OUR MISSION

The mission of Native Americans in Philanthropy is to promote equitable and effective philanthropy in Native communities.

OUR VISION

Our vision is for all Native communities to be restored to full health and sustainability through responsive philanthropy. To accomplish this, we commit to the following goals:

- **INCREASE** philanthropic investment in Native communities to strengthen and expand community-based solutions.
- **STRENGTHEN** supports for Native, philanthropic and nonprofit leaders to further diversify the sector.
- **IMPROVE** the availability of regular, reliable data and Indigenous-led research on philanthropic giving to Native communities.

Restoring Native communities to full health and sustainability will take all of us. Join our sacred circle.

WHAT WE DO

- **EDUCATE** Share knowledge and skills on bringing an indigenous lens to movement and funding work.
- **ENGAGE** Expand and activate our circle around Native priorities.
- **EMPOWER** Center Native voices, priorities, and worldview in movement and funding work.
SPRING 2016
NAP initiates an action-oriented research agenda to restore the power of Native narrative, re-center our priorities in mainstream culture to bring greater visibility to our communities and issues, and secure much needed resources. Native scholars lead our research agenda, which focuses on Native youth, the Indian Boarding School Era, and Native women and girls.

MAY 2016
NAP convenes 150 partners in San Diego for the 2016 Philanthropy Institute. The conference featured discussions on healing and equity, the Gen-I initiative, investing in Two Spirit programs, data and research on Native youth and communities, economic development, and environmental health and justice. The Institute also included a reception and museum tour at the San Diego Museum of Man featuring the Kumeyaay: Native Californians exhibit that explores traditional Kumeyaay lifeways.

FALL 2016
NAP launches a multi-year movement of movements campaign to center Native American issues and priorities in a multicultural, multi-issue agenda with the support of funders and other decision-makers. The campaign encompasses four key, related strategies: Native movement building, advancing dialogue, policy and networks, Native-led research, and designing long-term funding strategies.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY 2017
NAP joins forces with Advance Native Political Leadership, Native Voice Network, National Indian Women's Resource Center, UltraViolet, The Continental Network of Indigenous Women of the Americas, North American Region, Indigenous Environmental Network, and other key organizations to form Indigenous Women Rise, a collective that marched as part of the Women's March in Washington, DC and advocated for inclusion of Native priorities in the march platform. From this experience, Women's March developed a book, TOGETHER WE RISE, the definitive oral and visual chronicle of the Women's March in 2017, with proceeds benefiting three women-led grassroots organizations with Indigenous Women Rise being one of the recipients. Indigenous Women Rise are donating proceeds to the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center (NIWRC), a Native non-profit working to address domestic violence and safety for Indigenous Women.

FEBRUARY 2017
NAP CEO Sarah Eagle Heart speaks as part of a Native American panel at HARNESS’ first mainstage event, “Protecting Our Most Vulnerable Communities.” The event – which also featured activists from the Black, Latinx, Muslim, AAPI and LBTQA+ communities – gathered over 400 leaders and influencers for a conversation around protecting our most vulnerable communities. The event ultimately ignited over 130+ collaborations and reached over 110 million people globally.

FEBRUARY 2017
NAP gathers 20 Native groups and leaders – including Advance Native Political Leadership, Native Organizers Alliance, Native Youth Leadership Alliance, Brave Heart Society, Center for Native American Youth and Americans for Indian Opportunity – for a Native national strategy meeting to build stronger relationships across issues, sectors and networks to protect tribal sovereignty and advance Indigenous movement building in the new political climate.

MAY 2017
NAP hosts a one-day summit, Invisible No More: Native Movement Building, at the Underground Museum in South Los Angeles. Over 200 local, regional and national funder, nonprofit and other partners gathered to hear from Native, youth and other leaders on youth organizing, Native women advocacy, education, Native and immigrant alliances, Indian boarding schools and mass incarceration and indigenous movement building.

SUMMER 2017
NAP co-hosts, with Schott Foundation for Public Education and Nike N7 Fund, the Healthy Living and Learning Native Communities: A Funders Briefing to Expand Health and Education Opportunities for Native Youth in June in Washington, DC to develop a clear, community-driven pathway for philanthropy to increase funding for Native youth health and wellness. NAP and Schott Foundation produced a funder paper, Original Instructions: A Challenge to Philanthropy to Expand
FALL 2016
[STANDING ROCK]: Indigenous people from around the country and the globe and other activists, including Black Lives Matter, join the water protection fights. Native women create Mní Wichóni Nakíčižiŋ Owáyawa, Defenders of the Water School to educate young activists at the camp.

[NAP]: NAP partners with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe (SRST) to support funding to the tribe. In October, NAP trains SRST leaders on partnering with grantmakers, and together, we co-lead a funder tour of the SRST reservation and the water protection sites.

SUMMER 2016
[STANDING ROCK]: Native youth — some of whom are part of Gen-I — protest the approval of DAPL construction by presenting a petition via “crow hop,” a traditional relay run, from North Dakota to Washington, DC. Opponents of the pipeline begin to camp near the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe reservation.

[NAP]: NAP co-hosts a national Gen-I convening at the White House on August, spotlighting storytellers of Native youth successes and innovations and launching the Indigenous Lifecourse protective factors framework to support grantmakers in centering Native people, cultures, experiences and worldview in their giving.

WINTER 2016/2017
[STANDING ROCK]: Thousands of veterans join Standing Rock water protectors at the camp, and ask for forgiveness and healing for the atrocities committed against Native Americans by the U.S. military. Activists worldwide stand in solidarity with the water protectors in the #No DAPL Day of Action and pressure banks to divest from the pipeline. Water protectors secure a victory when the easement for the pipeline is denied, but the new administration paves the way for construction to begin again.

[NAP]: NAP hosts monthly funder strategy calls as a follow-up to the funder tour, supporting grantmakers in identifying ways to support the Standing Rock water protectors and Indigenous communities, more broadly. In December, NAP launches the #GenIndigenous Response Fund, a pooled fund supporting Native youth organizing and activism organizations and projects responding to current movements in ways that build long-term power for Native youth.

OCTOBER 2017
NAP co-hosts a funder tour of Del Norte County with The California Endowment on October 5-7 for funders could see how the Native community has created deep, meaningful relationships and impact. Funders participated in workshops with the school district and a tribal-led boat tour; heard from Native youth leaders on health, wellness and equity, attended a youth-led organizing action and discussed funding Native issues and communities in a funder strategy session.

NOVEMBER 2017
NAP receives the Philanthropist of the Year Award from Potlatch Fund, who honors the Native tradition of giving each year by recognizing outstanding philanthropists within Indian Country. NAP was recognized for our work throughout the past year on advocating for the rights of Native and Indigenous peoples and bringing awareness to the issues our communities are facing.

NOVEMBER 2017
NAP convenes a group of Native stakeholders and Native youth groups from around the country for a visioning session to determine the direction of the next phase of Gen-I, 2.0. The group assessed the to-date progress of Gen-I, identified new strategies and developed ongoing goals, clarified different dynamics and roles, and determined next steps for moving into Gen-I 2.0.

SPRING 2017
[STANDING ROCK]: The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples visits Standing Rock and issues a statement criticizing the federal government’s handling of the pipeline and the abuse of water protectors. Native American activists lead a four-day protest in Washington, DC, and continue water protection fights along the pipeline.

[NAP]: NAP co-hosts regional Gen-I convenings in Northern California and Seattle featuring regional storytellers and grantmaking partners. In April, NAP awards $5,000 grants to ten #GenIndigenous Response Fund grantees across the country. In May, NAP convenes over 200 partners and allies for Invisible No More, a Native Movement Building summit and celebration with meaningful discussions around movement-building partnerships, youth advocacy, healing, and mass incarceration.

WINTER 2017/2018
NAP partners with Foundation Center to develop a vision for a multi-content web portal featuring deep information about philanthropic funding related to and by Native Americans. The portal — filled with grants data, news stories, research, funder insights, and other information — will enable users to determine what funding to Native people and issues currently looks like, research best practices in inclusive and strategic grantmaking rooted in Native values, and learn about Native history and issues as critical context for decision-making. This portal — to be launched in 2019 — will be a more comprehensive online resource for a Native-centered philanthropy community.

SPRING 2017
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SUMMER 2017
[STANDING ROCK]: Standing Rock water protectors score a victory as a federal judge rules that the administration did not conduct an adequate environmental review of the pipeline.

[NAP]: The Wallace Global Fund — as supported by NAP starting with the October funder tour — awards the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe with the Inaugural Henry A. Wallace Award and $250,000 prize for their water protection fights, with an additional pledge of $1 Million in support of the Tribe’s transition to renewable energy. “This all started with (NAP). I could not have predicted the outcome, but I think that is one of the secrets of life-doing things deliberately but knowing the good results are often not foreseeable. The trip put together has stayed with me, an indelible part of the past year,” stated Richard Mott, former Director of Environment of the Global Wallace Fund.

Health and Educational Opportunities for Native Youth, based on insights and recommendations from the convening.

JULY 2017
Independent Sector awards Sarah Eagle Heart with the 2017 American Express NGen Leadership Award in recognition of her advocacy for tribal communities and the role philanthropy plays in narrative change, advocacy, education, healing, and representation for Indigenous communities.

AUGUST 2017
NAP launches a partnership with Taboo of the Black Eyed Peas to raise the profile of Native issues and communities with more mainstream audiences. Sarah joined Taboo at the MTV Video Music Awards in August, where he was presented a “Fight Against the System” award for “Stand Up / Stand N Rock #NoDAPL” song created with other Native artists.

SEPTEMBER 2017
NAP co-leads CHANGE Philanthropy’s UNITY Summit in New Orleans September 17-20. The summit — themed Investing in Movement for Equity — brought together over 750 attendees to heighten intersectional approaches to different topics, including immigration, human rights in the U.S., boys and men of color, media and community-centered grantmaking. Following the summit, we invited our members, partners, allies and summit attendees to celebrate the accomplishments of Native movements from the past year at Exist. Resist. Decolonize.
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