Disaster Philanthropy and Native Americans: Practical Tips for Funding On and Off Reservations

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Moderator

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How to Participate

- Look for the fully captioned webinar recording and summary at disasterphilanthropy.org.
  - Live captioning is available now via Zoom. Click on Closed Caption/Live Transcript to access it.

- Submit questions using Q & A box at the bottom of your screen.

- Use #CDP4Recovery to tweet along during the webinar.

- Complete the survey upon leaving webinar.
“Acknowledgment is a simple, powerful way of showing respect and a step toward correcting the stories and practices that erase Indigenous people’s history and culture and toward inviting and honoring the truth.”

https://usdac.us/nativeland
Snapshot to Indigenous History

Designed by:
J’net Ayayqwayaksheelth
Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations
Port Alberni, British Columbia
Native Americans 101

- Native People are a richly diverse group of people.
- Being Native is not just a race or an ethnicity.
- The American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) population is on the rise.
- Most American Indians/Alaska Natives live outside of reservations.

Source: https://nativephilanthropy.candid.org/native-101/
Native Americans are greatly underfunded by philanthropy.

Funding for Native American communities and causes significantly dropped following the recession.

Twenty percent of large foundations give to Native communities and causes.

Most grant dollars are for program support (56 percent).

Data from: Investing in Native Communities: Philanthropic Funding for Native American Communities and Causes
Speakers

Heidi Schultz
Program Manager,
Early Recovery Fund, Tribal Communities Disaster Recovery
Center for Disaster Philanthropy

Jesalyn Keziah
Community Engagement Program Officer
American Indian Center,
UNC – Chapel Hill

Dawn Knickerbocker
Vice President of Development and External Engagement
Native Americans in Philanthropy
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Sharing truth: CHANGE THE NARRATIVE

Native lens: EXPANDING YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Investment: NATIVE LED SOLUTIONS

What could funders be doing to make changes?
Heidi Schultz
Program Manager, Early Recovery Fund, Tribal Communities Disaster Recovery
Center for Disaster Philanthropy
CDP Early Recovery Fund: Native Communities Program

- Rural, high-impact, low-attention disasters
- Partner with communities and community leaders
- Grantee partners are both on and off-reservation in MN, ND, and SD
- Layered issues: food insecurity, housing, COVID-19
- Capacity building via grants:
  - Hire local.
  - Provide technical assistance.
  - Cheer, watch them soar & celebrate successes.
Jesalyn Keziah
Community Engagement Program Officer
American Indian Center, UNC – Chapel Hill
All funders fund Indigenous issues

All funders can and should fund Indigenous-led and centered work.
Understand SOVEREIGNTY & SELF-DETERMINATION  
Build Internally NATIVE BOARD & PROGRAM OFFICERS  
Shifting the Power Relationships
Time, Patience, Respect

Cheyenne River Reservation, SD
*Photo courtesy of BIA Cheyenne Agency*

Road and culvert damage, 2019 storms
*Photo courtesy of Cheyenne River Tribe*
Native American and Indigenous people are in every community, wherever you are.

- Tribal territories and Urban Indian orgs
- Getting in touch
- Initiating and building relationship
CONSULTING WITH TRIBAL NATIONS AND NATIVE COMMUNITIES
OUR RELATIVES + OUR NETWORKS
Relationship & Reciprocity

Why might there be reluctance?
“What do you want to work on?”

- Listening
- Asking questions
- Learning community’s values & priorities
- Current infrastructure, strengths & challenges
- “Nepotism” is a colonial/white construct vs. We are all Relatives

Photos courtesy of Caylee Martinez, Wambli Ska Society
Submit questions using the Q & A box at the bottom of your screen.

Use #CDP4Recovery to tweet insights.
Key Takeaways

- Philanthropy is often a transactional relationship.
- Trust in tribal self-determination and tribal sovereignty.
- Building relationships may need to include reconciliation.
- Native Americans are in every place and every sector.
- Give Indigenous knowledge and wisdom the credit it is due.
CDP Resources


- Detailed Issue Insights.

- Regularly updated Disaster Profiles.

- For more information, visit www.disasterphilanthropy.org.
The Disaster Playbook has a number of toolkits and resources to guide the philanthropic community in responding to future disasters.

Learn more at www.disasterplaybook.org
Join us August 12 at 2 p.m. ET for our next webinar: Best Practices in Disaster Philanthropy: The Importance of Long-Term Recovery Groups
Questions?

For additional information, contact:

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