



## **ASSOCIATION ON AMERICAN INDIAN AFFAIRS**

Protecting Sovereignty • Preserving Culture  
Educating Youth • Building Capacity

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **ASSOCIATION ON AMERICAN INDIAN AFFAIRS WELCOMES NEW OFFICE MANAGER**

Native Country, U.S.A., (April 2, 2024) – The Association on American Indian Affairs, the longest serving Native non-profit in the United States, is delighted to welcome Denise Rubeck, a citizen of the Suquamish Tribe, to the position of Office Manager.

Rubeck's role as Office Manager supports the Association's administration of its operations, programs and events and is an important position within the Association. Rubeck is the first person the public will speak with if they call or send an email. Her position, like all positions at the Association, is virtual, which allows Rubeck to stay close to home while working with the national non-profit across Native Country. Denise will oversee the Association's Native Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarships and Native Youth Summer Camp Grants initiative, and work to support the Association's donors, members and volunteers.

Rubeck states, "I'm eagerly anticipating the work that's ahead. My journey is one of relentless advocacy, profound commitment to education, and heartfelt dedication to Native Nations. Through my work, I strive not only to highlight the crucial importance of preserving Native cultures and rights but also to create a legacy that motivates the coming generations."

Rubeck has served other Native non-profits, including the National American Indian Housing Council and the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, in administrative and policy development activities. Rubeck is also a Student Success Coach at Northwest Indian College, her alma mater, and serves in an advisory role in the American Indigenous Business Leaders Club, where she works to inspire Native students.

"Denise's work and academic goals are a testament to her unwavering commitment to dismantling oppressive systems and fostering an inclusive, equitable society that celebrates Native Nation sovereignty, self-determination and cultural diversity," said Shannon O'Loughlin, citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and the Association's CEO and Attorney. "We are so happy to have Denise working with us to support the advocacy of the Association and our important cultural sovereignty efforts."

Rubeck has received a bachelor's degree in Tribal Governance and Business Management

from Northwest Indian College and a master's degree in Indigenous Education from Arizona State University. She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in Indigenous Educational Leadership at the University of Washington, with an expected completion in 2026. Denise lives on the Port Madison Indian Reservation, the homelands of her Nation.

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The Association on American Indian Affairs is the oldest non-profit serving Native Country protecting sovereignty, preserving culture, educating youth and building 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 its 100-year history, the Association has 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 support Native Peoples.

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