates The Chickasaw Nation

\$500 - \$2,499

Ralph Abraham Brown Expedition Subsahara Fire on the Mountain Inc. Mike Wanderer
Leon Pinheiro Aylin Ozgener Earl Colm Noah Craft Katie Slattery Kristin Burke
Seneca Gaming Corporation GiveClear Foundation Native American Rights Fund
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Cielo Talent Madison Tucker Duane Banks Becky Nielsen HomeLight

\$250 - \$499

Robert Donnenberg Alan and Lana Moeller Natalia Benson Coaching Corporation
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Baltimore Yearly Meeting Indian Affairs Committee Gregory Van Vlack Amanda Jacobson
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John Kilmarx John and Nancy Cassidy Family Foundation Winona White

And thank you to the more than 1,000 donors who contributed \$249 and less.
Every dollar makes a difference.



GOVERNANCE AND OVERSIGHT

Stoking the Fire

The Association on American Indian Affairs is governed by an all-Native Board of Directors from all over Native Country. The Board of Directors provides big picture oversight and direction for the programs and operations of the organization. The Board assesses the organization's programs at least every two years and works to implement recommendations from the assessment to actively strengthen the health of the organization at every opportunity.

The Board meets at least four times per year, with at least two of those meetings face-to-face. However, because of the pandemic, we were unable to meet in person in 2022. All Board meetings were held through video conferencing platforms. The Board held four meetings: February 4, May 13 & 14, August 12 and December 9 & 10.

Every year the Association hosts an Annual Membership Meeting to invite friends and members of the organization to participate in its annual governance meeting. This year, we celebrated our 100th year with our inaugural Tribal Museums Day on December 3.

Board of Directors



Frank Ettawageshik
President
Odawa



Jonathan Perry
Vice President
Wampanoag



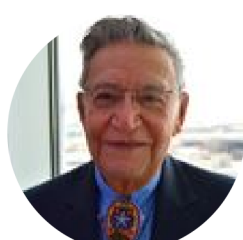
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Ioway



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John Echohawk
Pawnee



Alfred Ketzler Sr.
Athabaskan



Brad Keeler
Cherokee



Sandy White Hawk
Lakota



Rory Wheeler
Seneca



Lisa "Tiger" Martin
Muscogee



Shannon O'Loughlin
Choctaw
Chief Executive & Attorney



Staff

Staff, special project contractors, and interns are primarily responsible for carrying out the day to day program, operations and communications activities of the Association. They collect the tinder and wood and ensure everyone has a place around the fire!

Ericca "CC" Hovie, Ojibwe & Anishinaabe, Public Affairs & Communications Director

Colleen Medicine, Ojibwe & Anishinaabe, Program Director

Shauna Shackleton, Creek, Office Manager

Julie Hamilton, Office Assistant

Angela M. Schauerte, Office Assistant

Kimberly Mettler, Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation, Native Youth Justice

Christine McCleave, Anishinaabe, National Native Youth Summer Camps

Shannon Martin, Potawatomi & Ojibwe, Tribal Museums Day

Andrew Meyer, Auction Alerts

Theresa Owens, Historical Research

Kianna Pete, Navajo, Intern

Saira Coye-Huhn, Maya, Intern

Megan Duren, Ojibwe, Intern

Lucy Floydd, Intern

Cara Wind, Intern

Shandiin Vandervere, Intern

Council of Advisors

The Council of Advisors is comprised of individuals who are interested in furthering the work of the Association. They hold a wealth of knowledge and various interests, and are prominent in their own fields. The Council's primary initiatives consist of raising the profile of the the Association's work, assisting in planning our fundraising events, and supporting the Association to network with individuals who can assist programmatically and financially.



Nadema Agard, Cherokee/Lakota/Powhatan

Gail Bruce

Kimberly Guerrero, Colville/Salish-Kootenai/Cherokee

John Haworth, Cherokee

Dennis Hirschfelder

Alli Joseph, Shinnecock

Hattie Kauffman, Nez Perce

Kerry Kennedy

Dr. Francesca Kress

Jody Naranjo, Santa Clara Pueblo

Jane Safer

George Stonefish, Lenape

Tommy Orange, Cheyenne & Arapaho

Josh Spear

Martha Redbone, Cherokee/Choctaw

Gloria Steinem

Shaun Taylor-Corbett, Blackfeet

Lynn Taylor-Corbett

Robert Saunooke, Cherokee

Kathleen Wall, Jemez Pueblo

DeLanna Studi, Cherokee

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