
Native Prevention, Research, Intervention, Development, Education



Project Title:	The Good Road of Life: Responsible Fatherhood
Award Amount:	\$152,000
Type of Grant:	Social and Economic Development Strategies - Family Preservation
Project Period:	Sept. 2008 – Sept. 2009
Grantee Type:	Native Nonprofit

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

- 2 jobs created
- 3 Native American consultants hired
- 12 elders involved
- 10 youth involved
- \$4,670 in resources leveraged
- 50 individuals trained
- 12 partnerships formed

BACKGROUND

Native Prevention, Research, Intervention, Development, Education (PRIDE), an American Indian nonprofit organization located in Corrales, New Mexico, was established in 2007 to develop and deliver culturally competent programs and trainings to native populations. Native PRIDE strives to counter the negative effects of multigenerational trauma and cultural oppression, which the organization believes hinders native men's ability to embrace their culture and tradition, thereby weakening their status and roles in their communities.

According to a 2004 report from the Centers for Disease Control, native men suffer a rate of alcoholism 6 times higher than other Americans, with alcohol-related death rates 178% higher. The suicide rate for native men is about 1.5 times higher than other Americans. Furthermore, Native American women fall victim to violent crimes at least 3.5 times more often than the national average. These social factors detrimentally impact the healthy functioning of native families and communities.

Prior to this project, Native PRIDE was unable to find effective training curricula to help native men address the underlying trauma associated with these indicators.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this project was to develop and implement a culturally appropriate and replicable curriculum focused on responsible fatherhood and marriage education for Native American men.

The project's first objective was to develop and pilot the curriculum. Under the direction of an advisory group, project staff

collaborated with partners to develop the content of the curriculum and an associated three-day workshop specifically focused on native men. Project staff consulted quarterly with the advisory board and held three face-to-face meetings and one teleconference to elicit feedback on the content and structure of the curriculum and workshop.

Staff then piloted the curriculum at the Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI), a tribal college located in New Mexico. Working in partnership with the Albuquerque Indian Health Board to promote the curriculum, Native PRIDE attracted 45 participants to the pilot test. Before the workshop began, staff conducted a one day training of trainers for advisory board members.

During the pilot-test, the men participated in sweat lodges, built sacred instruments, and participated in cultural activities. The workshop promoted healthy living and life skills improvement as a means to forming healthy Native American families. The workshop was highly interactive and encouraged participants to relate and network with one another. After the third day of the workshop, the trainers tasked participants with four homework projects and partnered them with another participant to facilitate communication and teamwork during project completion.

After the pilot workshop, Native PRIDE's advisory board recommended creating an additional training for the participants' families to ensure they understood and accepted the men's healing journey through the course. Staff developed the additional curriculum and pilot-tested it in December, 2009, after the ANA-funded portion of the project ended. Under the new two-pronged training approach, participants will return with their families one month after the first workshop. The second training is a nine-chapter course spanning three days with the

men and women attending their own sessions for the first two days and attending a collective training on the final day.

At the outset of the workshops, staff evaluated participant knowledge of culture and other life skills. Staff then followed up with a post-workshop evaluation to compare its effectiveness and delivery.

OUTCOMES AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

The completed 15 chapter curriculum focused on helping native men address issues related to their relationship with their fathers and unresolved feelings of shame, while also building a network of healthy relationships with other native men. The curriculum also emphasized an understanding of historical trauma and developing healthy life skills.

The completion of this project yielded a comprehensive, culturally appropriate and easily replicable curriculum to help improve the lives of native men and foster healthier marriages and family life within Native American communities. Native PRIDE not only developed the men's curriculum as planned, but they developed a similar comprehensive curriculum for participants' families as well.

To sustain project benefits, staff will develop a train-the-trainers curriculum to be used throughout the United States by other interested organizations and tribes.

Pueblo of Laguna



Project Title:	Effective Governmental Capacity Building Strategy for Analysis, Codification, Update, and Management
Award Amount:	\$56,594
Type of Grant:	Social and Economic Development Strategies
Project Period:	Sept. 2007 – Feb. 2009
Grantee Type:	Tribe

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

- 90 elders involved
- \$25,443 in resources leveraged
- 2 partnerships formed
- 1 governance code/ordinance developed
- 1 governance code/ordinance implemented

BACKGROUND

The Pueblo of Laguna (POL) is a federally recognized Indian tribe with an enrollment of just over 8,000. The pueblo is comprised of 6 rural villages located on a 700,000 acre reservation in New Mexico.

Prior to this project, the pueblo had no trackable and openly accessible resource that contained tribal legislation, making regulation and enactment of new policies cumbersome and sometimes impossible.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this project was to enhance the pueblo's administrative and governmental legislative capacity to enact

codes and provide effective governmental services.

The project's first objective was to compile and maintain accurate and retrievable records of the pueblo's existing governing laws and policies. To do so, staff compiled the pueblos' existing laws into three volumes, organized them into chapters, standardized their format, digitized the compendium, and began to maintain them systematically.

The second objective was to review existing pueblo laws for consistency, then identify and prioritize community needs that could be served by new laws. A sub-contracted law firm reviewed existing laws and drafted recommendations. The POL tribal council then met to prioritize governmental areas for code revisions. Through this process, staff updated the pueblo's trespassing code and made formal recommendations to update several other codes, including the POL's procurement code. To codify the changes, staff contracted with a publishing company but was unable to publish the new format by the end of the project.

The final objective was to adopt uniform procedures for codifying existing and future laws and adopt a new administrative procedures act. The pueblo partnered with the University of Arizona to host a gathering of community stakeholders for the development of priorities for future code implementation, including health care, financial stability, administrative efficiency and education. This effort led to the creation of subgroups who reviewed each of the priorities to determine means of filtering them down to the public and implementing them in the future. However, the POL was unable to adopt uniform procedures for codifying laws due to delays within the committee responsible for reviewing new procedures. Staff did succeed in developing the Administrative Procedures Act, which the Tribal Council adopted on September 9, 2008.

OUTCOMES AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

The updated records and streamlined cataloguing system increased the Pueblo of Laguna’s capacity to exercise sovereignty, according to the project’s director, June Lorenzo. One example is the updated trespassing code, which gave more protection to the POL and power to negotiate greater revenue generation in the future.

Copies of the published code will be distributed throughout the community to ensure easy access for pueblo members. Since many members represent themselves in legal disputes, the increased access and standardization of the codes will assist these efforts. The formal publication of the code will ensure that project benefits are sustained and the format is easily updatable.

“This project has made a huge difference. The code is a thing of pride for the Pueblo, and everyone has access to it.”
June Lorenzo, Project Director
