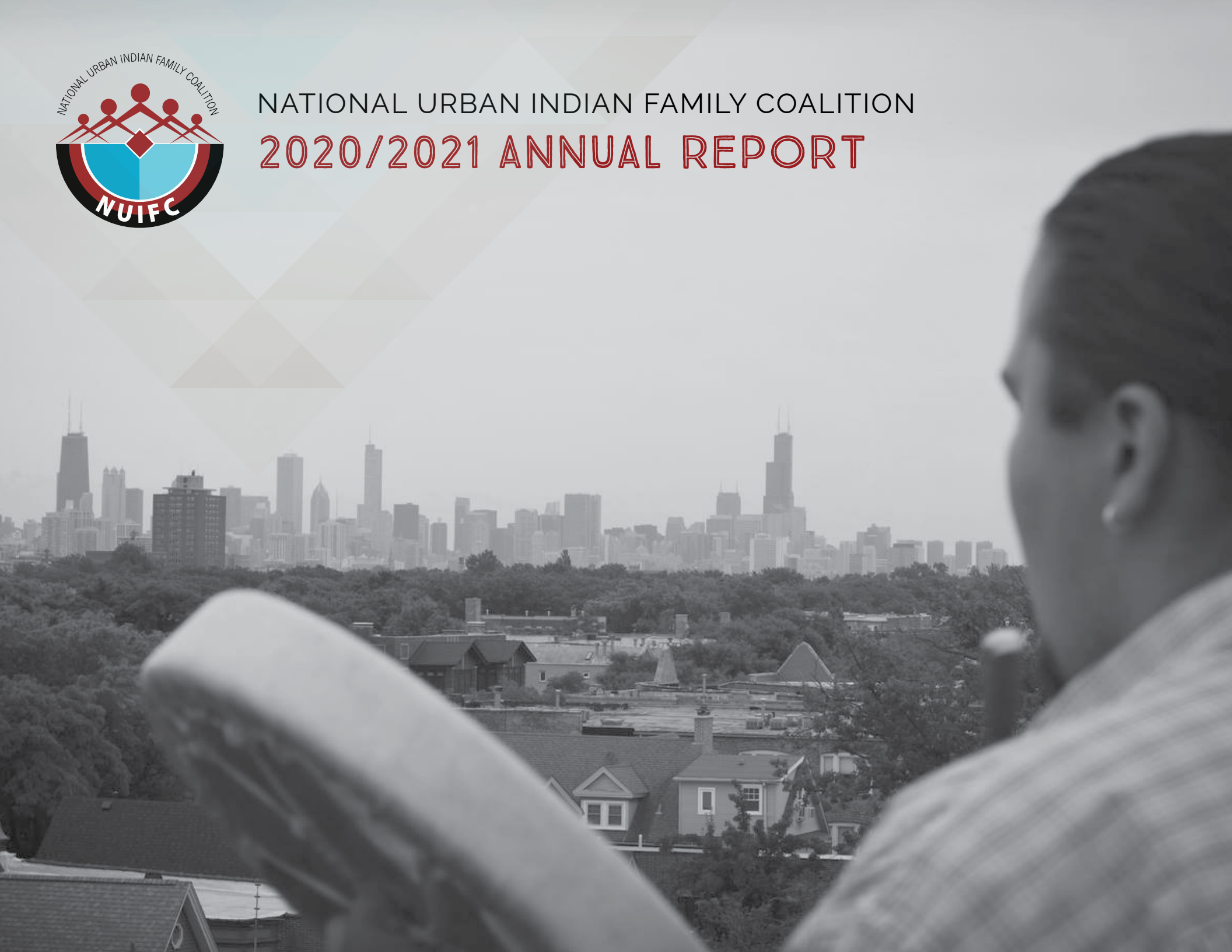




NATIONAL URBAN INDIAN FAMILY COALITION
2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT





SUSTAINING INDIGENOUS VALUES AND CULTURE WITHIN URBAN COMMUNITIES

MISSION

The NUIFC elevates a national voice for American Indians and Alaska Natives living in urban communities and sustains Indigenous values and culture through a strong network of urban Indian organizations.



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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Making the Invisible Visible

As I look back at how far the National Urban Indian Family Coalition (NUIFC) has come since our organization was conceived in the spring of 2003 at the Daybreak Star Cultural Center in Seattle, WA. It is incredible what can happen when you get a group of Executive Directors from 12 urban Native organizations to come together to set in motion collective ideas and a united voice. That inaugural convening was not only an opportunity to discuss shared issues and challenges facing urban Native people, but it also provided a sacred space to share our successes, opportunities, and dreams for the future. The NUIFC was born out of vision, unity, and a shared responsibility to elevate the voices of urban Native communities.

I am so proud of where we've come since that fateful day. Since our inception, not many people could have imagined how consequential and influential our work would become for a vast majority of American Indian and Alaska Native people living in urban areas. Our vision and drive to create a united voice for our Native communities would result in a lasting national organization with unprecedented reach and impact.

Since that gathering, the NUIFC has grown from 12 urban Native nonprofits to 55 member organizations in 37 cities and 24 states, representing over 30% of the entire Native population.

As I reflect on our accomplishments and impact in 2020, I am filled with appreciation and in awe of the scope, depth, and reach of our work during a historic year.

- We distributed nearly \$1.8 million to over 60 urban Native organizations for our Democracy is Indigenous campaign, #StatisticallySignificant Census Initiative, COVID-19 response, Resurgence Education Initiative, and general support.
- We produced the first report on the impact of COVID-19 on the urban Native nonprofit sector.
- We launched the Resurgence Practitioner Network, a network of urban Indian educators & schools.
- We expanded our Democracy is Indigenous work to include 24 urban Native nonprofits and two national nonprofits to ensure urban Native communities asserted their voices and votes in electoral politics.
- We funded those same organizations to engage in 2020 Census work.

I think it's important to note that when I say "we" and "our," I am not just referencing the NUIFC. I am referencing the collective work of each of our member organizations. The National Urban Indian Family Coalition is a unique and powerful organization because we are directly accountable to our member organizations. We strive to uphold our Indigenous values of Reciprocity and Redistribution by redistributing over 80% of our budget to our member organizations working on the frontlines in our communities for the benefit of urban Native people.

Our work will always be rooted in the belief that urban Native nonprofits are pillars of their communities. They stand on the frontlines of incredibly challenging and complex problems driven by historical and racist inequities and injustices, but through that hardship comes strength, resilience, and positionality of trust and integrity shared with their respective communities. While the role of the NUIFC is ever-evolving to meet the needs of our members, today we celebrate the publication of our inaugural annual report and lift up with appreciation the incredible work of our members, their leaders, and the urban Native communities they serve.



Klecko Klecko (Thank you)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janeen Comenote".

Janeen Comenote (Quinault/Hesquiaht/Oglala)
Executive Director

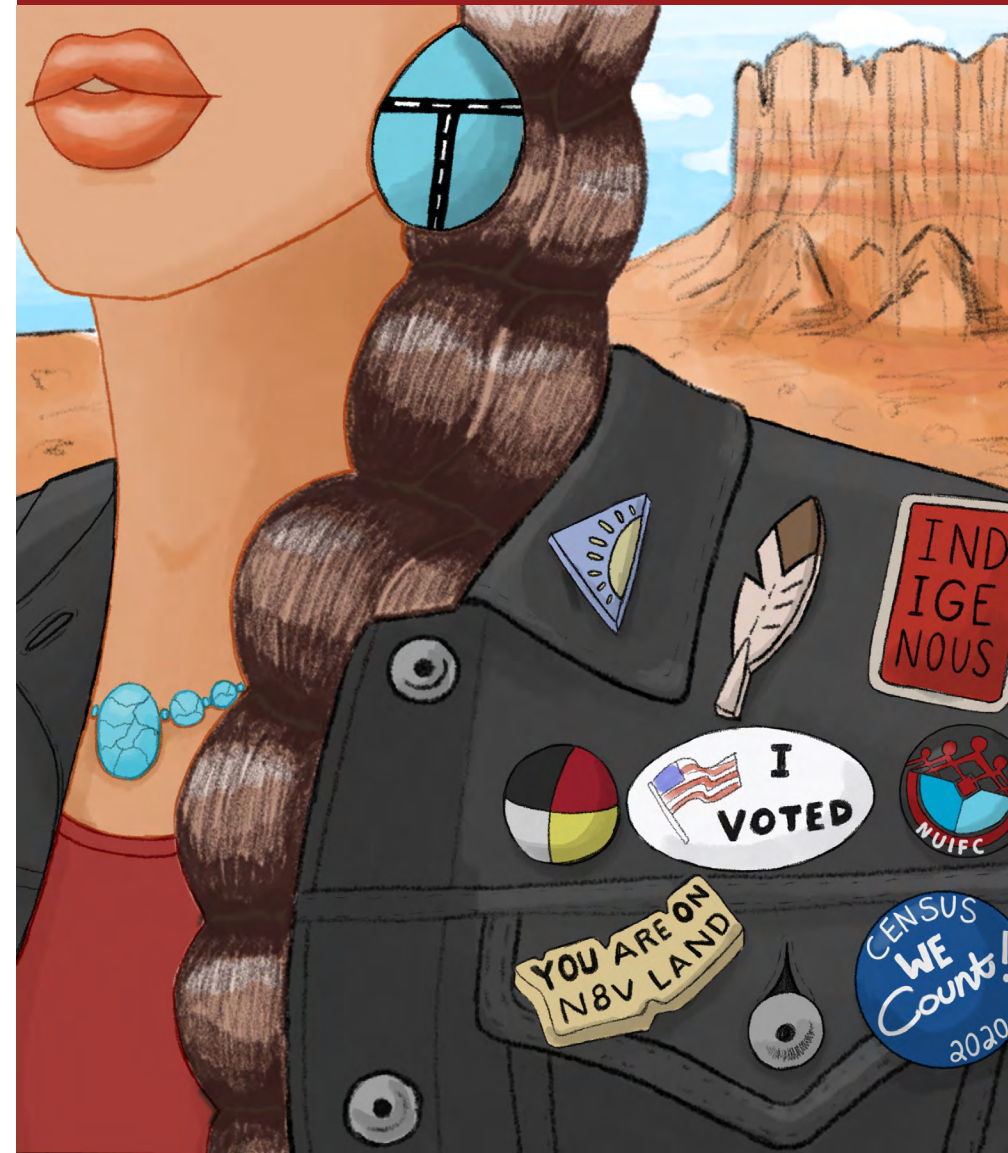
DEMOCRACY IS INDIGENOUS: 2018-2020 CIVIC IMPACT

In 2020, the National Urban Indian Family Coalition (NUIFC) undertook the most ambitious civic engagement effort of urban Indian America in history. The NUIFC secured and distributed more than \$1.8 million directly to 26 Urban Indian organizations in 18 states across the country, which helped lead to a 21% surge in voter turn out in the counties we organized in from the 2016 election. This record-breaking investment into urban Indian America enabled our national network of urban Indian non-profits to undergo culturally relevant civic engagement strategies that reflected the unique histories and experiences of their urban Native community. While each center approached their Get out the Vote and Get out the Count work differently, each helped produce an unprecedented turnout of Native voters and increased representation of the American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) count in the 2020 Census.

Despite over 70% of the AI/AN population living in urban areas, the urban Native population is forgotten in traditional Census and Election campaigns. We know this invisibility can manifest itself in underinvestment, bad policy, and harmful outcomes for our community. The NUIFC was uniquely positioned to leverage its long-standing relationships with these urban Native organizations to coordinate, collaborate, and ultimately lead on a unified message to ensure our communities were heard in 2020.

These two campaigns, Democracy is Indigenous and Statistically Significant, were built by and for urban Native people. Each organization involved in this work drew on their long-standing trust within the community to ensure the messaging and outreach resonated. It's because of the strength and ingenuity of these organizations, this work was able to succeed during an unprecedented global pandemic that upended our society. Our centers adapted their work to keep their community safe by augmenting their strategies to emphasize digital organizing and reorganizing in-person events to make them COVID-19 safe.

We invite you to explore the work and highlights of our two core civic engagement campaigns – “Democracy is Indigenous” and “Statistically Significant”.



◀◀ DEMOCRACY IS INDIGENOUS ▶▶
REGISTER TO VOTE AT [NUIFC.ORG/VOTE](https://nuifc.org/vote)

Democracy is Indigenous – Native Vote



The NUIFC and our coalition of urban Indian organizations worked tirelessly to ensure people understood that the Native Vote would be the swing vote in the most consequential election of our lifetime. Our campaign, “Democracy is Indigenous,” came from the often-overlooked fact that the United States government is modeled after the Iroquois governance structure and that our people’s role in the electoral process is of paramount importance. By working

with 26 Urban Indian organizations in 18 states across the country, we were able to accomplish work we are deeply proud of, including the following:

- Connected with 62,212 individuals at COVID-19 safe in-person civic engagement events.
- 322 in-person GOTV events.
- Registered 10,711 new voters for the 2020 election.
- Extensive media coverage of the urban Native vote and our efforts.
- Created thousands of Civic engagement 'swag' including t-shirts, masks, grocery bags, posters, hand sanitizers, and more.
- 10 candidate forums were held.
- 800 individual households were either door-knocked or canvassed in advance of the election.
- Thousands of Democracy is Indigenous marketing materials handed out.
- Connected with and worked with other communities of color around the country to create long-lasting power building arrangements.
- Hosted members of the Democratic National Party, including the future First Lady, Jill Biden, in an Urban Indian America policy call.
- Centers held different online rallies, drawing thousands of live viewers to learn about civic engagement.

Despite the difficulties of voting during a pandemic, our work helped bring voters to the polls, as we saw a nearly 2 million vote increases in the counties that our centers were organizing in from the 2016 election, with many cities and states shattering their previous highest vote totals. These record-breaking results were made possible by our organization’s ingenuity and culturally responsive strategies that helped voters turn out.



Get out the Vote Parades.



Socially distanced and masked canvassing



Outdoor candidate forums



Election Day Celebrations



Drive-up food banks



Outdoor voter registration drives



Door knocking & canvassing



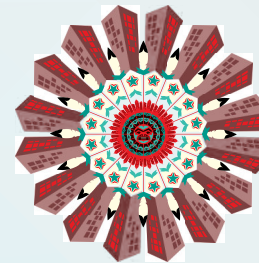
Holiday themed GOTV events



Wellness fairs with voter registration

The success of this work proved something that we in the urban Indian organizing space already knew; the most effective campaign is one that centers the voice of urban Native people and our perspective. It’s this thinking that helped the NUIFC and our coalition have one of the most successful Native Vote initiatives ever.

Statistically Significant - Census 2020



To ensure that the urban Native American population was properly counted, the NUIFC funded 24 urban Indian organizations across 17 states to help make the invisible visible in the 2020 Census. For many in the coalition, this effort marked the first time they fully engaged with the decennial count and was an opportunity to help their community receive proper levels of federal funding.

This work paid off in spades as we saw more than 85% of the cities we were working in finish comfortably ahead of their states in Census response rate. Now with the Census information released we can see how this work truly paid off, with the American Indian and Alaska native population (alone and in combination with another race) increasing by 86.5%. This makes American Indian people represent 2.9% of the U.S population, at a raw total of 9.7 million.

In every state and city we organized in we saw an increase in the AI/AN population, with many states' doubling that population. For example, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, and Texas each saw their AI/AN alone and in combination population surge by over 150% each.

This growth was a testament to the work our centers did, making sure the urban Indian community understood the importance of the Census and the ability to accurately complete it, helping lead to the boon in American Indian and Alaska Native in combination population. Our centers distributed thousands of Census informational materials, tens of thousands of Statistically Significant marketing materials, and countless outreach efforts to build awareness around the decennial count.

To support these efforts, the NUIFC worked with Comcast to create a national public service announcement that aired in 30+ Comcast marketplaces with an in-kind value of over \$450,000 and was seen by over 20 million people nationally. This PSA was also turned into spin-off videos that became some of our most popular digital content we created during this civic engagement effort.

Civic Engagement Success Stories



Rock the Native Vote, Oklahoma City OK. To celebrate National Voter Registration Day in Oklahoma City, Rock the Native partnered with Voto Latino to hold a celebration in downtown Oklahoma City, complete with traditional Native dancers, food trucks, and a Ferris wheel. Along with this, the mayor of Oklahoma City came down to the celebration to announce September

28th an official city holiday to cement the importance of National Voter Registration Day. The event also featured a partnership with the professional basketball team in the area, the Oklahoma City Thunder, who attended with a table and promoted the event on their social media channels. Never satisfied, Rock the Native Vote continued to organize with more civic engagements as well.

- Hosted online concerts that talked about the Census and Native Vote
- Purchased billboards and bus signs in prominent local areas that were seen by hundreds of thousands of people.
- Hosted multiple socially distanced candidate forums so the community could meet those running for office.
- Worked with Voto Latino to elect the first ever Latino to the Oklahoma City Council





Phoenix Indian Center, Phoenix AZ. As one of the most pivotal states in the 2020 Presidential election, the NUIFC and our friends in Phoenix made sure to do everything possible to increase the American Indian turnout in the election. These efforts were wildly successful, with many analysts pointing to the increase in turnout from the Native American population as the deciding factor in the election. To create this reality, the Phoenix Indian Center used a wide toolbox of civic engagement strategies to increase turnout.

- Handed out thousands of Native Vote 'Goodie Bags' that provided information about how to register to vote and how to create a vote plan.
- Targeted advertisements about voting in areas with large urban Indian populations that were seen by tens of thousands in the lead up to the election.
- Door-to-door canvassing in affordable housing complexes with large Native American populations.
- A competition among community members that focused on doing outreach back to the communities on the reservation to make sure they were planning on voting as well.



First Alaskans Institute, Anchorage AK. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the sheer size of the state of Alaska, First Alaskans Institute made sure to build one of the most robust digital outreach plans in the country. This was particular evident with their Census 2020 work, which featured a variety of online events.

- 'Coffeetime on the Census' with Senator Lisa Murkowski, an online event to increase awareness around the Census.
- 'Who Wants to be a Censusaire' a Census game show that reached 60,000 people in its first live stream.
- Online raffles and giveaways that drew thousands of participants from around the state and provided education around the Census.



Sacred Pipe Resource Center, Bismarck ND. To help make sure voters felt comfortable and excited to vote, the Sacred Pipe Resource Center organized a unique ride to the polls idea called 'Native Vote in Style'. This had voters get picked by a Hummer Limousine to take them to early voting while providing them with masks and hand sanitizer. They also made sure to engage the entire state of North Dakota with a variety of different initiatives.

- Held events around the state, in cities 200+ miles away from one another to make sure everyone in North Dakota was feeling engaged.
- Knocked on hundreds of doors to make sure residents knew how to register to vote and how to participate in early voting.
- Hosted a 'not voting is scary' drive through Halloween event to keep their community safe and engaged around the election

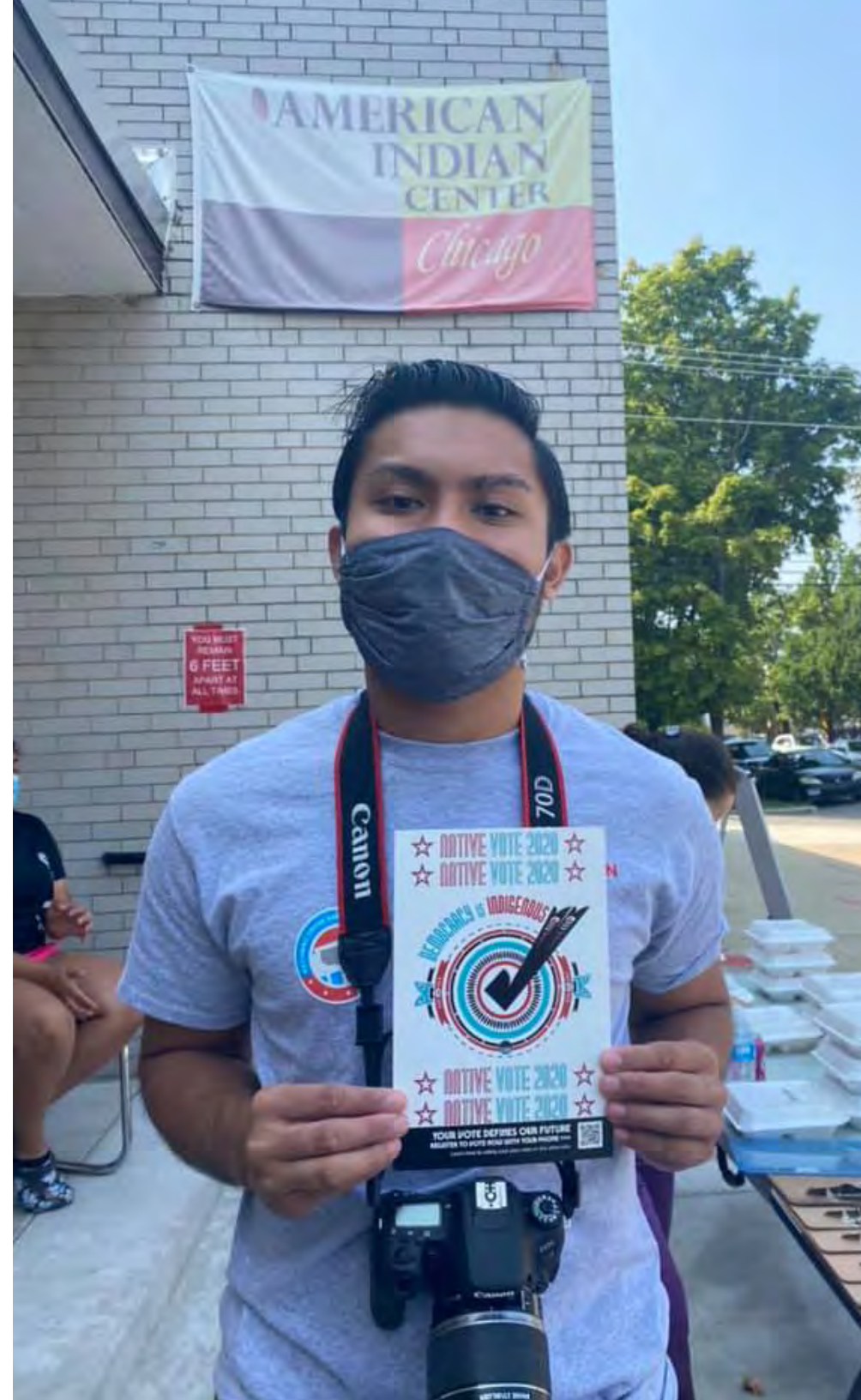


INVESTMENTS IN URBAN NATIVE ORGANIZATIONS LEAD TO OUTSIZED OUTCOMES

Since 2018 the National Urban Indian Family Coalition has invested over \$4 million into over 50 organizations in 48 cities and 30 states to strengthen our shared democracy and ensure that urban Native communities have a voice in our body politic.

Since 2018 our member organizations have:

- Recorded more than 25 million engagements through social media and digital organizing.
- Connected with 175,000 individuals in-person civic engagement events.
- Held more than 400 Civic Engagement Events.
- Hosted 37 candidate forums.
- 3,500 doors were knocked on and canvassed.
- 4,500 Native households were contacted via phone banking.
- Connected with and worked with other communities of color around the country to create long-lasting power building arrangements.
- Uplifted originally created artwork by American Indian artists for the Census and Native Vote, including the creation of t-shirts, posters, and billboards.
- Created a national Census 2020 public service announcement that aired in 30+ marketplaces and was seen by 10's of millions of viewers.



RESURGENCE URBAN INDIAN EDUCATION INITIATIVE PROGRESS REPORT



There is a crisis in education for urban Native youth. Over 90% of all Native students attend urban public schools; however, these students face dire educational outcomes as national graduation rates average 40%. These low graduation rates are built upon systemic inequities that begin with disproportionate discipline, suspension, and expulsion rates. We at the NUIFC know this issue is not new and while convenient narratives blame Native students for “failing,” it is the educational systems and policies that continue to fail our students, limit opportunity, and perpetuate generational socio-economic disparities.

In early 2021, the NUIFC expanded the Resurgence Urban Indian Education Initiative to respond to this need, which is charged with reimagining K-12 education for urban Indigenous students. This work focuses on incorporating traditional Native values, knowledge, and pedagogies to support the social, emotional, intellectual, and academic development of urban Native students.

The Resurgence Education Initiative is composed of two strategies:

- **Resurgence Schools: Comprehensive summer programs for urban Indigenous youth that culturally contextualize the primary domains of learning.**

The Resurgence School program had two successful years of pilot programming in summer 2018 and 2019. Takoda Prep in Minneapolis and Many Nations Academy of Native American Youth and Family Center in Portland, the two pilot sites, provided opportunities for students to earn credits through place-based, project-based learning that emphasized engagement with the natural world. The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted planning for summer 2021, and it was decided to use this opportunity to reflect on the learnings gained and re-launch the program on a broader scale.

- **The Resurgence Practitioner Network (RPN) is a first-of-its-kind cohort, bringing together the vanguard of urban Native K-12 educators.**

The RPN serves as an incubator for innovation in Native education. The network is collaboratively developing a wide range of resources and tools to support the continued cultivation of Native educational practices and systems.

The RPN is reimagining urban Native alternative K-12 education into systems that incorporate traditional Native values, knowledge, and pedagogies to support the social, emotional, intellectual, and academic development of urban Native students.

In addition, the RPN has undertaken an ambitious agenda of policy advocacy and research in support of urban Native student success. Dr. Joe Hobot, an RPN member from Takoda Prep, presented the Resurgence policy platform to the White House Domestic Policy Council. The network is currently preparing for a meeting with the Department of Education Secretary Miguel Cardona and the launch of an advocacy campaign in support of the policy platform at both the state and federal levels.

Concurrently, the RPN is developing the first-ever school-level assessment tool for urban Indigenous education. This project, entitled the Resurgence Research Network, centers practitioner knowledge and supports it with an interdisciplinary team of nationally recognized academics. This assessment tool will define the standards for educating Native students in urban spaces.

As we look forward, the Resurgence Education Initiative is poised to continue growing in size and prominence. In December, the entire RPN will come together at Indian Community School in Milwaukee for the Resurgence Fall Gathering. By the Spring 2022 Gathering, the network will welcome its second cohort of members. The advocacy campaign and research program will also be significantly advanced with a multifaceted, national advocacy campaign deployed and the Indigenous Education Assessment piloted in schools.

The need for reimagining the way we educate urban Native students has never been greater. The expert practitioners in the RPN are leaders in Indigenous education, and the NUIFC is playing a critical role by organizing these experts, amplifying their voices, and using their recommendations to create real, lasting change.

The Resurgence Educational Initiative is proud to partner with the NoVo Foundation and the Bay and Paul Foundations to support this necessary work.

Resurgence Practitioner Network Inaugural Members

Takoda Prep

Minneapolis, MN

Nawayee Center School

Minneapolis, MN

Many Nations Academy of Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA)

Portland, OR

Native American Community Academy (NACA)

Albuquerque, NM

Anahuacalmecac International University Preparatory of North America

Los Angeles, CA

The Indian Community School

Milwaukee, WI

Huchoosedah Indian Education - Seattle Public Schools

Seattle, WA

American Indian Education Denver - Public Schools

Denver, CO

Resurgence Research Network

Dr. Megan Bang, Professor

Northwestern University School of Education and Public Policy

Dr. Melissa Walls, Director of the Great Lakes Hub

Johns Hopkins University School Center for American Indian Health

Dr. Robert Petrone, Associate Professor

University of Missouri School of Education

Dr. Melissa Lewis, Assistant Professor

University of Missouri School of Medicine

Dr. Meixi Ng, Assistant Professor

University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development



FINANCIAL OPERATIONS REPORT

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash and cash equivalents	2,767,770	Net Assets	4,995
Prepaid Expense	510	Without Donor Restrictions	2,344,269
Total Assets	2,768,280	With Donor Restrictions	419,016
		Total Net Assets	2,763,285
		Total Liabilities & Net Assets	2,768,280

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Support and Revenue	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Contributions and grants	4,095,689	350,963	4,446,652
In-Kind Contributions	605,569	0	605,569
Other income	6,648	0	6,648
Net assets released from restrictions	510,857	-510,857	0
Total Support and Revenue	5,218,763	-159,894	5,058,869

Operating and Supporting Expenses

Program Services

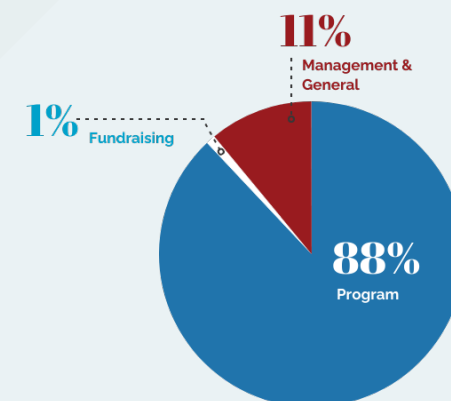
Democracy is Indigenous/Census 2020 Initiatives	2,163,558	-	2,163,558
Digital Equity Initiative	182,748	-	182,748
Member Organization Support	130,000	-	130,000
Resurgence Education Initiative	127,500	-	127,500
Chenoa Housing Initiative	5,000	-	5,000
Total program services	2,608,806	-	2,608,806

Supporting Services

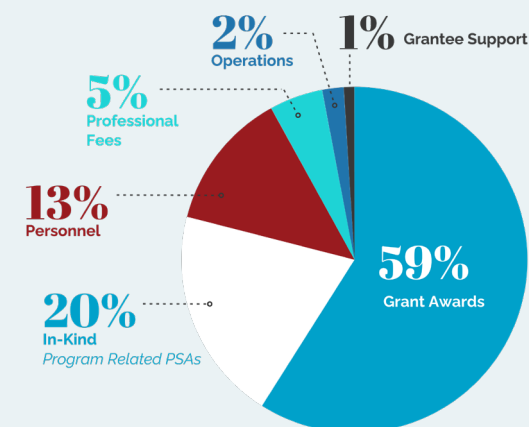
Management and General	339,868	-	339,868
Fundraising	31,418	-	31,418
Total Operating and Supporting Expenses	2,980,092	-	2,980,092

Change in Net Assets	2,238,671	-159,894	2,078,777
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	105,598	578,910	684,508
Net Asset at End of Year	2,344,269	419,016	2,763,285

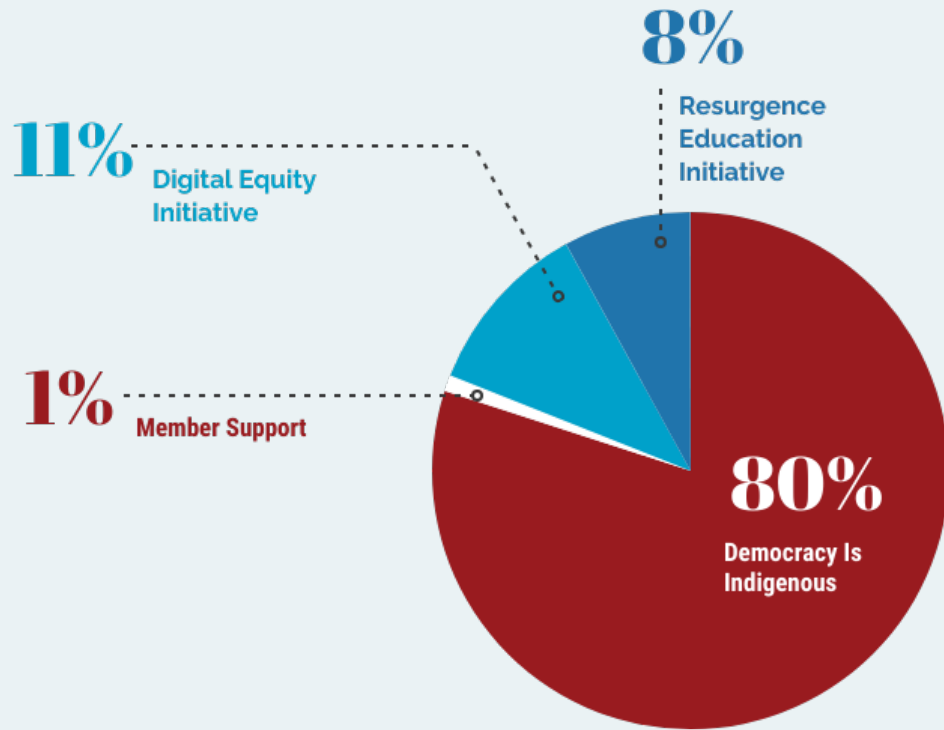
OPERATING & SUPPORTING EXPENSES



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES



GRANTS TO MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS



Number of Grants

Democracy is Indigenous/Census 2020	40 grants to 23 organizations	1,324,000
Member Support (Covid/Gen Op/TTA)	13 grants to 12 organizations	130,000
Resurgence Education Initiative	2 grants to 2 organizations	127,500
Digital Equity Initiative	7 grants to 7 organizations	179,250
Grants Total	62 grants to 30 organizations	1,760,750

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

OUR BOARD

Patricia (Patti) Hibbeler (Salish Kootenai)
PRESIDENT

Sheri Riemers (White Earth Ojibwe)
SECRETARY

Ramon Vasquez (Tap Pilam Coahuiltecan)
TREASURER

OUR TEAM

Janeen S. Comenote (Quinault/Hesquiaht/Oglala)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Audrey Gray (Haida)
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Rio Fernandes (Lower Elwha S'Klallam)
DIRECTOR OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Amanda LaGrandeur (Haida/Tsimpshian/Tlingit)
ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

Michelle Boxley (Haida/Tsimpshian/Tlingit)
FINANCE DIRECTOR

Meila Davis (Quinault)
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ASSISTANT

Colleen Chalmers (Lakota)
COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

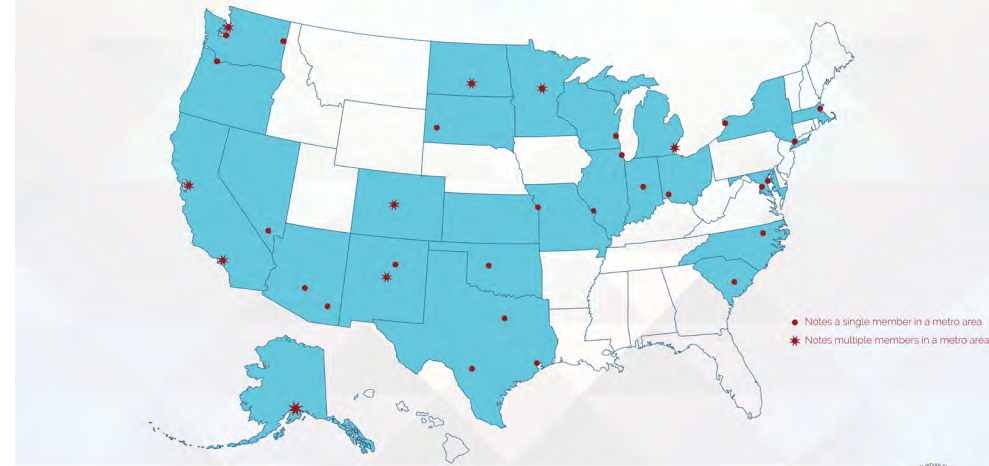
Nathan Ratner
RESURGENCE COORDINATOR



OUR MEMBERS

- Ain Dah Yung Center
- Albuquerque Indian Center CDC
- American Indian Center of Chicago *
- American Indian Center of Houston
- American Indian Center of Indiana
- American Indian Center of St. Louis
- American Indian Child Resource Center
- American Indian Community Council
- American Indian Community House, NYC
- American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan
- American Indian OIC
- American Indians in Texas – Spanish Colonial Missions
- Americans for Indian Opportunity
- Baltimore American Indian Center
- Chief Seattle Club
- Dallas Indian Methodist Church
- Denver Indian Center
- Denver Indian Family Resource Center
- Fargo-Moorhead Indigenous Association
- First Alaskans Institute
- Greater Cincinnati Native American Coalition
- He Sapa Voter Initiative
- High Plains Fair Housing
- Huchoosedah Indian Education Program
- Indian Community School
- Indian Health Care Resource Center
- Kansas City Indian Center
- Las Vegas Indian Center
- Little Earth of United Tribes
- MIGIZI
- Minneapolis Indian Center
- Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center
- Native American Community Academy
- Native American Community Development Institute
- Native American Community Services Erie & Niagara Counties
- Native American Development Center
- Native American Health Center
- Native American Youth and Family Association
- Nawayee (Center School)
- North American Indian Center of Boston
- North American Indian Center of Detroit
- Oklahoma City Indian Clinic
- Phoenix Indian Center Inc.
- Pine Hill Indian Community Development Initiative
- Sacred Pipe Resource Center
- Santa Fe Indigenous Center
- Seattle Indian Health Board
- Semillas Community Schools
- South Central Foundation
- Southern Calif. Indian Center, Inc.
- Tahoma Indian Center
- The Native Project
- Triangle Native American Society
- Tucson Indian Center
- United Indians of All Tribes Foundation *

NUIFC NATIONAL NETWORK



SUSTAINING INDIGENOUS VALUES AND CULTURE WITHIN URBAN COMMUNITIES
 Learn More At: www.nuifc.org



OUR FUNDERS

- CBC Mortgage Agency
- Charter Foundation
- Comcast NBC Universal
- Group Health Foundation
- Marguerite Casey Foundation
- National Congress of American Indians
- National League of Cities
- National Philanthropic Trust (MacKenzie Scott Gift)
- National Voter Registration
- Northern Trust-The Chicago Community Foundation
- Open Society Foundations
- Potlatch Fund
- Schwab Charitable Foundation
- The Bay & Paul Foundations
- The Grove Foundation
- The Wallace H. Coulter Foundation
- Tides Foundation

