

## Cumberland County Association for Indian People



CUMBERLAND COUNTY  
**ASSOCIATION for INDIAN PEOPLE**

<b>Project Title:</b>	East Star Center Program Development
<b>Award Amount:</b>	\$227,002
<b>Type of Grant:</b>	Social and Economic Development Strategies
<b>Project Period:</b>	Sept. 2008 – Sept. 2009
<b>Grantee Type:</b>	Native Nonprofit

### PROJECT SNAPSHOT

- 2 jobs created
- 1 business created
- 1 Native American consultant hired
- 30 elders involved
- 15 youth involved
- \$55,200 in resources leveraged
- 14 partnerships formed

### BACKGROUND

The Cumberland County Association for Indian People (CCAIP) is based in Fayetteville and acquired nonprofit status in 1972. CCAIP’s mission is to enhance the self-determination and self-sufficiency of the 5,500 Native Americans residing in Cumberland County.

In 1980, CCAIP acquired the Les Maxwell Indian School and its surrounding 12 acres from the county. CCAIP operated a daycare and museum out of the school until the late 1990s, when the school’s poor condition forced the programs’ discontinuation. In 2007, CCAIP received funds from the Affordable Housing Group, a nonprofit organization located in Charlotte, North

Carolina, to renovate and convert the school into a family center for the county’s Native American population.

### PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The project’s purpose was to develop and implement the daycare, museum, and arts and crafts programs for the East Star Family Center.

The project’s first objective was to design and implement an information outreach effort to promote community involvement in planning the Center’s programs. To complete the objective, project staff held community dinners and meetings to procure input on program content and operation of the Center. During the early stages of project implementation, the school experienced five separate acts of vandalism, rendering the facility unusable and prompting the insurance provider to drop their coverage. After a significant delay, project staff was able to secure an alternative site at a local church. However, due to the limited space at the new location, staff was only able to pursue plans for the daycare program to completion. The daycare will commence operations in

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November 2009, after the conclusion of the project timeframe.

The project's second objective was to develop and implement the program infrastructure for the East Star Family Center, including a curriculum for the daycare program, an operating plan for the museum, and an arts and crafts program. Due to the challenges previously cited, staff achieved no significant progress on the planned deliverables within the project timeframe.

**OUTCOMES AND COMMUNITY IMPACT**

Due to the challenges described above, the project's outcomes and impact on the community have been minimal.

## Lumbee Nation Tribal Programs




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<b>Project Title:</b>	Economic Development for the Lumbee Tribe
<b>Award Amount:</b>	\$110,777
<b>Type of Grant:</b>	Social and Economic Development Strategies
<b>Project Period:</b>	Sept. 2008 – Sept. 2009
<b>Grantee Type:</b>	Native Nonprofit

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**PROJECT SNAPSHOT**

- 1 job created
- 10 elders involved
- \$3,500 in resources leveraged
- 3 individuals trained
- 17 partnerships formed

**BACKGROUND**

The Lumbee Tribe is a state-recognized tribe located in southeastern North Carolina. It is the largest tribe east of the Mississippi River, with approximately 55,000 enrolled community members. The tribal service area is completely rural, with the largest town hosting a population of fewer than 10,000 people. The population is dependent on a declining agricultural economy, causing additional strain on an area that has also lost over 8,000 manufacturing jobs in the past 10 years. Census data indicates that 31% of Lumbee community members live below the poverty line.

**PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

The project’s purpose and objective was to create a Strategic Economic Development Plan to create sustainable jobs and improve

the economic and social conditions of Lumbee tribal members. To complete the objective, the tribe contracted with The Regional Center for Economic Development at the University of North Carolina – Pembroke to conduct information gathering activities and author the plan. The contractor conducted meetings with the Tribal Chairman, Tribal Program Managers, Tribal Council members, and community members to procure input on economic development strategies and community needs. With these same stakeholders, the contractor also performed an analysis to determine the tribe’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. The contractor then incorporated all quantitative and qualitative information gathered during project implementation into a final Economic Development Strategic Plan which outlines four development goals for the tribe and details expected outcomes for the next 3-5 years. The stated goals are: 1) Create a Lumbee Foundation for Economic Development; 2) Create Tribal Enterprises; 3) Develop Entrepreneurial Opportunities for Tribal Members; and 4) Develop Tourism Opportunities. The plan outlines an implementation framework, timeframe,

position responsible, and planned deliverables for each goal. The contractor submitted the completed plan to the Lumbee Tribal Council within the project timeframe.

**OUTCOMES AND COMMUNITY IMPACT**

For the Lumbee community, participation in the creation of the Economic Development Strategic Plan fostered an environment of empowerment and hope. Community members set the vision for their Tribe on issues they want addressed.

Lumbee leaders now have clear and current information about the needs of their community. With the completion of the plan, a framework for appropriate policy implementation and economic development activity has successfully been built by the implementation of project activities. The strategic plan forms the basis for the prioritized tasks of the Lumbee Tribal Council. Finally, the completed plan provides the needed foundational data and implementation matrix for all future Lumbee grant applications and development initiatives.