



PARTNERSHIP WITH
NATIVE AMERICANS[®]

2017 Annual Report

*Partnering for Immediate & Lasting
Impact in Native Communities*



Mission:

Serving immediate needs.
Supporting long-term solutions.

Vision:

Strong, self-sufficient Native
American communities.

Table of Contents:

A Message From Our President	3
Realities on the Reservations	4
Immediate Impact on Community Life	6
Sustainable Impact & Community Building	10
Healthy Animals, Healthy Communities	14
A Heartfelt Thanks to Our Supporters	16
Our Leadership	18
Financials	20
Our Programs	22
Why PWNA	24



PWNA in the News

Backpack Drive helped PWNA serve more than 25,000 students

Navajo-Hopi Observer (Trade): "School supplies in demand in Indian Country" — August 2017

"Each year, Partnership With Native Americans (PWNA) and its American Indian Education Fund (AIEF) program provide school supplies and backpacks to [about 25,000] students across Indian Country through its annual backpack drive. This year, PWNA will serve a total of 33 Hopi and Navajo communities, including the Navajo Nation and three schools on the Hopi-Pueblo reservation. The 2017 drive benefits approximately 7,300 Navajo and 700 Hopi students."

Heritage giveaway awarded laptops to first-generation freshman students

Navajo Times (Trade): "Laptop simplifies first year for college student" — December 2016

"The youngest of four siblings, [Hunter] is the first in his family to attend college. With the aid of scholarships, Hunter is currently enjoying his first-year experience. He is pursuing an associate degree in medical laboratory technology in hopes of earning his doctorate degree in pharmacy. One scholarship in particular has been assisting Hunter since the beginning of his post-secondary education: the American Indian Education Fund (AIEF). Scholars funded by AIEF [a program of Partnership With Native Americans] are undergraduate and graduate students who receive aid annually. Not only does it provide financial support, AIEF sends school supplies to its scholars along with [care] packages throughout the school year. Packages include items such as water, soap, chocolate, notepads, pens, and more, said Hunter."

Front Page PBS documentary on Native nutrition initiatives

Dallas Innovates (Local): "Addison Nonprofit Behind PBS Film Highlighting Dietary, Health Issues of Native Americans" — December 2017

"Addison-based Partnership With Native Americans has collaborated with Front Page Productions to create a documentary about dietary and health issues faced by Native American communities. The documentary, [distributed for] airing on Public Broadcasting System stations across the nation, is hosted by renowned actor James Earl Jones. It takes a look at how 'Indian Country' is returning to healthy, ancestral diets to combat food insecurity and related health issues."

See Chef Frank and our PBS segment at bit.ly/PWNA-PBS



A Message From Our President

2017 marked another notable year for Partnership With Native Americans as we continued with our mission to serve immediate needs and support long-term solutions for people living in under-resourced reservation communities. We enhanced existing partnerships and created new relationships with organizations that believe in and advance our vision of strong, self-sufficient Native American communities.

As the only Native-serving charity to work on 60 reservations year-round, across 12 states, PWNA supports some of the most remote and often impoverished areas of the country, in the ways that programs in each community have identified as priorities. Regardless of a program partner's core focus (nutrition, education, health, etc.), our goal is to help improve the impact of reservation programs and develop local leaders who are driving social change within their communities.

By centering our relief work on the provision of goods and services, such as K-12 educational attainment for students, food insecurity and emergency response for natural disasters, PWNA is providing immediate impact for people living in tribal communities with the highest need in the United States.

Among those needs, one of the greatest is access to affordable, nutritious food, as nearly one in four Native American families experience low food security. This year we continued to deliver food to food pantries and Elderly Nutrition Centers, and supported more community gardens and nutritional training programs. Most notably, we shared the story of how we're doing this in partnership with tribal communities through a special PBS Front Page documentary capturing the reality of food deserts and the return to more traditional, healthy Native diets.

For us, solutions are only viable if they are identified by our reservation partners and help build stronger communities for the long-term. Our partners turn to PWNA to help implement local change through community investment, capacity building and training services. By offering services that address the unique needs of our reservation partners, PWNA is developing emerging leaders, promoting emergency preparedness and promoting life skills for sustainable health and wellness. We share with our Native partners the hope that lasting impact and social change will follow.

I am thankful to our dedicated program partners on the reservations, along with our committed donors, volunteers, staff and Board of Directors who carry out our mission and champion our vision. Together in 2017, we provided much-needed relief and support to Native Americans. All of us should be inspired by the work our partners are doing on the reservations, and continue to support their efforts toward improving the quality of life in their tribal communities.

With gratitude,

Robbi Rice Dietrich

Robbi Rice Dietrich, President/CEO





Realities on the Reservations

Who We Serve: Under-Resourced Tribal Communities

Programs located in reservation communities with limited access to grocery stores, healthcare and other essentials know that they can count on PWNA as a consistent, reliable resource. Our year-round services assist programs across more than 300 reservation communities addressing critical needs related to education, food, emergency relief, health, holiday and animal welfare. PWNA also connects outside resources to tribal communities, and collaborates with other organizations to support Native-led solutions.

Realities on the Reservations

Currently, there are 573 federally recognized tribes across the United States, and while each is unique, underlying themes resonate across these Native communities. Reservation life values respect, sacredness of traditions, wisdom of the ancestors, and the need to preserve rich cultural identities and unique tribal languages. Unity and sense of belonging are paramount, from one's family to community and culture to Mother Earth. Native people's deep respect for the earth stems from an innate reverence for natural law, connection to the land, and the relationship between all beings. They understand we all must use earth's resources wisely so they can be sustained and enjoyed by future generations.

For some of these communities, specifically the most remote and resource-challenged communities PWNA serves, the realities and struggles of everyday life are harsh. About 90,000 American Indian families are homeless or live in substandard housing, and 23 percent of Native families live with food insecurity. Up to 35 percent of Native American children live in poverty and 29 percent of Native Americans live below the poverty line despite being employed. On reservations located in rural areas, access to health care, shopping, nutritional food, schools and employment opportunities is severely limited. Economic challenges permeate every aspect of life, with the resources most Americans take for granted often out of reach for rural citizens.

For nearly 30 years, PWNA has focused on delivering assistance and committed stewardship to the tribal communities we serve. We care deeply about supporting our Native American partners and their initiatives to achieve a better quality of life. This partnership mobilizes a large network working toward relevant, community-led solutions.

How We Serve: Supporting Self-Determined Needs

Partnership With Native Americans (PWNA) is committed to championing hope for a brighter future for Native Americans living on remote and often impoverished reservations. Collaborating with our partners in more than 300 tribal communities, we provide immediate relief and support long-term solutions for strong, self-sufficient Native American communities. We know the people who live and work in these communities have the solutions to the problems that challenge their quality of life. PWNA's role is to provide resources and support for the unique needs of each tribal community and their self-driven efforts toward lasting change.



Remote community on Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota



Grocery store on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation in Arizona



Cereal prices at the only store on the Havasupai Reservation in Arizona



"Things are always fragile in terms of finances on the reservation, so it's a big concern for me. I spent a lot of time working to contribute to my education — up to three jobs at one time — but within a year most of that was gone. So, it's always about sacrificing to secure a future for yourself. All of the support I have received from the AIEF program of PWNA just means so much and makes everything I do possible."

— Kayleigh W., AIEF Four-Year Scholar, Santa Clara Pueblo in New Mexico

"Partnership With Native Americans has been an integral part of providing services to the Elders that reside in the Heritage Living Center assisted living facility. PWNA has supported us on many levels, providing personal care products, and a grant for our garden greenhouse to provide healthy vegetables and exercise for our elderly population. We appreciate PWNA so much!"

— Kimmie L. Olson, Activities Coordinator, Heritage Living Center, Northern Cheyenne Reservation in Montana

"Our community was already facing a water shortage, and we were taking steps to prepare for it; we could not anticipate a fire breaking out in a nearby community and burning for a month, making our situation even worse. Thank goodness PWNA was there to help with emergency relief. They immediately shipped water and other supplies to help our residents in Cibecue."

— Carlos M. Valadez, Deputy Fire Chief/Emergency Manager, White Mountain Apache Fire & Rescue Department in Arizona

"Earlier this week, I returned from a trip to Montana. This one-day trip to Pine Ridge is a nice break from the longer hauls. I'm glad the Elder Nutrition Center in Allen is active again. The partner (Chasity) said, "...the food shipments really make a difference."

— Joaquin (Jerome) Maes, Northern Plains Delivery Driver, PWNA in South Dakota

"I am grateful to be part of an organization that is providing resources to diverse Native communities in support of self-sufficiency and sustainability."

— Kayleen Wilson, Southwest Collaboration and Training Specialist, PWNA in Arizona



Immediate Impact on Community Life

Native Nutrition:

On the reservations PWNA serves, food insecurity is an everyday issue. Nutritious food is often scarce or expensive in rural reservation communities, and income is frequently insufficient to meet the needs of the household. This leaves one in four Native Americans struggling with inconsistent access to enough wholesome food — such as fresh fruit and vegetables and other healthy options.

PWNA has a long history of providing quality food and nutrition services to communities through our Northern Plains Reservation Aid and Southwest Reservation Aid programs. We deliver fresh produce and nonperishable food items — like canned fruit and vegetables, flour, coffee, bottled water and other food staples — to food banks, soup kitchens and Elderly Nutrition Centers, as well as holiday meals for Native American Elders, families and children. Additional Breakfast-in-a-Bag services help eligible Rosebud Elders age 62 and older start each day with a healthy meal at home though a monthly supply of breakfast items, such as eggs, milk and cereal, from a grocery store on the reservation.

During the holidays, demand for food spikes and reservation food pantries are pushed to the brink to serve their communities. For Sylvia Aims Back from Sylvia's Store in Polson, Montana on the Flathead Reservation, increased demand starts as early as October and PWNA's food boxes, or "treasure boxes" as she calls them, are critical. In Sylvia's community, 41 percent of families with children under the age of 5 are living in poverty. Prior to the holidays in 2017, PWNA delivered more than a half a ton of food to Sylvia's Store to help meet needs in her community. Similarly, Sharon Yazzi, Project and Program Specialist at The Office of Diné Youth in Shiprock, New Mexico, annually turns to PWNA's Holiday service to bring generations together to share in food and family during the holiday season.

In 2017, PWNA served more than 102,000 community members through food and water services, delivering the following aid through our program partners:

- More than 185,000 pounds of shelf staple foods and 123,000 pounds of emergency food
- Nearly 439,000 pounds of food to pantries, and more than 94,000 pounds of breakfast food for Elders
- More than 100,000 pounds of food for seasonal community meals
- More than 68,000 pounds of fresh produce, and nearly 34,000 gallons of bottled water
- Nearly 5,000 backpacks filled with nutritional snacks and juices for youth



Breakfast-in-a-Bag participant, Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota

Native Education:

Education is a pillar upon which stand self-sufficiency and a better quality of life. Yet many reservation schools lack nearly every basic resource needed to help children learn and stay engaged. Many schools struggle with understaffing and inadequate funding, unable to help with student needs. Many families are unable to afford school necessities, choosing instead to purchase food. For some communities, such as those on remote Navajo lands or on the Blackfeet Reservation near the Canadian border, there is simply an absence of retail stores where school supplies can be purchased.

Consider these statistics: 35 percent of Native American children live below the poverty line and only 13 percent of Native students graduate from college. Pencils, notebooks and other essentials can contribute to a student's success, chance of graduating high school and taking the next step toward college.

Each year, through our American Indian Education Fund (AIEF) program, our school partners request backpacks and supplies for K-12 students, allowing teachers to begin instruction on the very first day of school and students to complete in-school and homework assignments. The supplies we provide vary based on grade level, but typically include pens, pencils, markers, erasers, scissors, glue sticks, rulers, paper, notebooks, folders, and other supplies. Other back-to-school supplies, such as new shoes, help give students confidence and excitement about returning to school. It may seem like a small detail, but many Native students do not have proper footwear.

To support their educational success, PWNA provided school supplies for more than 26,000 students in 2017. For Monica of the Jemez Pueblo in New Mexico, our school supplies outfitted her three school-age children in 3rd, 6th and 7th grades, allowing her to re-allocate precious resources to other family needs. At Norfolk High School on the Ponca Reservation in Nebraska, Fay Langdreaux, Native American Liaison-Title VI Indian Education for Norfolk Public Schools, was particularly excited the students received TOMS boots, given the fact that many students walk to school without the appropriate winter gear. Altogether in 2017, nearly 43,000 pairs of TOMS boots and shoes were donated to PWNA for Native students in nearly 90 communities, along with more than 14,500 pairs of socks donated by Bombas.

"PWNA's distribution network and reservation partnerships ensure that our donations of food will reach a wide range of beneficiaries on 60 reservations in 12 states. Matthew 25: Ministries can donate confidently to PWNA, knowing that these critically needed donations will improve the quality of life for hundreds of thousands of Native Americans."

— Joodi Archer, Program Director, Matthew 25: Ministries in Ohio

"The food delivered by PWNA helps to improve nutrition and stretch the [elderly meals] center's budget. We have no local access to groceries in Red Shirt and appreciate the extra items for our Elders' menus."

— Bobbie Pond, Red Shirt Elderly Meals, Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota

"Education sets the foundation for our children to have a brighter and more successful future. With PWNA's assistance with school supplies and other incentives, our children have a stronger foundation to help them excel."

— Karla Sharp, Rockyford School Social Worker, Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota



AIEF school supplies participant, Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota

Disaster Response:

PWNA is a first responder for tribal communities in our 12-state service area, and supports disaster or emergency response requests from tribes outside our service area on a case by case basis. Often, word of disaster situations in remote tribal areas does not reach the mainstream media or general public to generate overall awareness or news coverage, which makes for slow and sometimes no response to emergency situations.

Many reservations turn to PWNA during these critical times because they know we quickly mobilize and deliver emergency supplies. Through our close ties with each community, warehouse inventory and dedicated drivers who travel the reservations daily, our efficient delivery system supports emergency response.

On June 21, 2017, PWNA received an Emergency Declaration regarding a critically low water supply in Cibecue, Arizona, affecting many residents. The water shortage was due to a failed water system/pump and the White Mountain Apache community was reportedly functioning on about five percent of its normal water supply. Then on June 25, lightning started the "Hilltop fire" about 30 miles northwest of San Carlos, worsening the situation on the Fort Apache Reservation. The fire burned for a month, at one point putting Cedar Creek and Canyon Day communities under pre-evacuation notices.

Through our Southwest Reservation Aid program, PWNA coordinated two deliveries of aid — first water, then rescue equipment — in conjunction with Carlos Valadez from the White Mountain Apache Fire & Rescue Department, including:

- More than 27,000 bottles of water and lemonade
- More than 600 pounds of rescue equipment for firefighters

The Cheyenne River and Lake Traverse tribes in South Dakota were also impacted by environmental emergencies in 2017, and we provided disaster relief through our Northern Plains Reservation Aid program.

In both regions, PWNA further provided emergency support, such as winter fuel for Elders, seasonal emergency boxes, home repairs and supplies for shelters, altogether delivering aid for nearly 33,000 people in 2017.



PWNA drivers deliver critical supplies to our reservation partners.



Entrance to Fort Apache Indian Reservation in Arizona



Typical landscape of Fort Apache Reservation in Arizona

"A high-wind, winter storm knocked out power for several days across the Lake Traverse Reservation, causing pipes to freeze and leaving the entire reservation in the dark. PWNA sent needed supplies of blankets, food, flashlights and batteries. We were able to distribute these items to nearly 200 Elders who were most in need. It's good to have PWNA as a partner."

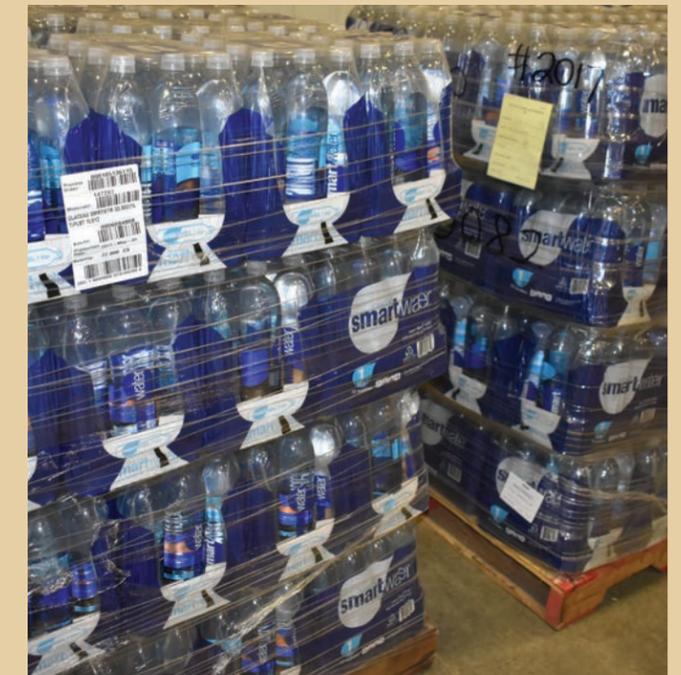
— Geno Locke, Program Manager,
Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Food Pantry,
Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota

"In emergency response situations, we count on PWNA as the best way to reach the most people with necessary items, even in remote areas. They are able to deliver relief shipments, and impact the lives of 250,000 people every year."

— Steve Rienstra, Vice President,
International Aid in Michigan

"PWNA serves as a resource for The Salvation Army throughout the country. Mark Ford, Director of Partnerships, has presented at several Salvation Army/VOAD seminars and conferences, educating participants about PWNA as well as about Native American history and culture. Our partnership is an invaluable educational resource in order to prepare for and respond to disasters affecting tribal lands."

— J. Berglund, Territorial Emergency Services Director,
USA Western Territory, The Salvation Army in Texas



Emergency relief water in stock at PWNA warehouses and ready for delivery as needed



Sustainable Impact & Community Building

Native Nutrition:

Beyond the short-term relief of having food on the table, continuing access to fresh, nutritious food has a lasting impact on overall health. Native Americans suffer from high rates of diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure and other health conditions that could be prevented or improved with a healthier diet. Yet, fresh produce is often difficult to buy in reservation communities as many are located an hour or more from the nearest grocery store, leaving few options for food supplies.

Many Native communities PWNA serves are turning to gardening to create healthier food options for themselves. The Project Grow service, provided through our Northern Plains Reservation Aid program, supports communities that want to grow their own vegetables through individual and community gardens. Many of these communities are also incorporating elements of tribal culture and tradition, increasing participation and engagement of their residents.

For the Hope House Shelter & Garden in South Dakota, a grant from PWNA helped the organization reinvent itself through gardening. Transforming from a homeless shelter focused on temporary living arrangements to a combined shelter and garden empowered their residents to adopt a healthier lifestyle and had a positive impact on the entire community. Residents built over 30 raised bed boxes and successfully planted over 900 starting pods of vegetables and flowers. This early success is helping them gain continuation grants from other funders.

Another PWNA nutrition service — Train the Trainer (T3) — focuses on long-term health through education and capacity building. T3 pairs select tribal community members with Native American chefs and local experts who teach them how to use ancestral foods to prepare healthy meals and menus. These trainees in turn train others in their communities to do the same. With the support of the Walmart Foundation, PWNA trained 30 community members how to properly prepare healthy, locally available foods, which then extended to nearly 300 tribal citizens learning healthier meal planning and food preparation during Train-the-Trainer events.

Also with the support of the Walmart Foundation, PWNA provided fresh produce for more than 2,500 people and resources for community garden projects involving 1,100 participants, as well as nutrition training to advance skills in healthy cooking, canning and food preservation. In 2017, PWNA supported 26 canning and healthy cooking sessions with more than 350 participants across the Plains and Southwest. The classes often focused on how to cook, blend or preserve the fresh produce grown in their gardens.

These initiatives offer sustainable nutrition assistance while honoring the heritage of Native Americans and the healthy foods and foodways of their ancestors.



Chef Eagle Elk leading Train-the-Trainer nutrition session in South Dakota

Native Education:

While 69 percent of all U.S. high school students start college, only 17 percent of Native Americans are able to do so. No matter how smart and deserving they are, many young Native Americans simply do not have the chance to attend college.

PWNA and our American Indian Education Fund program offer a scholarship service to help combat this reality and give more Native students the resources and encouragement they need to succeed. As many AIEF scholarship recipients are the first in their families to attend college, we include scholarship awards as well as mentorship and care packages throughout the year. In 2017, members of the PepsiCo RISE Native American employee resource group mentored our AIEF scholars. This extra support makes a dramatic difference in overall student success rates, with 90-95 percent of AIEF scholars completing the college year for which they are awarded.

PWNA is proud to be one of the United States' largest grantors of scholarships for Native Americans, contributing almost half a million dollars in scholarship assistance annually, as well as laptops to students and funding to college partners. Through our AIEF program, more than 300 undergraduate and graduate students were assisted in 2017.

One such student is Lawrence Wright, Jr. from Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo in New Mexico, and a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, 3rd Battalion 7th Marine Regiment (3/7), Weapons Platoon, Lima Company. Lawrence enlisted, served 3 tours in Iraq and earned a Purple Heart, all before college. Returning from service in 2006, Lawrence graduated the Indian Police Academy, FLETC (Federal Law Enforcement Training Center), and then the University of Phoenix with a Bachelor's in Criminal Justice. To support counter-terrorism, Lawrence is now pursuing a Master's in Emergency Management and Homeland Security at Arizona State University with support from AIEF.

Education goes beyond a diploma too. Feedback from our reservation partners shows a need and desire to expand leadership skills and abilities. PWNA's 4 Directions Development Program (4D) provides cohort-based personal and professional development for emerging leaders who want to be more effective and make a greater impact in their communities.

"I am currently pursuing a Master's in Emergency Management and Homeland Security at Arizona State University. With my Veterans benefits exhausted, I turned to AIEF for help to fund graduate school. Most tribes have very little funding to assist their tribal members... AIEF has helped me a great deal. We need more support, resources and scholarships like AIEF for the Native youth."

— Lawrence W., AIEF Scholar, Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo in New Mexico

"My role is to share my knowledge of cooking and preserving food and medicines; our people invented those ways. PWNA has supported indigenous people in tribal communities in eating and feeding their families healthy meals. I am grateful to collaborate with PWNA on these efforts."

— Inyan Eagle Elk, Train-the-Trainer Chef for PWNA, Northern Plains communities

"The 4D training program was different and interesting. I knew it would benefit my current or future career path, and enhance my skills and ability to impact the lives of others. PWNA emphasized taking care of ourselves in work and home environments. They also let us (the 4D members) choose the topics and customized the curriculum around our goals for personal and professional development."

— Miranda Lente, 4 Directions Development graduate, Isleta Pueblo in New Mexico



AIEF scholarship recipient Lawrence Wright, Jr., Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo in New Mexico

Each 4D cohort involves classroom-style group training led by PWNA staff and Native American trainers, regular meetings with a personal coach-advisor-mentor, and networking among cohort participants. In 2017, more than 50 emerging tribal leaders across the Plains and Southwest participated in the 4D program, focusing on self-determined goals and skills such as public speaking, budgeting and self-care in high-need environments.

Miranda Lente, a loan officer for Tiwa Lending Services on the Isleta Pueblo in New Mexico, joined the 4D program to enhance her skills and ability to impact the lives of others. As a 4D graduate, Miranda is now helping members in her community learn about finances, credit, personal loans and home purchase, and is excited about helping others improve their quality of life.



4 Directions Development graduate Miranda Lente, Isleta Pueblo in New Mexico

By harnessing the power of education, Lawrence, Miranda and other local champions are bringing about positive changes in their own lives and in their reservation communities.

Disaster Response:

Fires, storms and other natural disasters are an unpredictable part of life, but these situations hit Native American families especially hard. With little outside knowledge of a disaster affecting their community, residents often face these situations alone, with few local stores, resources for emergency purchases or available emergency responders. While it's impossible to predict when and where natural disasters will strike, PWNA, with the support of the American Red Cross, works to equip Native communities with the resources and knowledge for a tribally-led emergency response in times of disaster.

Working with existing program partners, PWNA identified reservations with a history of frequent and high-impact storms or other environmental emergencies, and communities with an interest in expanding their resources and capabilities for emergency response. In 2017, PWNA supplied more than 500 emergency relief kits to four communities on the Pine Ridge and Cheyenne River Reservations.

Additionally, PWNA and the American Red Cross hosted four emergency response training sessions with the community of Wanblee on the Pine Ridge Reservation. The group learned shelter operation; application of CPR, First Aid and AED defibrillator for adult and child; bleeding control; heart attack response; low blood sugar diabetes response; and other important emergency techniques.

Community-wide readiness to respond to a disaster event means tribes can more quickly mitigate impact and have a clear path forward until outside help arrives.



Emergency preparedness planning session in South Dakota



Train-the-Trainer (T3) participant preparing a healthy meal in South Dakota



4 Directions Development (4D) graduate Daniel Butcher, Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota

"PWNA awarded us a grant for our permaculture project (Seeds of Hope) and this helped us create a venue for educating the youth, working with the community, addressing health and language issues, and instilling the importance of balancing life, culture, tradition, school, work and play. While community and non-community members came together to learn about culture, tradition and each other, we also learned about growing our own produce and improving local access to healthy foods."

— Nicole Lovato, Program Manager, Flowering Tree Permaculture Institute, Santa Clara Pueblo in New Mexico

"With PWNA's support, the community of Wanblee is organized and ready to respond when a disaster strikes! PWNA, in collaboration with the Red Cross, helped to involve and mobilize over 100 residents, and this support has made all the difference in our emergency preparedness."

— Phyllis Swift Hawk, Community Action Team Coordinator, Pine Ridge Reservation

"The American Red Cross values its partnership with PWNA in emergency preparedness, response and recovery. We have collaborated frequently and effectively to provide care for those we both serve during many disaster responses, and also work together to provide Tribal Cultural Sensitivity Training to organizations wanting to serve in Indian Country. This mutual effort has benefited our primary constituents beyond measure."

— Chele Rider, Division Disaster State Relations Director, American Red Cross Southwest and Rocky Mountains Division



Train-the-Trainer participant, Pascua Yaqui Reservation in Arizona



Healthy Animals, Healthy Communities

Animal Welfare:

Reservation animals hold a special place in Native American cultures. However, overpopulation of stray animals, specifically dogs and cats in need of care, is a serious concern of some remote reservation communities PWNA serves.

In 2017, PWNA helped animal welfare groups care for more animals than they otherwise could have, by supplying veterinary programs as well as pet food, toys, collars, leashes, bowls and flea/tick products to support placement of rescued animals with foster families.

Through our Reservation Animal Rescue (RAR) program, PWNA also supported program partners in their ongoing efforts to manage the pet population in tribal communities. Access to and affordability of veterinary care can create barriers for pet owners, restricting appropriate vaccinations and surgery to help pets lead healthy lives. Lack of adequate veterinary care also creates community health and safety concerns such as animal bites, rabies and the spread of disease.

With the health and well-being of the larger community in mind, the Oglala Pet Project on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota utilized a PWNA grant to spay and neuter 61 animals, including 33 dog spays, 13 dog neuters, 8 cat spays and 7 cat neuters, in a single clinic. This was one of numerous spay/neuter clinics and animal welfare partners PWNA supported during the year.

Across all communities, PWNA provided nearly 43,000 pounds of food, bowls, collars and other supplies, and supported reservation partners in the rescue and care of nearly 39,000 of our four-legged companions in 2017.



Dr. Carol Holgate,
Veterinarian and RAR Chairperson,
Navajo Nation in Arizona



Spay/neuter clinic volunteer
Rhianna with Spike,
San Carlos Reservation in Arizona



Native youth with pup at spay/neuter clinic,
San Carlos Reservation in Arizona

"I support PWNA because I feel I owe all Native Americans my deepest respect and gratitude, as a thank you for their contribution to, and enrichment of, my life and the lives of everyone in this country. I contribute to PWNA's Reservation Animal Rescue program because the problem of homeless animals and lack of veterinary resources is an acute reminder of the difficulty of reservation life and the urgent need for support from the community to correct these deficiencies."

— Phyllis D., RAR donor in New Jersey

"Animal overpopulation is a huge issue in our community. PWNA and its Reservation Animal Rescue program have been a great support to our rescue of homeless/injured animals and to our low-cost spay/neuter program. We are grateful for their assistance!"

— Rose Moonwater, Tuba City Humane Society,
Navajo Nation in Arizona

"Annie was rescued from a dumpster and placed in foster care, where PWNA and RAR supported her with warm wool blankets, quality food, toys and new collars. I am so thankful for the help!"

— Tamara Martin, Good Dog RezQ,
Navajo Nation in Arizona

"Because we're struggling with money, there is no way we can get our dogs [spayed/neutered]. They [the mobile animal clinic] come out here to fix our dogs — it's a good thing and really a blessing. I have six animals, they are my family. If I had a big yard, I would take ALL the (homeless) dogs."

— Rhianna E., Volunteer at Spay/Neuter Clinic,
San Carlos Apache Reservation in Arizona



Rescued cat in foster care
Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota

A Heartfelt Thanks to Our Supporters

Even as the need for reservation aid remained high in 2017, PWNA was blessed to have the continuing support of half a million individual donors, in-kind donors and community investors who recognize the harsh realities on the reservations we serve and support our work year-round.

We are also grateful for the monthly gifts from our Circle of Friends, and for our Heritage Circle members who choose to leave legacy gifts to PWNA in their wills.

We genuinely thank you for your generosity and commitment to PWNA's mission and the people we serve. It is only through your support and care that we can provide the right goods and services at the right time, across more than 300 distinct Native communities.



New Hope Shelter & Garden,
Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota



Sylvia Aimsback of Sylvia's Food Pantry,
Flathead Reservation in Montana

"Newman's Own Foundation supports Partnership With Native Americans in its initiatives to address health issues and access to fresh produce, and provide nutrition education and training to tribal communities. As a result of this partnership, Native Americans in targeted reservations have received training to cook healthier meals and increase their knowledge of good nutrition using ancestral methods of cooking and food preservation. These initiatives will have an impact in Indian Country for years to come."

— Faith Fennelly, Grants Manager,
Newman's Own Foundation in Connecticut

"Matthew 25: Ministries shares a similar mission and vision with PWNA — serving immediate needs and supporting long-term solutions that develop strong, self-sufficient individuals and communities. Matthew 25 can donate products confidently to PWNA, knowing that they share a commitment to the same goals of providing life-saving, life-improving, life-changing aid to recipients that will empower them to take steps toward sustainable improvements for themselves and their families."

— Joodi Archer, Program Director,
Matthew 25: Ministries in Ohio



Fresh produce utilized
in healthy cooking training

Our Leadership



Alyce Sadongei



Christina Kazhe



Mark Nadolny



Nikki Pitre



Leonard J. Smith



Jackie Blackbird



Ann Marie Woessner Collins



MaKenley Barton



Joshua Arce



Kevin Diepholz

The dedicated members of our Board of Directors set the stage for the strategic direction of PWNA and govern our administration and finances. Passionate about improving the quality of life for Native Americans, they volunteer their time and expertise to help PWNA achieve its mission and vision with efficiency and integrity. Their backgrounds span business and financial management; strategic planning; law; education; healthcare; fundraising, grants and economic development; social programs; diversity and partnerships. For more on our leadership team, see www.nativepartnership.org/directors.

Alyce Sadongei, Chairman

Kiowa and Tohono O'odham Tribal Affiliation. Alyce is a nationally recognized expert in the field of tribal libraries, archives and museums, repatriation and preservation, museum development and training. She works at University of Arizona, holds a bachelor's in communications, and brings to PWNA experience in curriculum and program development, grants management, tribal engagement and strategic planning.

Christina Kazhe, Vice Chairman

Navajo and Mescalero Apache Tribal Affiliation. Christina is nationally known for legal expertise in tribal sovereignty, land restorations and federal recognition, and protecting Native community interests. She founded Kazhe Law Group, holds a juris doctor and a bachelor's in human development and Native American studies, and brings to PWNA legal and public policy expertise, strategic thinking and nonprofit leadership.

Mark Nadolny, Treasurer

Mark is a retired CPA known for his focus on organizational relevance and sustainability, global finance, and "Big 4" accounting. He formerly served as chief financial officer for Susan G. Komen Foundation, managing a \$250 million portfolio of investments. Mark holds a bachelor's in accounting and brings to PWNA experience in strategic planning, and a passion for humanitarian causes and fundraising.

Nikki Pitre, Secretary

Coeur d'Alene Tribal Affiliation. Nikki is recognized for her work in native student success programs at CNAY (Aspen Institute's Center for Native American Youth), AIHEC, and the BIE College Bound initiative, and for serving on the Miss Indian World Committee for Gathering of Nations. She holds a bachelor's in American Indian studies and brings a passion for youth development, education outreach and advocacy.

Leonard J. Smith

Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribal Affiliation. Leonard is known for Native-owned business advocacy, tribal economic development, business loans, business startup, and revenue stream strategies and partnerships. He founded Native American Development Corporation, holds a bachelor's in business administration and brings to PWNA business strategy and experience in economic development and jobs creation.

Jackie Blackbird

Gros-Ventre and Assiniboine Tribal Affiliation. Jackie is known for community partnerships and impact and business development in tribal communities, and bringing about positive changes in Native lifestyles through sport, advocacy and volunteerism. She works at Nike, holds a bachelor's in business and brings to PWNA experience in community partnerships and programming for Native youth and wellness.

Ann Marie Woessner Collins

Ann is a business problem solver recognized for helping companies expand or optimize manufacturing, warehouses, offices, data centers, call centers and other facilities. She works at Jones Lang LaSalle, holds an MBA and a bachelor's in finance, and brings to PWNA experience in minority business programming, business development and tribal economic development projects for sustainability.

MaKenley Barton

Cherokee Tribal Affiliation. MaKenley is known for healthcare administration at Cherokee National W. W. Hastings Hospital, and being selected for the Cherokee Nation Summer Youth Program. She holds an M.S. and a bachelor's in healthcare administration, and brings to PWNA experience in Native healthcare, tribal community outreach, and PWNA's AIEF program as a former scholarship recipient.

Joshua Arce

Potawatomi Tribal Affiliation. Joshua is known for expertise in information technology at Haskell University, tribal law and emerging issues, tribal entertainment and gaming operations, Native youth program development and advocacy for youth safety and wellness. He holds a juris doctor and brings to PWNA experience in strategic planning, youth programs, information technology and law.

Kevin Diepholz

Kevin is a retired business development professional known for working his way up from pouring concrete to corporate management and international business development in Taiwan, Korea, UK and Canada. Kevin studied business and economics, and brings to PWNA familiarity with reservation conditions and a broad perspective of diverse cultures and socio-economic backgrounds.

Robbi Rice Dietrich

President/CEO of PWNA and a non-voting member of the Board, Robbi is known for building positive awareness of organizations and presenting their causes to public officials, community and business leaders, contributors and media. She brings to PWNA experience in community and media relations, government affairs, organizational development, strategic thinking, and a commitment to helping people.

Statement of Activities

Revenue	
Non-Cash Contributions	\$22,760,916
Contributions and Grants	17,874,786
Other Revenues, Net	234,555
Total Revenue	\$40,870,257

Expense	
Plains Region	\$12,014,429
Southwest Region	13,556,523
Educational Support	1,985,473
Other Programs	354,705
Total Program Expense	\$27,911,130

Management and General	\$1,863,051
Fundraising Expense	8,609,457
Total Expense	\$38,383,638

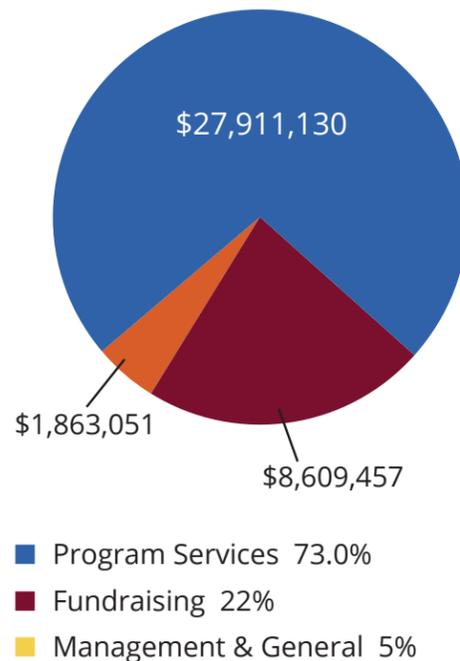
Change in Net Assets **\$(2,486,619)**

Source of data: 2017 form 990



PWNA voluntarily meets all 20 Standards of Charity Accountability

Percentages Data



Statement of Financial Position

Assets	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$1,518,819
Pledges & Accounts Receivable	894,569
Inventory	12,705,594
Investments	850,970
Prepaid Expenses & Other Assets	370,782
Property & Equipment, net	6,658,746
Total Assets	\$22,999,480

Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$918,100
Accrued Expenses	254,282
Annuities Payable	12,085
Total Liabilities	\$1,184,467

Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$20,796,924
Temporarily Restricted	951,764
Permanently Restricted	66,325
Total Net Assets	\$21,815,013

Total Liabilities & Net Assets \$22,999,480



Native youth gets TOMS shoes, Ponca community in Nebraska



"The board expresses its gratitude to the many donors of PWNA. Because of your support, we were able to accomplish our mission in 2017 and, with your continued support, we will be able to fulfill our mission for many years to come."

— Alyce Sadongie,
Chairman of the Board, PWNA

"I have had the privilege of supporting the causes of Native Americans for several years. The indigenous peoples of the Americas have suffered significantly and continue to be taken advantage of and otherwise forgotten. Providing ongoing support to them is one way that I can express the love that I believe is the heart of the Christian message."

— Rick Hollings, Ph.D.,
PWNA donor in North Carolina

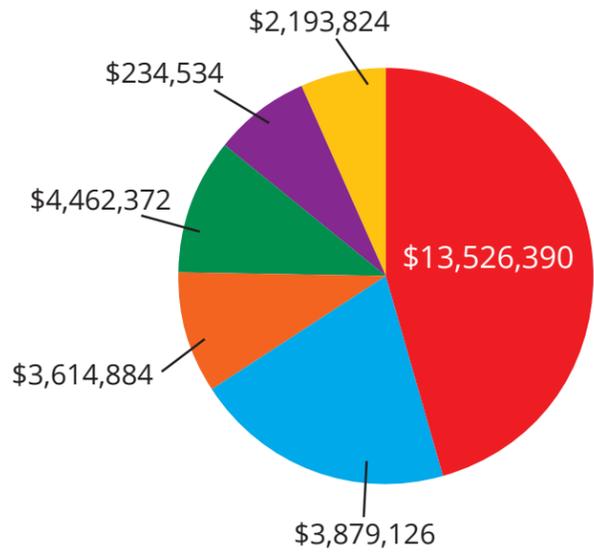


Sample contents in our emergency food boxes



Native youth with Operation Turkey Dinner card sent by donor, Navajo Nation in Arizona

Program Services

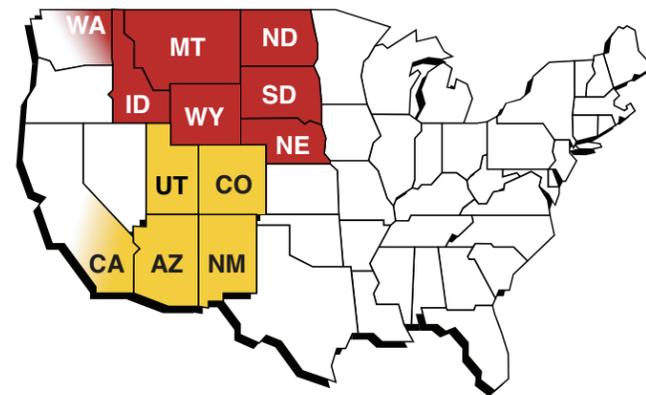


- Health — 233,565 served
- Food & Water — 102,155 served
- Education Services — 53,315 served
- Holiday Support — 49,175 served
- Animal Welfare — 38,695 served
- Emergency Services — 32,909 served

"I was recently at a dinner where we had the opportunity to hear from Native American students who would have never gone to college, but for the financial AND emotional support offered by Partnership With Native Americans — very inspirational! This organization understands the human piece of giving support and encouraging success. They are an amazing nonprofit that reminds us we need to do more for our first Americans — the Native Americans. From education to basic needs, like water and sustainable food programs, the people who work for and with PWNA are committed, respectful and effective. It's fulfilling to be part of their initiatives!"

— Melinda Marcus, International Speaker, Consultant and Coach, Influence Advisors

Service Area:



To support home visits, health appointments and health education by program partners, PWNA provides personal care items such as soap, toothpaste, lotion and other items for participants, including Elders such as this one on the Navajo Nation in Arizona.



Before and after ramp at home of Elizabeth S.



Before and after wood stove in home of Elizabeth S.



"PWNA supports the Elderly Caregivers program in many ways. Over the past year, Rosebud Elders have been warmer as a result of the wood and winter fuel service, received quality, personal care items during our regular educational home visits and even received nourishment through the Breakfast-in-a-Bag service. We are happy to partner with PWNA. The Elders are appreciative of all they receive and very thankful."

— Marvinne Douville, Caregiver Advocate, Rosebud Sioux Tribe Elderly Caregivers Program in South Dakota

"Cove Chapter was fortunate enough to work with PWNA in 2017. We selected Elizabeth S. to renovate her house and redo her front porch and handicap ramp. The project took 20 days of work. In our community, we have a high need for safe and accessible housing, especially for our Elders. PWNA's home repair service has allowed us to hire local contractors to repair homes for Elders like Elizabeth, and enable our Elders to age in place. This truly is a quality of life change for them. We thank PWNA and their donors for this support."

— Lorraine Johnson-Roy, Cove Chapter Manager, Navajo Nation in Arizona



Elizabeth, beneficiary of our home repair service, Navajo Nation in Arizona

A trusted partner and 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 in 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 gives our year-round network of reservation partners and their volunteers a direct hand in improving the lives of the people they care about most — those within their own tribal communities.

PWNA remains the top-of-mind, trusted resource for solutions-based philanthropy in Native American communities by:

- Serving Indian country for nearly 30 years, as one of the largest Native-serving charities
- Partnering with programs located on 60 reservations in 12 states, and together improving quality of life for 250,000 Native Americans each year
- Supporting the self-determined needs of each community, delivering only the goods, services and support requested by our reservation partners
- Operating two 40,000-square foot distribution facilities and annually driving up to 225,000 miles, much of it over rough terrain, to deliver 5 million pounds of high-need products or assist partners in tribal communities
- Maintaining industry-level certifications for donor confidence, including:



The most important thing PWNA provides is hope.

Serving immediate needs, supporting long-term solutions in more than 300 tribal communities



PARTNERSHIP WITH NATIVE AMERICANS®

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Cover painting "Biilla and His Grandchildren" by Native American artist Del Curfman