



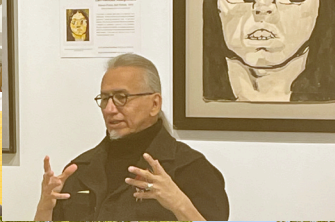
2022 Annual Report

NACDI

NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE



AMERICAN
INDIAN
CULTURAL
CORRIDOR



A Letter from the President & CEO

Dear Friends;

The last year has been one of growth and change for NACDI -in the best possible way! We have continued to work towards our mission to amplify and advance the Native American Community's vision for a vibrant future, while growing our staff in a strategic and measured way. We have expanded our reach into the community, strengthened partnerships, and leveraged our efforts across projects and programs.

At NACDI, we view ourselves as being involved in changing systems which were meant to harm, even eliminate, Native people and cultures in this country. We do this by keeping ourselves authentically grounded in community with our key programming areas; Native arts & culture (All My Relations Arts), Native food sovereignty (Four Sisters), and Native civic engagement (Make Voting A Tradition). Our relationships in the community allow us to work with decision makers and resource holders to improve the policies and practices that impact our people.

We Indigenize our work and work environment. Early in the pandemic, NACDI took an Indigenous approach that prioritizes caring for ourselves first, then our families, then our community. Since we have embraced that practice, we have found that this way of being supports a balanced NACDI staff. This has had a phenomenal, transformational impact on our productivity, creativity and effectiveness.

At NACDI, we often occupy the risky space between the Native community and non-Native organizations and institutions. We advocate for our people and educate the broader community so they can operate in ways which respect, honor and support the Indigenous people of this land. This is challenging, sometimes triggering, yet rewarding work. This last year we have focused on telling community stories. We promote the Native community's ability to steer our own narrative.

NACDI works at the intersection of past, present, and future; Native & non-Native cultures; and Urban Indian and Tribal Nations. The Native world is in the midst of generational changes where new leadership is emerging. These young leaders have a strong grounding in their Native cultures and identities. With your continued support, NACDI is well positioned to authentically impact these positive changes.

Thank you!
Robert Lilligren



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW



We began the year with a retrospective of beloved Mille Lacs Artist, Steven Premo titled *Avenues of Creation*. This exhibition celebrated the lifetime work and wide variety of media Steve has utilized throughout his career, which started on Franklin Avenue (home to All My Relations Arts). This beautiful show brought a new audience to Steve's work.

In April, the Four Sisters program activated the agricultural site of the Urban Farm. Populated by 40 raised beds for community members, the team built out the site to accommodate our upcoming activities which will include classes, focus groups and celebrations. The sites are meant to be a healing space for our wonderfully diverse neighborhood. There will be ongoing activation of the arbor plot and the medicinal herb garden.

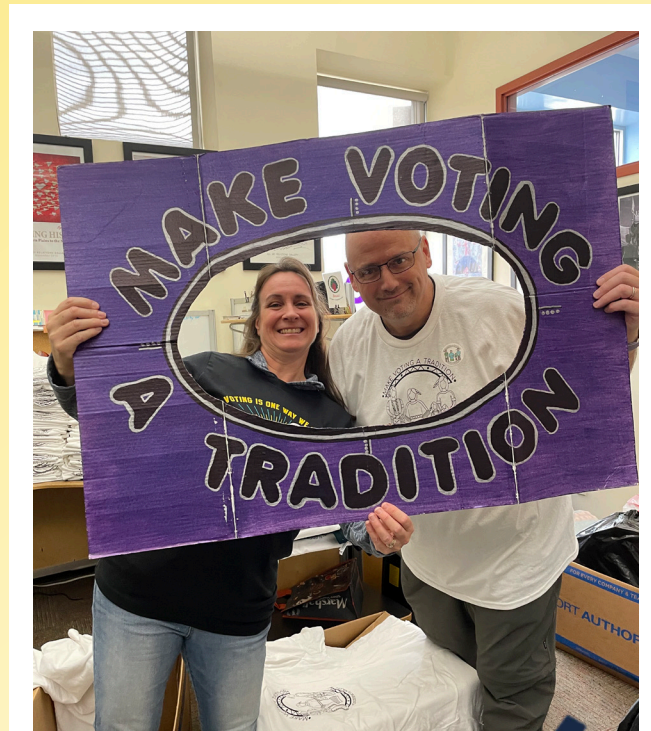
In June, we embarked on our eighth year of the Four Sisters Farmers Market which brings our community together to celebrate fresh foods, local farmers and makers, and the camaraderie of our neighbors. With food demonstrations, musical guests, and educational pop-ups, the Farmers Market is an activated space for the Native community as a way to return to Indigenous food sovereignty and rebuild relationships between people and the land.



In July, guest curator and artist, Hillary Kempenich (Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa) produced the show, *Noojimo: She Heals*, a celebration of aunties in Native culture. Bringing together artists from across the region, *Noojimo* was a powerful exploration of Native families and how important aunties are to our kinship with one another. This group show, articulated by a diverse range of Native voices, celebrated the entire community.

Throughout the summer and into the fall, our Make Voting A Tradition program prepared for the midterm elections by being authentically grounded in community. Tabling at events, working with elders and youth groups, MVAT brings a multigenerational framework to our civic engagement work. To increase a nation-wide impact, we collaborated with IllumiNative to organize a wide-spread campaign with Native artists at the forefront of creating imagery which highlighted themes directly affecting the Native community such as ICWA, climate justice, and Native representation in the political arenas.

We closed the year with the exhibit, *she who lives on the road to war*, an immersive installation and dance performance created by Rosy Simas (Seneca) in response to global loss and the collective need to come together in peace and reconciliation. *she who lives on the road to war* had a dual premiere at the Weisman Art Museum and in the heart of the Twin Cities' Native community, at All My Relations Arts and allowed for cross-pollination of our communities and audiences.





ALL MY RELATIONS ARTS

AMRA continues to bring the highest quality of contemporary Native artists working today to our gallery. Exploring topics of sovereignty, family systems, and the living world, AMRA artists challenge the notion of what it means to be Indigenous in the modern world. AMRA began its second cohort of the Native Authors Program, a program designed to expand the careers and representation of Native writers while supporting their growth in practice. Under the program facilitator and mentorship of Art Coulson (Cherokee), authors will engage in the development of their craft. We also began the second cohort of We Are Still Here – a multiyear collaborative partnership between the Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI) and Hennepin Theatre Trust which brings large-scale, high-profile public artworks to the Hennepin Theatre District and the American Indian Culture Corridor. Paired with mural artist, mentor Thomasina TopBear, this cohort is learning the techniques of mural creation to expand their mediums to a highly visible public art environment.



“We are so impressed with the artists who showcase work in our space. Every exhibit is embraced with more enthusiasm and praise from the community. It’s vital for Native voices to be at the forefront of our narrative and through these exhibitions Native stories can be heard.”

- Angela Two Stars, AMRA Arts Director.





MAKE VOTING A TRADITION



MVAT is a culturally specific, year-round, multi-generational approach to increase voter turnout and civic engagement now in its eighth year of operation. The fundamental principle of MVAT is that Native Americans are more likely to become more politically active when engaged by peers. By utilizing MVAT's statewide and national profile, the project continues to establish and nurture relationships that will strengthen the voices of individuals to create access and influence in elections. Now, in partnership with MN Voice, MVAT is spearheading a first of its kind Statewide Native Table focusing on civic engagement and voter mobilization. The goal of the Native Table is to create a network of Indigenous people and organizations throughout the state including rural and Tribal Nations to build collective civic engagement power for Native people of Minnesota.



“We continue to register Native voters in record numbers. It is our privilege to be able to work with our community to bring awareness to the issues that impact our people.”

- Jolene Jones, MVAT Lead Organizer.



FOUR SISTERS

FARMERS MARKET AND FARM

NACDI's Four Sisters Food Sovereignty programs are connecting neighborhood residents by rebuilding our relationship with the living world. Our work is guided by the community and the engagement in the practices that sustain us physically and culturally. We break the cycles of trauma and social isolation set into motion by the disruption of our traditional ways by rebuilding Indigenous food knowledge and pursuing equitable food systems.

Our goal with Four Sisters is to restore health and well-being in the Urban Indian and Phillips communities by recovering knowledge and access to Indigenous food, medicine, and traditions.

The Four Sisters programs are creating a more inclusive, welcoming, and accessible ecosystem in this racially and culturally diverse neighborhood. This project will greatly benefit the surrounding neighborhood by bringing together community members, improving healthy food access, and celebrating Indigenous heritage and culture. Four Sisters Urban Farm – through skills training and community gatherings – will seed opportunities to grow fresh and healthy food and heal land, bodies, and spirits.

“It is imperative for us to connect with our food systems as a means for individual and collective empowerment. We are rebuilding our urban biodiversity which reminds us that we are all related.”

- Gloria Iacono



Organizational Overview

Native American Community Development Institute's (NACDI) work is founded on the belief that all American Indian people have a place, purpose, and a future strengthened by sustainable asset-based community development. Since 2007, NACDI's work facilitates systems change through our integrated pathways of Community Engagement, Community Organizing, Community Development, and Indigenous Arts and Culture. NACDI utilizes these strategies to control our narrative, influence policy, and lead systems change while shifting power dynamics through shared Native values, traditions, cultures, and practices.

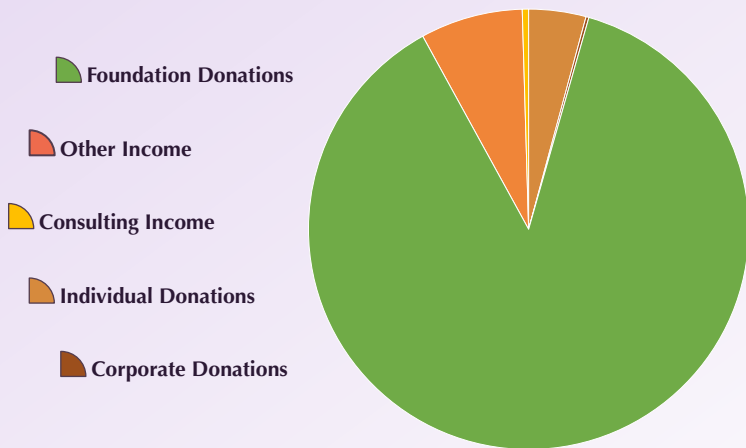
These are community-led efforts to secure self-directed wealth building in the American Indian community. NACDI partners with a wide network of Native and non-Native individuals and organizations to create a vibrant, healthy, and balanced community with economic opportunities for Native people. NACDI's key projects include: All My Relations Arts, Four Sisters Farmers Market and Urban Farm, and Make Voting A Tradition (MVAT). NACDI is building a vibrant future for all our relations.



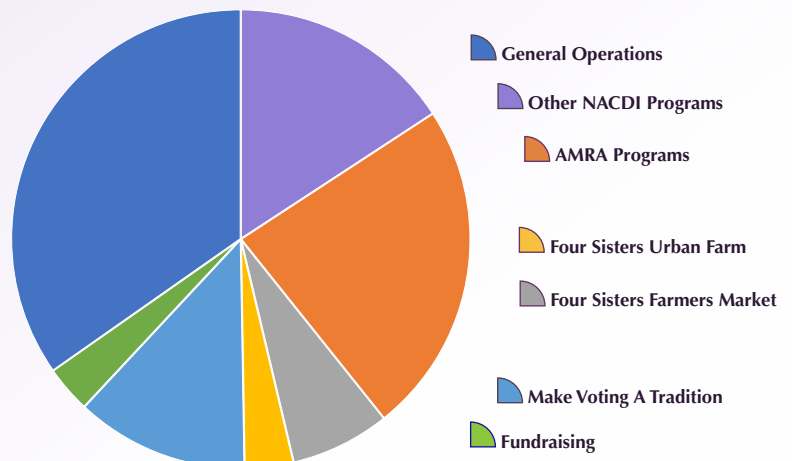
2022 Financials

NACDI endeavors to be a good steward of the funds we receive from foundations, corporations, government agencies, and individuals. Here is a chart of our revenue and expenses broken down by board categories.

2022 Funding Sources



2022 Expenses Based On Program



Part of being a good steward is transparency, so NACDI provides our detailed tax form 990 on our website for review.

Thank You



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee:

Chair: Sam Olbekson

Vice-Chair: Deanna Standing Cloud

Secretary: Christine McDonald

Peter McLaughlin 4th District Hennepin County Commissioner

Mihailo Temali ED MN LISC

CREDITS

Photography:

Gloria, Hilary - Tj Turner Pictures

Robert, Angela, Jolene - Ne-Dah-Ness Greene

Graphic Design:

Dennis Madamba



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