







Our Mission:

Serving immediate needs. Supporting long-term solutions.

Our Vision:

Strong, self-sufficient Native American communities.

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Purpose:

Partnership With Native Americans is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to championing hope for a brighter future for Native Americans living on remote, geographically-isolated and impoverished reservations. Collaborating with our reservation partners, we provide consistent aid and services for Native Americans with the highest need in the U.S. PWNA was founded in 1990.

Impact:

Our main goals are partnering to help improve reservation services and developing local leaders who can drive social change within their tribal communities regardless of their core focus (nutrition, education, health, etc.). PWNA measures social change through outcomes for our tribal program partners, and they in turn work directly with community members on direct outcomes such as reducing hunger and health issues or increasing graduation rates.

PWNA's program logic model shows that, as our reservation partners become more effective, they are more likely to create positive impact for their communities. The continued growth of our tribal partners moves us toward our vision of strong, self-sufficient Native American communities.



In 2018, Partnership With Native Americans (PWNA) proved to be more resilient than ever. We continued to carry out our mission of service to people living in under-served reservation communities, despite obstacles in the economy and nonprofit world.

PWNA addressed the most pressing needs of Native Americans, supporting reservations across the Northern Plains and Southwest as one of the largest Native-led and Native-serving charities in the U.S. Our work centered on both immediate relief to supply critical goods and services and community-based support to build sustainable gains in tribal communities.

Despite a historic government shutdown that began in 2018 and continued into 2019, and the decreased giving nationwide linked to tax law changes and economic uncertainty, PWNA successfully continued its efforts to improve nutrition, education, emergency response and capacity building in Indian Country.

PWNA's tribal program partners are at the core of what we do and serve as champions of hope through their dedication to a brighter future in their communities. Together with our community program partners, donors, volunteers, staff and Board of Directors, PWNA remains committed to carrying out our mission of self-determined social change in distressed Native communities.

With gratitude,

Robbi Rice Dietrich, CEO/President





Creating Stronger, More Nutrition-Conscious Communities

At least 23 percent of
Native American families
live with food insecurity,
and many reservation
communities face high
rates of impoverishment,
spilling over into higher
rates of diabetes, obesity and
other nutrition-related illnesses.
Many Native American reservation
communities are USDA-designated
food deserts, making fresh fruit, vegetables
and other wholesome foods inaccessible.

In 2018, PWNA was invited to join the Native American Nutrition Cohort, hosted by Newman's Own Foundation, to collaborate with other Native nonprofits on food security and solutions. The cohort is convening several times over the next couple of years to work toward increasing impact on Native nutrition systems. Through grant funding from Newman's Own Foundation and the Walmart Foundation, PWNA has continued to enhance Native nutrition and food security, implementing projects such as Mobile Nutrition Education and Train-The-Trainer (T3) that educate communities on local gardening and foraging, food

preservation and healthy cooking with local food sources and Indigenous recipes.

Members of the Wanblee community, situated in the northeastern part of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, participated in a nutrition education program focused on reintroducing traditional foods into Native homes. The cooking and canning sessions incorporated ancestral methods of food preparation and preservation, bringing families closer and uncovering opportunities for future intergenerational activities.

The first session centered around the understanding that food is medicine, and a foraging workshop took participants, young and old, outdoors to gather plants in the surrounding area. For example, instructors helped individuals identify which resources they could adapt to teas and salves, among other things. Participants then received tools and instructions for slicing, dicing and dehydrating fruits and vegetables for food preservation.

The final session focused on returning to ancestral foods, such as buffalo and root vegetables, and members of the community convened in a large kitchen to learn new culinary techniques. Upon completing the program, participants received cookware to use as they carry these new skills into their homes.

"It brought back memories of life as a young person remembering the way grandma dried food to feed us throughout the winter!"

Wanhles participant

Wanblee participant

"We are really thankful for PWNA and all the work that is being done in our community."

Phyllis Swift Hawk,
 Community Action Team, Wanblee Community



Through the support of PWNA program partners, along with Native American chefs and nutritionists, more than 100 people who prepare meals for Native Americans at schools, Elder nutrition centers and other community outreach programs learned more about accessing, preparing and preserving healthier foods. And with their new skillsets, they collectively impacted nearly 21,000 people representing 18 tribes across the Northern Plains and Southwest, passing on the knowledge and skills they learned.





TOURDATION







- 23 percent of Native Americans live with food insecurity, defined by the USDA as "a household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food" and a precursor to hunger.
- Native Americans experience more health disparities and nutritionrelated diseases than non-natives, including the highest rate of type 2 diabetes in the U.S. and higher rates of obesity among youth, largely a result of families turning to less expensive but fatty and highcarbohydrate foods and meals devoid of fresh vegetables.
- Food deserts are areas lacking fresh fruit, vegetables and other healthful whole foods and are usually found in impoverished areas, affecting most if not all Indian reservations, according to the USDA. Communities only 10 miles from a large grocery store are defined by the USDA as "rural food deserts" if a third of the populous is affected, and many Native families live an hour from the nearest grocer.
- Food sovereignty and food justice are priorities across Indian Country, embracing the right to healthy, culturally appropriate food and food systems. Supporting PWNA's community gardens and nutrition education to re-introduce Indigenous ancestral foods and their holistic impact (spiritual, mental, emotional and connection to nature) can help ensure tribal citizens have regular access to healthy, affordable foods that are locally available or locally grown.

On a more immediate level, PWNA collaborated with reservation partners to deliver food to remote communities, including staple foods for senior centers that prepare hot meals for Elders, and food boxes for pantries that serve a growing population of families in tribal communities. Many Elders also live in food deserts where the nearest grocery store can be up to an hour away, so PWNA provided fresh produce for nutritious diets, as well as emergency food boxes to address shortages in some communities.

In addition to its ongoing nutrition programs, Rafael Tapia, Jr., PWNA's vice president of programs, joined the Arizona Department of Agriculture (ADA) Food & Agriculture Policy Advisory Committee to explore opportunities for increased food security and food access for the state's Native American

communities.



Tribal Business Journal (Florida) – July 2018



"Research indicates that nearly 25 percent of Native households don't have access to fresh food because of limited resources, which can lead to health problems and obesity. Newman's Own Foundation will provide \$1.5 million in grants over two years to the nine organizations that formed the Native American Nutrition Cohort. The participating organizations include: Partnership With Native Americans [and eight other Native nonprofits]."

NEWMAN'S OWN

FOUNDATION





"This was one of the best programs I have had the opportunity to share in the Northern Cheyenne community. Historically our lands gave us the foods we needed to survive and in a variety of forms. I thank PWNA for providing this program where we talked about local foods, saw some native foods and then learned to cook with people who can make a difference in our communities. What a way to address some of our health concerns such as rampant diabetes while living in a food desert with limited access to fresh food."

— April Martin, Wild Rose Center





Championing Education for Brighter Futures

Education is a crucial factor in addressing the long-term challenges present in many tribal communities. Unfortunately, only 17 percent of American Indian students who graduate high school have the opportunity to start college, and only 13 percent of the Native population hold a college degree.

Barriers to education often begin early in life for Native students. With up to 61 percent of Native American children living in poverty or low-income households, purchasing even

© Education **NEWS**

3TV Arizona Family (Arizona) – April 2018



"...for many Native American students living on remote or geographically-isolated reservations, school supplies are a luxury, oftentimes completely inaccessible, depending on their location and family budget. Last year, PWNA supplied [thousands of] students with school supplies, as well as a backpack, to support their educational success."

basic school supplies is nearly impossible for parents, especially when there are multiple children in the home. The American Indian Education Fund (AIEF), a program of PWNA, supports literacy and offers school supplies to help end the cycle of poverty. In 2018, PWNA's annual backpack drive helped thousands of Native American K-12 students gear up for the school year with new backpacks filled with school supplies.

AIEF also provides scholarships, as well as emergency funds and challenge grants to college partners, increasing postsecondary access and funding for Native students and supporting retention until graduation. Nationally, about 30 percent of freshman students drop out, and Native American students are more than twice as likely as other populations to drop out or feel pushed out of college in their first year. Yet, 90 to 95 percent of AIEF freshman scholars complete the college year. Mentorship is a key component of the AIEF support and resources provided for scholars who are away from their reservations. PWNA collaborates with RISE, a Native American employee workforce group at PepsiCo, pairing AIEF scholars with individual RISE mentors they can relate to, and learn from, throughout the year and before entering the workforce.

Adonis Trujillo, an AIEF scholarship recipient and MBA candidate at the University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona, applied for a scholarship with AIEF in hopes of receiving financial support – but what he gained through mentorship was equally invaluable.



"I became a PepsiCo RISE mentee, and they sent care packages to me throughout the year. One of the mentors was an MBA graduate himself. It was a pleasure to meet him. I was surprised [at] how rigorous the MBA program was at times. He was able to relate to the struggles I was going through."



- Adonis Trujillo, AIEF scholarship recipient



AIEF scholars are selected by a committee of Native American academic professionals. In 2018, long-time committee member Michael Begaye was honored at the American Indian Convocation at Arizona State University (ASU). Michael was the executive director of the American Indian Student Support Services at ASU. After his passing, fellow committee member Jim Burns dedicated a scholarship in Michael's name. PWNA participated in the convocation ceremony, recognizing Michael's passion and dedication for Native American education.

In 2018, PWNA also extended its 4 Directions Development Program (4D), launching the first 4D Strong Native Women program, a special all-women cohort supported by the PepsiCo Foundation. As part of the 4D model, emerging leaders are offered a unique opportunity to take part in a sixmonth training program that includes personal and professional development, setting of self-identified goals, and working work with an advisor-mentor, PWNA staff and other resources to reach those goals.

"I have had the opportunity to be involved with the American Indian Education Fund program [of PWNA] for the past decade and see the enormous impact provided to Native American students throughout the country. Scholarships awarded through PWNA, in particular, have given students an extra level of confidence towards reaching their goals academically and has also promoted the idea of giving back to tribal communities in a variety of ways upon completion of their degrees. I know every scholarship recipient is appreciative of the efforts of PWNA and all donors who support AIEF students in their educational and career pursuits."

Bob Sobotta, AIEF Scholarship Committee

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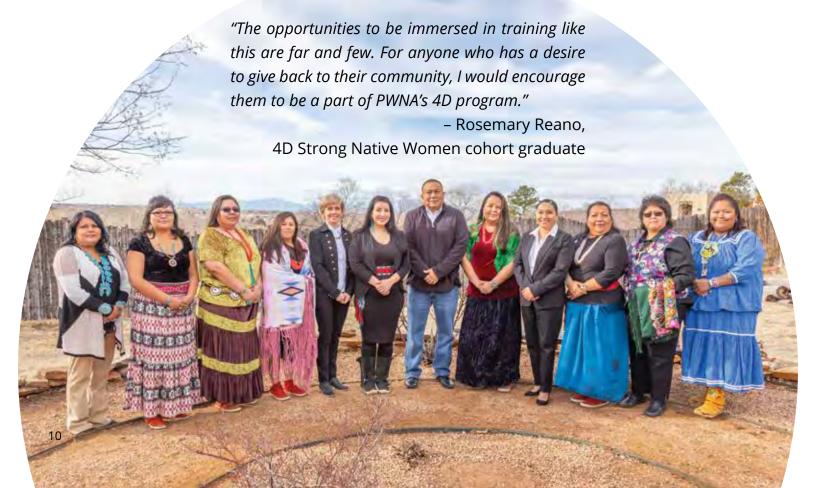
© Education **NEWS**

Minority Business News (national) - May 2018

"Caring people offering encouragement and support converge from all four directions to help American Indian students seeking a higher education through the American Indian Education Fund and the Four Directions Development Program, a leadership and mentoring initiative. AIEF and 4D are administered by the nonprofit Partnership With Native Americans."



The Strong Native Women cohort centered on issues specific to Native female leaders, in this case representing a diverse cross-section of careers, education, families and communities – including Mescalero Apache, Tonto Apache and Navajo nations, as well as the Zuni, San Juan, San Ildefonso and Kewa (Santo Domingo) pueblos. The program included sessions on goal-setting and financial literacy, among others.





- 35 percent of Native American children are growing up in poverty, and up to 61 percent live in low-income households. As poverty is closely associated with lower education and literacy rates, education is crucial to improved opportunities, self-sufficiency and the myriad of challenges facing Indian Country today.
- Only 17 percent of Native American students who finish high school get to begin college, and only 13 percent of the Native population holds a college degree, in large part due to funding barriers. Contrary to popular belief, college is not free for Native Americans or paid for through treaties with the tribes.
- In addition to underfunding, the U.S. education system has failed Native American students, dating back to mission schools and boarding schools in the 1800s, and up until today where federally-operated Bureau of Indian Education schools continue to have the lowest academic achievement levels in the U.S. and contribute to higher dropout rates.
- Students who graduate from college have increased earnings capacity and opportunity. A student with a degree from a two-year college will earn \$10,000 more each year than a high school graduate, and a student with a degree from a four-year university will earn \$1 million more over their lifetime. Supporting PWNA's American Indian Education Fund scholarships can help make this a reality for Native American students.

© Education **NEWS**

Farmington Daily Times (New Mexico) - September 2018

"Since its inception, TOMS Shoes has matched every pair of shoes purchased with a new pair of shoes for a child in need. The [company] is proposing to donate a pair of new classic slip-on shoes to each student at the [Farmington] middle school as part of a collaboration with Partnership with Native Americans, a nonprofit organization based in Addison, Texas."



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Emergency Response



Expanding Emergency Preparedness Outreach

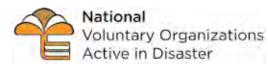
Emergency preparedness remains a critical priority to remote reservation communities. The physical environments of the Northern Plains and Southwest reservations give rise to floods, forest fires, blizzards, ice storms and more. Some communities also experience acute or chronic contaminated water emergencies. When disaster strikes, PWNA quickly responds and is often the first organization our reservation partners call on for help. This is even more essential given that mainstream disaster relief is often slow to reach the reservations and the requirements for disaster aid – developed with mainstream America in mind – do not always fit tribal communities. This has many tribes actively planning for a local response in the event of a disaster.

Winter safety is another critical priority. More than 90,000 Native Americans in the U.S. are homeless, and 40 percent of reservation homes are overcrowded and substandard, making winter warmth and safety a challenge.

PWNA helps address this by assisting Elders and reservation shelters for the homeless, disabled, veterans, women and children, among others. To support winter survival, PWNA provides winter fuel assistance for Elders, as well as emergency blankets and emergency boxes including batteries, bottled water, non-perishable food and more. PWNA also distributes holiday stockings for Elders and children through reservation program partners, ensuring those in remote communities are remembered with practical gifts during the holiday season.

While immediate relief is critical, PWNA understands the long-term impact of tribal readiness for emergency response. Working with the authors of The Native Family Disaster Preparedness Handbook, PWNA is expanding its efforts to raise awareness about the realities of disaster aid on the reservations and what reservation homeowners need to know.

Consistently focusing on disaster relief and mitigation, PWNA is as a member of Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) at the national level and is active in many states that are home to the tribes we serve – such as South Dakota, Arizona and Montana.



When the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe was struck with a severe weather incident in 2015, residents mobilized to address issues that could have been prevented, had they been better prepared. This past year, PWNA ensured much-needed training and resources to Crow Creek community members that will help them act – and not react – in the event of a future emergency.

Besides teaming up with the American Red Cross to provide emergency certification training in 2018, PWNA supported networked collaboration and access to resources to help communities better prepare for when emergencies strike.

American Red Cross

Rod Vaughn, a 20-year resident of the Crow Creek Reservation, shared that a real and dire need exists for a comprehensive and active plan to address the broader emergency management and preparedness issue in their community.

R NEWS

South Dakota Office of Emergency
Management
– January 2018



"PWNA is making life better on the reservations by supporting immediate impact as well as long-term solutions for strong, self-sufficient Native American communities...It is through these community partnerships that PWNA has become known as a first responder for the reservations and often the first resource called when disaster strikes in Native communities."

"PWNA is an amazing service to Native people and Native communities as a whole. Leadership, nutrition and sustainability programs that promote culture, history and support future generations are at the core of their services. Having seen it in action from the inside, I can absolutely give them 5 stars."

— Chele Rider, American Red Cross

"The PWNA training provided not only much-needed information on the steps to develop and implement an emergency management plan, but it also provided encouragement and connections to professionals from other tribes that will serve as a resource moving forward."

– Rod Vaughn, Diamond Willows Ministry, Crow Creek community



Emergency Response

Animal Welfare



With the support of Margaret
A. Cargill Philanthropies,
PWNA advanced emergency
preparedness networks underway
in several tribal communities
in 2018, including Pine Ridge
Oglala Sioux, Cheyenne River
Sioux, Crow Creek Sioux and Lake
Traverse Sisseton Wahpeton.

R NEWS

Grant Watch (national)

- August 2018



"PWNA will advance emergency preparedness in tribal communities through training, networked collaboration and access to resources."



- 90,000 Native Americans are homeless, and 40 percent of Native people live with multiple generations in incomplete, sub-standard and/or overcrowded housing. Tribes assist with housing, but the typical wait time is three years or longer due to stressed tribal budgets.
- Winter on the Northern Plains reservations can last up to seven months, bringing with it arctic blasts, blizzards and ice storms. Tribes often expire their energy assistance funds long before winter is over, and the hardship of this is most acutely felt by the Elders who are more susceptible to winter risks and expenses.
- Across Southwest and Plains reservations, flooding, fires and toxic spills can lead to power outages, water contamination and displacement of Native families. Typically, word is slow to reach the mainstream for outside aid. Supporting PWNA's Northern Plains Reservation Aid and Southwest Reservation Aid programs can ensure critical disaster relief to tribes and further tribal readiness through emergency preparedness planning and training.
- On some reservations, the overpopulation of stray animals raises community health and safety concerns. Supporting PWNA's Reservation Animal Rescue program can help animal caregivers rescue, rehabilitate and place stray or injured animals and ensure much-needed spay/neuter services that aren't always available or affordable in remote, impoverished tribal communities.

Rescuing and Rehoming Animals on the Reservations

Native Americans see pets as integral members of their tribes. Unfortunately, many residents living on reservations grappling with extreme poverty cannot afford care for the animals. Often, members of reservation border towns use tribal lands as a place to abandon unwanted pets. Many reservation communities struggle to manage the overpopulation of stray dogs and cats, and oftentimes do not have veterinary resources in place to care for orphaned and stray animals.



With assistance from supporters, PWNA's Reservation Animal Rescue (RAR) program helps fund mobile spay and neuter clinics, and provides food, blankets, toys and treats to reservation partners who care for stray and orphaned animals and place them in foster care or forever homes.

"This RAR grant has allowed us the opportunity to reach and assist members of the community to spay or neuter their dogs. This grant has also helped the rescue provide areas for the dogs that are easier to clean and sanitize to eliminate disease."

- Nola Briggs, 12 Hills Dog Rescue

Nola Briggs manages the 12 Hills Dog Rescue in northeastern Nebraska. The shelter provides housing and care for hundreds of animals each year – a costly operation when you factor in food, supplies facilities and maintenance. Nola received a RAR grant in 2018 that assisted with the cost of pouring new cement pads for one of the kennel areas. The concrete was critical for properly maintaining and cleaning the kennel so that rescues could be rehomed with a clean bill of health. Nola also used the grant to provide veterinary services, spaying and neutering and/or vaccinating nearly 200 dogs.



"Midwestern University is grateful for our partnership with PWNA. With their support, our shelter medicine program is working to reduce pet overpopulation and euthanasia in Native communities while providing basic preventive and wellness care for animals. PWNA's partnership provides surgical opportunities for students while educating them about animal welfare issues, including understanding how unsterilized animals contribute to a host of public health problems, particularly in under-resourced reservation communities."

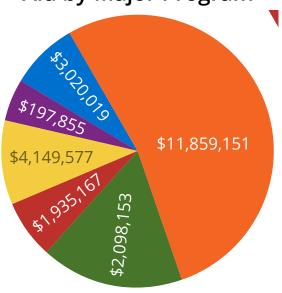
— Dr. Thomas Graves,

Dean of Midwestern University's College of Veterinary Medicine

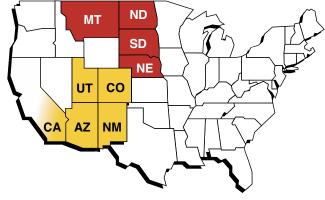
Financials

984,663

Aid by Major Program



Priority Service Area



Scholarships are available nationwide.

- Health 213,700 served
- Food & Water 68,500 served
- Education Services 27,500 served
- Holiday Support 39,500 served
- Animal Welfare 20,400 served
- Emergency Services 32,000 served

Approximate Number Served

Health	\$11,859,151
Holiday	4,149,577
Emergency	3,020,019
Food & Water	2,098,153
Education	1,935,167
Animal Welfare	197,855
Total Program Service Expense	\$23,259,923

PWNA Programs













Statement of Activities

Revenue	
Non-Cash Contributions	\$13,327,911
Contributions and Grants	14,376,903
Other Revenues, Net	203,018
Total Revenue	27,907,832
Expense	
Plains Region	9,069,569
Southwest Region	13,101,686
Educational Support	1.088.668

Educational Support	1,088,668
Total Program Expense	23,259,923
Management and General Fundraising Expense Total Expense	1,872,347 6,981,547 32,113,817

Change in Net Assets	\$ <u>(4,205,985)</u>

Statement of Financial Position

Assets	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$1,773,048
Accounts Receivable	735,976
Inventory	9,918,354
Investments	17,275
Prepaid Expenses & Other Assets	279,988
Property & Equipment, net	_5,869,050
Total Assets	18,593,691

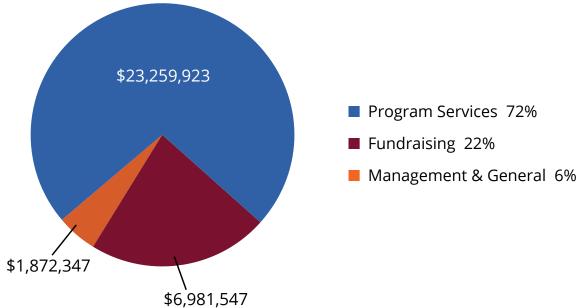
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	509,62
Accrued Expenses	318,46
Deferred Revenue	154,44
Annuities Payable	2,12

Net Assets Net Assets without donor restriction

16,692,933 Net Assets with donor restriction 916,095 **Total Net Assets** 17,609,028

Total Liabilities & Net Assets \$18,593,691

Percentages Data

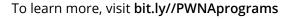












PWNA voluntarily meets all 20 Standards of Charity Accountability



Together We Achieve

Throughout 2018, we addressed the most pressing needs of our reservation partners and supported community-led projects for sustainable gains. PWNA was fortunate to have the heartfelt support of about 250,000 individual donors who care about quality of life for Native Americans.

We also had tremendous support from in-kind donors and community supporters aware of the realities on the reservations we serve, along with growing collaborative support from other humanitarian organizations.

We're so grateful for our "Circle of Friends" members who make monthly gifts, and our "Heritage" Circle" members who choose to leave legacy gifts to PWNA in their wills.

We sincerely thank you for your commitment to our work and the Native American people who are counting on us to support their community efforts. It's because of your generosity and care that we can provide the right goods and services, and support sustainable solutions, to improve lives for some quarter of a million Native people each year.

> "This year's 4D program created a sisterhood and molded Native women to love life, adapt to change, be strong, reflect often, and most importantly, love ourselves. After we complete this program, we will divide and conquer!"

> > - Rosemary Reano, 4D Strong Native Women cohort graduate





Meet Our Board and CEO

A dedicated Board of Directors sets PWNA's strategic direction and governs our administration and finances. Passionate about improving Native American quality of life, our board members volunteer their time and expertise to help PWNA achieve its mission and vision with efficiency and integrity. To learn more, visit www.nativepartnership.org/directors.

OFFICERS



Christina Kazhe Chairman Attorney Expertise: Tribal law, public policy, nonprofit leadership

Treasurer

Tribal affiliation: Navajo, Mescalero Apache



Jackie Blackbird Vice Chairman Program Manager Expertise: community partnerships, youth services, diversity and inclusion

Tribal affiliation: Gros Ventre and Assiniboine





Kevin Diepholz Secretary Retired Business Developer

Expertise: international business. humanitarian services

MEMBERS



Alyce Sadongei

Language preservation Project Coordinator

Expertise: Native language curriculum development, grants management, tribal engagement

Tribal affiliation: Kiowa and Tohono O'odham



Leonard J. Smith

Executive Director

Expertise: Native economic and business development, job creation, business strategy

Tribal affiliation: Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux



Joshua Arce

Chief Information Officer

Expertise: strategic planning, youth programs, information technology

Tribal affiliation: Potawatomi



Nikki Pitre

Program Manager

Expertise: Native youth development, program strategy, advocacy

Tribal affiliation: Coeur d'Alene



Ann Marie Woessner Collins

Executive Vice President

Expertise: finance, business development economic sustainability



Robbi Rice Dietrich

PWNA CEO and President

Expertise: nonprofit leadership, strategic planning, community and media relations, government affairs

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A Trusted Partner & Resource for the Reservations

PWNA ensures immediate impact by providing critical goods and services such as food, water and emergency supplies, while also supporting long-term solutions for nutrition, education and self-sufficiency. We involve tribal community members in the delivery of our services, challenging dependency and poverty while simultaneously supporting new resources and sustainable change in Native communities. This approach means our year-round network of reservation partners and their volunteers have a direct hand in improving the lives of those they care about most – those within their own tribal communities.

What sets PWNA apart as the top choice for solutions-based philanthropy in Native American communities?

- Serving Indian country for nearly 30 years, as one of the largest Native-led and Native-serving charities
- ✓ Partnering with hundreds of programs in hundreds of tribal communities, and together improving quality of life for a quarter of a million Native Americans each year
- Supporting the self-determined needs of each community by delivering only the goods, services and support requested by our reservation partners
- Operating two 40,000 sq. ft. distribution facilities and driving up to 250,000 miles each year to deliver five million pounds of high-need products
- Industry-level acknowledgements for donor confidence, including:
 - Accreditation by the BBB Wise Giving Alliance
 - GuideStar Platinum Exchange Member status with maximum transparency to donors
 - Top-Rated Nonprofit status based on donor, partner and collaborator reviews
 - Approved national charity for the Combined Federal Campaign









The most important thing PWNA provides is hope.

Serving immediate needs, supporting long-term solutions in hundreds of tribal communities.





