

# The ANA Messenger

## SPECIAL EDITION ON NATIVE LANGUAGES Administration for Native Americans

• *tgwe'l gu' aya' ( ch'emniyngwiln khwe sshem*

*(Couer D'Alene Tribe - Promoting the Goal of Social and Economic Self-Sufficiency for All Native Americans)*

### Message from the Commissioner

I am pleased to introduce our Special Native Language Edition of the ANA Messenger. The recently passed Esther Martinez Native Languages Preservation Act has brought a new focus to preserving our Native Languages. Esther Martinez, or Blue Water as she was also known, has been described as a "National Treasure." To me that seems to be an understatement. From her time at boarding school, where she, like many others, was forced to use English and forego her Native language, she made the conscious decision to keep her Tewa language alive. She then proceeded to spend her 90 plus years teaching us all the stories of her people, even translating those stories so that non-speakers would be able to understand them. It has been said that "with a loss of a language we lose a window to culture." Esther Martinez knew it wasn't just a window to our culture; rather, it is the primary foundation of our culture.

ANA is thrilled to see the renewed focus on language and cultural preservation. Currently, ANA provides 60% of our language funding to Tribes and 40% to community non-profit organizations in the continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Marianna Islands. Over the last eight years (FY 2000 - FY 2007), ANA has funded 254 projects totaling \$56 Million, or an average of 59 projects and \$7 Million per year.

Over the past several years, ANA has dedicated increased funding to the Native Language Preservation and Maintenance Program. In FY 2007, ANA added a third category to the language program focused on language project implementation. In FY 2008, ANA added a fourth language category for language immersion projects. The addition of this fourth category creates the opportunity for Tribes and Native non-profit organizations to conceivably receive up to 9 years of funding at a total of \$1.75 Million, which is an additional 3 years of funding and access to an additional \$750,000.

With the daily passing of our elders, we are losing the sole speakers of our Native languages. In so doing, we lose our ability to identify something by its proper name and to understand the meaning of things from the heart. We in ANA are proud to support and contribute to the success of our grantees. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of our Native children, families and communities.

## OCERJ,

(To The Future)

Quanah Crossland Stamps



*Makah language students spend the day at a museum learning about their heritage.*



*GLIFWC elders working on their language project.*



*Candeska Cikana promotes Dakota values by stressing the Dakota Language.*



## ANA Language Program

ANA provides project funding to eligible applicants for the purpose of assisting Native Americans to assure the survival and continuing vitality of their languages. The Esther Martinez Act (PL109-394) was enacted in Dec 2006 and amends the Native American Languages Act of 1992 (PL102-408) to authorize three-year grants for educational Native American language nests, survival schools, and restoration programs. To implement the statutory requirements of both the Esther Martinez and the Language Preservation and Maintenance Acts, ANA has expanded the Native Language Preservation and Maintenance Program in the FY 2008 Program Announcement.

The addition of Category IV creates the opportunity for Tribes and Native non-profit organizations to conceivably receive up to 9 years of funding at a total of \$1.75 Million, which is an additional 3 years of funding and access to an additional \$750,000 dollars.

### Native Language Building Blocks

FY 2007	FY 2008
3 Language Categories	4 Language Categories
6 years of funding	9 years of funding
\$1 million	\$1.75 million

### The ANA Language Preservation and Maintenance Program Categories:

	Category 1	Category II	Category III	Category IV
<b>Priority Area</b>	Native Language Assessment	Native Language Project Planning	Native Language Project Implementation	Native Language Immersion Projects
<b>Length of Project</b>	1 year	1-2 years	1-3 years	3 years
<b>Funding threshold</b>	\$100,000	\$150,000/budget period	\$200,000/budget period	250,000/budget period
<b>Description</b>	To conduct an assessment of the current status of the Native language(s) within an established community.	To plan and design Native language projects. These projects are for planning only and do not include activities that call for direct language learning or instruction.	To provide support to Tribes and Native organizations in the implementation of a Native language project to achieve the community's long-range goal(s).	Immersion projects for language nests or language survival schools.*

\*Language Nest Projects are defined by statute as site-based educational programs that provide Native Language for at least 10 children under the age of 7 for an average of at least 500 hours per year per student; provide language classes for parents and ensure that a Native American language is the dominant medium of instruction.

\*Language Survival School Projects as defined by statute are site-based educational programs for school age students that provide an average of 500 hours of Native language instruction through the use of one or more Native American languages for at least 15 students for whom a Native American language school is their principle place of instruction; develop instructional courses and materials for Native American languages and for instruction through the use of Native American languages; provide for teacher training; work toward a goal of all students achieving fluency in a Native American language and academic proficiency in mathematics, reading, science; and is located in areas that have high numbers or percentages of Native American students.

## Language Project Impact Visits

Annually, ANA conducts impact visits on ANA funded projects. The purpose of impact visits is threefold: 1) to assess the impact of ANA funding on Native American communities; 2) to learn more about the successes and challenges of ANA grantees to improve ANA service delivery; and 3) to increase transparency and share the grantee's unique stories. Twenty language projects were evaluated in 2007. Ninety percent of these projects demonstrated success in meeting project objectives.

### FY 2007 Impact Evaluation Results for Language Projects

Number of Language Impact Visits conducted:	20
Total funding amount:	\$6 million
Language surveys created:	7
Language surveys completed:	6,035
Native language teachers trained:	70
Native language classes held:	8,082
Number of Youth with increased language skills:	2,803
Number of Adults with increased language skills:	844
Achieved fluency in a Native language:	44

## Immersion

Currently ANA has 46 language projects for a total of \$5.7 million in funding for FY 2007. Of these projects 5 are Language I, 23 are Language II and 18 are Language III.

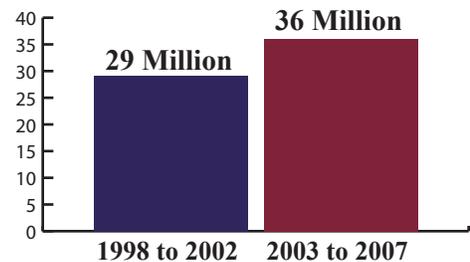
18 of these 46 projects, or 39%, have immersion project components.

## Historical Language Funding

Over the last eight years (FY 2000 - FY 2007), ANA has funded 254 projects totaling \$56 Million, or an average of 59 projects and \$7 Million per year.

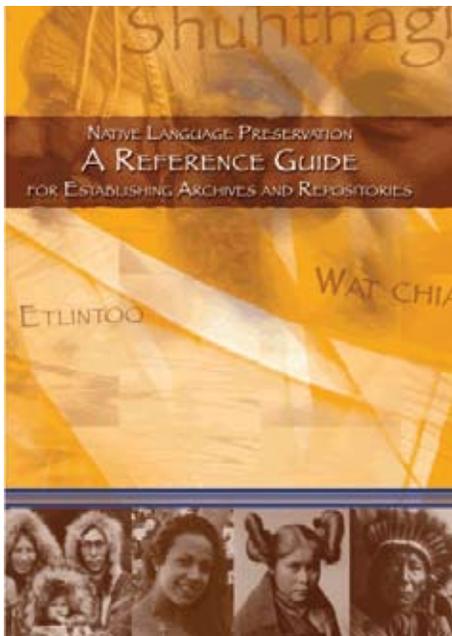
ANA has received 859 language applications in the same eight year period, requesting \$97 Million. ANA funded approximately 30% of the language applications received.

### Language Grant Funding History 1998 to 2007



*In an analysis of language funding over the past ten years, Commissioner Stamps has increased ANA language funding by an average of 7 Million Dollars since being appointed in December 2003.*

## Hbenengel'anch (Dena'ina - Opportunity)



### *A Reference Guide: Native Language Preservation for Establishing Archives and Repositories*

In FY 2005, ANA collaborated with the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian to produce a Native Language Preservation Reference Guide. This Reference can assist Native people everywhere on how to preserve and revitalize their languages. It offers practical advice on what to preserve and how to catalog. It includes helpful interviews with curators of large collections and it will assist in the preservation of irreplaceable treasures; our languages.

This wonderful Reference Guide is available on CD and can be ordered by going to the ANA website and looking under "What's New." ANA is making this available at no charge to help Native communities plan, collect, catalog, and begin a language preservation and revitalization program.

<http://www.ackco.com/repositoryguide>

## Language Funding Sources and Resources

### Endangered Language Fund (ELF)

ELF supports endangered language preservation and documentation projects through funding grants to individuals, tribes, and museums.

[www.endangeredlanguagefund.org](http://www.endangeredlanguagefund.org)

### Lannan Foundation

The Lannan Foundation is a family foundation dedicated to cultural freedom, diversity and creativity by supporting exceptional contemporary artists, writers, and inspired Native activists in rural indigenous communities. The foundation presents awards and fellowships to writers and Native community activists.

[www.lannan.org/lf/ic/language-preservation/](http://www.lannan.org/lf/ic/language-preservation/)

### Native Languages of the Americas

The Native Languages of the Americas is a small non-profit organization dedicated to the survival of Native American languages, particularly through the use of Internet technology. The site provides a compendium of online materials.

[www.native-languages.org/](http://www.native-languages.org/)

### Humanities Washington (for projects in the state of Washington)

Grants are available to support projects for public presentation of insights gained from the humanities. Project formats include exhibits, symposia and public forums, extra-curricular school programs, lecture and discussion programs, cultural presentations, web sites, and radio documentaries.

[www.humanities.org/grants/projectgrantsguidelines.php](http://www.humanities.org/grants/projectgrantsguidelines.php)

