

year, the Project staff aimed to offer twelve activities, with fifteen participants in each. The second year, Project staff planned to offer fourteen activities, again with fifteen participants. During the final year, the Project staff intended to hold twelve activities with an increased participation of twenty people in each. The Project staff worked with the Language Advisory Committee to determine which activities to offer and ensure each activity is culturally appropriate and accurate. Activities were advertised using posters, radio announcements, and mentions in the college calendar. These activities included hand games, moccasin games, name recognition ceremonies and quilt-making, among others. Project staff succeeded in the number of language activities offered as well as the number of participants. As participation in the Project gained momentum and more activities were offered, participants began attending with the anticipation of increasing their native language vocabulary.

The second objective was to increase core word recognition for participants of the language activities as measured by pre- and post-testing. Project staff experienced some challenges in the development of the tests; however, once adequate tests were developed, monitoring the participant's language progress proved simple. The Project chose to focus on people who participated in three or more activities, and core word recognition gains were measured for every activity.

Several challenges were encountered during the implementation period. The scheduling of the language activities proved difficult, due to dependency on the college's schedule. The development of appropriate pre- and post-tests was also a challenge, as there was a lack of relevant expertise among Project staff. Initially, the tests were two separate documents administered to people who attended the traditional activities.

However, it proved difficult to determine who had taken the tests and to ensure that everyone take both. Therefore, the Project staff developed a new set of one-page tests, ensuring that participants fill out both sections before leaving the event.

PROJECT OUTCOMES AND IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

For the community, this Project's focus was to increase multigenerational interaction and foster pride in the Dakota culture. Project staff mentioned that as a result of the language activities, people are now speaking Dakota at home, with their children and grandchildren. Community members are also taking up traditional activities again, such as moccasin making and beading.

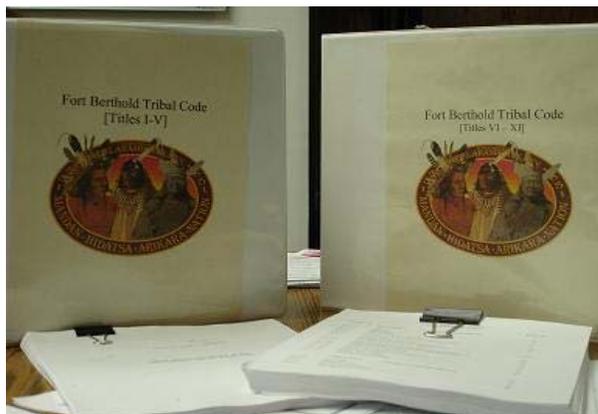
The elders of the Sprit Lake Reservation reported experiencing an increased sense of pride in their heritage and traditional knowledge, and are more willing to share that knowledge, as they once again feel needed in their communities. They indicated feeling a sense of duty to the community and have expressed a newfound sense of value for natural resources.

Overall, this Project served to bring the community together using the innovative method of cultural activities to promote and teach the Dakota language. These activities drew both young and old community members, fostering lasting intergenerational exchange.

"People know the language but they do not want to speak it. This project is changing that and has made a big difference."

Lorraine Greybear,
Project Director

THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES



Project Title:	Three Affiliated Tribes Tribal Code Amendment Project
Award Amount:	\$88,000
Type of Grant:	Social and Economic Development Strategies
Project Period:	9/30/2006 – 9/29/2007
Grantee Type:	Tribe

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

- 2 jobs created
- 1 elder involved
- 1 youth involved
- \$11,045 in resources leveraged
- 7 partnerships formed
- 1 product developed
- 9 governance codes/ordinances developed

BACKGROUND

The Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in west central North Dakota is home to the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara people, otherwise known as the Three Affiliated Tribes. The current tribal enrollment is 12,058, of which 8,400 reside on the Reservation.

As a result of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, the Tribe was empowered to establish its first Tribal Court System as well as promulgate laws, ordinances, resolutions, codes and rules to govern the conduct and general welfare of tribal citizens and other persons that fall within its territorial jurisdiction. Prior to the Project, the tribal code of the Three Affiliated Tribes had several chapters, and was in dire need of

updating and formatting as there was no table of contents, no bound copy of the code, and it was held in two loose-leaf binders. There was also a lack of procedure established for amendments or new laws.

PROJECT PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The Project goal was to update and amend the existing tribal code, thereby enhancing the Tribe’s legal infrastructure.

The first objective was to establish a tribal workgroup and compile and scan all the current code documents into a digital format. The staff established a workgroup that met on a monthly basis to discuss the tribal codes and begin the process of amending the existing codes. Members of the workgroup included Project staff, representatives from the local law enforcement, members of the Boys and Girls Club, and elders. Project staff scanned the existing code documents in order to put them all into MS Word for easier formatting.

The second objective was to continue the monthly workgroup meetings as well as format and amend the tribal codes. Project staff worked to complete a draft of the revised and amended tribal codes. The workgroup developed new codes including

the Drug and Alcohol, Child Support Enforcement and Child Welfare codes.

Objective 3 was to complete the universal formatting of the code, hold a public hearing for comment on the draft, and solidify Tribal Business Council approval of the final document. Included in this objective was to place the final tribal code document on the Tribe's website. At the close of the Project this objective remained incomplete, due to delays in the Project's implementation. In addition, the Tribe's legal department experienced high staff turnover and the Project's supervising attorney resigned during the final quarter of the project. At the conclusion of the Project period, a draft of the amended codes was not complete and had not been presented to the Business Council. There was no anticipated date for the public hearing.

Delays in the Project's implementation resulted from tribal elections and subsequent reorganization of tribal government positions, which did not allow for the Project to advertise staff positions. This caused a three-month delay in hiring staff and the completion of project activities. Project staff also noted that it was difficult to organize the workgroup meetings, as individual schedules often conflicted. Finally, as mentioned above, there were no attorneys working in the legal department during the concluding months of the Project, which prevented any new legal documents, and therefore the amended codes, from being finalized.

PROJECT OUTCOMES AND IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

This Project served to increase the capacity of the Three Affiliated Tribes' government and Judicial Committee. The existence of an organized, well-formatted tribal code would enable the Judicial Committee to have easy access to all codes, thereby promoting code compliance. The updated

format and placement of the final document on the tribal website will enable the entire tribal community to review and access the codes. New laws will potentially also be enacted to improve the health and safety of the tribal community.

"The new codes will address all situations occurring on the reservation, and people will now have access to them. This will enable them to protect and defend themselves in court."

Lisa Redford, Project Manager
Three Affiliated Tribes