



PINAL COUNTY

WIDE OPEN OPPORTUNITY

**Proposition 202 Tribal Gaming
Application Sponsorship/Support Form
Requesting Pinal County serve as the Fiscal Agent/Pass Through Entity**

Name of the Tribal Community: Ak-Chin Indian Community

Due date of the application to the Tribal community: 7/7/23

The following information will be used by Pinal County to 1) send the resolution and grant documents for the applicant to submit to the Tribal community, 2) send the funds, if awarded.

Name of the Non-profit: Native American Connections

Contact person/title: Diana Yazzie Devine, President/CEO

Email address: d.devine@nativeconnections.org

Address: 4520 N. Central Ave., Ste 600, Phoenix, AZ, 85012

Project name: NAC Resident Services for Individuals and Families

Amount being requested: \$50,000

Project summary: NAC will deliver no-cost resident services in its affordable and permanent supportive housing communities

Beneficiaries: Low and moderate income individuals and families

Supervisor District: N/A

The undersigns hereby certifies they have read and comply with the responsibilities set forth in the PINAL COUNTY TRIBAL GAMING GRANT PROGRAM
Request for fiscal agent/pass through support documentation.

Director name and signature



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Tax Exempt and Government Entities
PO Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

NATIVE AMERICAN CONNECTIONS INC
4520 N CENTRAL AVE STE 600
PHOENIX, AZ 85012

Date:
July 27, 2022
Employer ID number:
86-0293585
Form 990 required:
990, yes
Person to contact:
Name: Ms. Zwick
ID number: 0195586

Dear Sir or Madam:

We're responding to your request dated October 06, 2021, about your tax-exempt status.

We issued you a determination letter in June 1975, recognizing you as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3).

We also show you're not a private foundation as defined under IRC Section 509(a) because you're described in IRC Sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

Donors can deduct contributions they make to you as provided in IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax-deductible bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts under IRC Sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

In the heading, we indicated whether you must file an annual information return. If you're required to file a return, you must file one of the following by the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of your annual accounting period.

- Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990-EZ, Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or Form 990EZ
- Form 990-PF, Return of Private Foundation or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation

According to IRC Section 6033(j), if you don't file a required annual information return or notice for 3 consecutive years, we'll revoke your tax-exempt status on the due date of the 3rd required return or notice.

You can get IRS forms or publications you need from our website at www.irs.gov/forms-pubs or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

If you have questions, call 877-829-5500 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., local time, Monday through Friday (Alaska and Hawaii follow Pacific time).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

2023 Ak-Chin Indian Community Grant Application Cover Sheet

Name of Applicant: Native American Connections		Applicant is a: <input type="checkbox"/> City/Town/County (circle) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Nonprofit)	
Mayor/Supervisor/Chairman/President: <i>Diana Yazzie-Devine, President/CEO</i>			
Contact Person and Title: <i>Michael Rosenthal, Sr. Director of Fund Development and Philanthropy</i> <i>m.rosenthal@nativeconnections.org</i>			
Applicant Address (administrative office): <i>4520 N. Central Avenue, Ste. 600</i>			
City: <i>Phoenix</i>		Zip Code: <i>85012</i>	
Applicant Mailing Address (if different):			
City:		Zip Code:	
Phone Number: <i>602-254-3247</i>		Fax Number:	
E-mail Address: <i>d.devine@nativeconnections.org</i>			
Fiscal Agent for any Applicant that is not a City, Town, or County (<i>Special Taxing Districts/Fire Districts must have a Fiscal Agent</i>)			
Contact Person: <i>Heather Patel, GPC, Grants Administrator</i> <i>Office of Budget and Finance, Pinal County</i>			
City/Town/County Mailing Address: <i>P.O. Box 1348</i>			
City: <i>Florence, AZ</i>		Zip Code: <i>85132</i>	
Phone Number: <i>(520) 866-6422</i>		Fax Number:	
E-mail Address: <i>heather.patel@pinal.gov</i>			

Program or Project Name: <i>NAC Resident Services for Individuals and Families</i>	
Purpose (Check all that apply) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education <input type="checkbox"/> public safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> health <input type="checkbox"/> environment <input type="checkbox"/> promotion of commerce <input type="checkbox"/> economic and community development	
Purpose of Grant (brief statement): <i>AkChin Indian Community's state shared revenue grant will support deliver of no-cost resident services provided in Native American Connections' housing communities to help individuals and families increase their housing stability while helping all housing residents live healthy, drug and alcohol free-lives.</i>	
Beginning and Ending Date of Program or Project: <i>1/1/24 to 12/31/24</i>	
Amount Requested: <i>\$50,000</i>	Total Cost: <i>\$1,136,285</i>
Geographic Area Served: <i>Central Arizona populations (Pinal County, Maricopa County)</i>	

By the execution of this Grant Application the undersigned agrees that the information contained in this Application is true, to the best of the Applicant's knowledge. The Applicant shall notify the Community if any information in this Application changes.

Signature:

For the Applicant:



Date: 6/1/2023

Typed/Printed Name and Title: Diana Yazzie-Devine, President/CEO

For the Fiscal Agent:

Date:

(If applicable)

Typed/Printed Name and Title:

NAC Resident Services for Individuals and Families

Native American Connections' housing programs work to end homelessness and improve housing stability for low-income individuals, older adults, and families with children in metro Phoenix. Native American Connections (NAC) delivers a full spectrum of resident services to varied target populations through its affordable and permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs, which include:

- 476 units of affordable housing for individuals, older adults, and families with children
- 321 units of permanent supportive housing for individuals (homeless, disabled, special populations)

NAC offers robust resident services at no cost, and funds these services through grants and donations.

NAC's resident services staff meet the needs of *older adults in two senior housing communities*, and of *working individuals and families in seven housing communities*. Many residents lack household furnishings, linens, and kitchen supplies, and require basic needs assistance. Through NAC's resident services program, residents have access to on-site emergency food pantries, food boxes, plus personal housekeeping supplies.

In addition to meeting basic needs, resident services support housing stability for *families with children* with eviction prevention by building important life skills such as financial literacy and budgeting. To improve employment opportunities, and improve family dynamics, resident services offer job/career development, family reading programs, along with family communication and positive parenting classes. To strengthen food security, support services offer healthy cooking classes, food assistance for families, and a St. Mary's Food Bank Kids Café for children. There are vital after-school and summer programs for children that allow parents to work during the day knowing their children are well supervised, doing their homework, and building life skills. For adults in recovery, support services promote 12-step programs, AA and Al Anon support groups. Adult family members may also participate in traditional Native American healing ceremonies such as sweat lodges, talking circles, and smudging. NAC's staff work with housing residents experiencing employment and financial setbacks to complete applications for rental/utility assistance from community action program offices and other community partners which distribute these funds.

NAC's resident services team members also serve low-income homeless populations entering PSH programs or transitioning from residential substance use disorder (SUD) treatment. Support services to increase housing stability for ***chronically homeless individuals*** in permanent supportive housing include: case management, food assistance, veterans benefits, medical services coordination, life skills, AA support groups. The resident services team engages numerous community partners and organizations to offer supportive services, classes, and activities at no cost on-site (or virtually) at NAC housing communities and, when necessary, facilitate enrollment in AHCCCS, Social Security Income/Disability, SNAP and other public benefits, job training programs, parenting classes, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, and other services as needed. Additionally, NAC's Donor Engagement and Volunteer Manager coordinates donations of food, clothing, and household items to meet the needs of the individuals and families who live in an NAC housing community.

NAC seeks funding from various sources (corporate, government, philanthropy, individuals) to support its affordable housing and PSH programs and their diverse target populations and communities.

Community Need

Affordable Housing for Low/Moderate Income Households. Phoenix has a shortage of rental homes affordable/available to extremely low-income (ELI) households, whose incomes are at/ below the poverty guideline of 30% area median income. Many of these households are severely cost burdened, spending more than 50% of income on housing while sacrificing other necessities (e.g. healthy food, healthcare) to pay rent. In Arizona 75% of the state's renter households meeting the ELI threshold (30% of AMI) have difficulty affording a decent home. For every 100 low-income households in the country, there are only 33 affordable places to live; in metro Phoenix that number is 24 (Source: *National Low-Income Housing Coalition*, April 2023).

Permanent Supportive Housing for Homeless Populations

Point-in-Time Unsheltered Street Counts reveal the escalating crisis of homelessness in Maricopa County. In January 2023, the PIT discovered over 9,600 persons experiencing homelessness, 4,734 for whom shelter beds existed the night of the count. In January 2023, the count is estimated to have increased by 54%.

NAC serves homeless individuals in five Phoenix-based PSH program sites which provide them with housing, wraparound care, and an array of services to improve their health and wellbeing. NAC's mission includes a focus on Native Americans who comprise only 2.8% of the Greater Phoenix metropolitan population (Maricopa County population estimate of 120,596), but who experience disproportionately higher homelessness.

Data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) provide the demographics of the 2022 PIT Count report from the Maricopa County Association of Governments:

The largest group in the homeless counts are adults 25-61, accounting for 76% of the homeless population. Older adults (ages 62+) make up 17% of the population, an increase by 27% since September 2021; 65% are male. **Native Americans are 6% of the homeless population, but only 2.4% of the national census data.** Chronic homelessness is defined as lacking shelter for more than a year; 75% residents in NAC's Encanto Pointe PSH community in mid-town Phoenix arrive from places not meant for habitation.

Target Population: Low to Moderate Income Populations Served

A. NAC defines low-income in two ways:

- 1) a percentage of area median income (30-60% depending on the housing community), and
- 2) Homelessness, as documented according to HUD guidelines.

B. NAC's affordable workforce, senior, and PSH communities comply with the low-income and other guidelines as established by various funding/financing secured to complete their construction (e.g. Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC), HUD Section 8 vouchers, Medicaid/AHCCCS). As such, all program participants complete an application which includes specific questions to assist NAC with determining the income levels of the participants. These include determining whether the participants meet any of the following characteristics:

- 1) are at or below 60% of the area median income
- 2) are very-low income (40% AMI or less)
- 3) are unemployed or have lost their jobs and require assistance securing new employment; and
- 4) have disabilities that prevent them from securing full-time employment.

Project Goals/Objectives

NAC focuses on meeting the following Project Goal:

- *Provide safe housing in a supportive environment to help individuals and families increase their housing stability while helping all housing residents live healthy, drug and alcohol-free lives.*

NAC offers no-cost resident services in its affordable housing communities which allow low-income individuals and working families with dependents to address basic needs, increase housing stability, and support children and youth. Resident services have a significant impact on children, families and individuals NAC serves. The feeling of safety in NAC housing without fear of eviction or rising rents, removing worries of food insecurity, providing school supplies, online access to education, experienced case management and connection to community and health services all contribute to the goal of stability and successful outcomes.

Measurements for resident services offered in NAC's affordable housing communities focus on achieving the following outcomes:

- 80% of individuals and families remain housed for more than one year
- 100% of adults and children are assessed for AHCCCS and KidsCare eligibility
- 100% have access to emergency food, hygiene supplies, household goods from donations inventory

- 100% of adult family members are encouraged to participate in financial literacy workshops, and parenting classes, and on-site community events
- 90% indicate satisfaction with support services and report increased financial stability and overall well-being of adults/children.
- 75% of youth participating in Summer Youth Program complete the eight-week program.
- 5 to 15 youth from each workforce housing community participate in weekly “Kids Club” gathering during school year.

NAC’s common outcome measurements for resident services offered in PSH programs focus on stability, health, maintaining housing, and increasing income. These outcomes align with standards for HUD funded housing programs:

- 95% of clients remain in housing
- 62% of clients increase their income.
- Reduce emergency room Medicaid utilization by connection residents to primary care
- Reduce criminal justice involvement with engaged case management and housing stability

Program outputs associated with PSH supportive services include:

- 100% of residents establish a case plan after entry
- 100% of residents are screened for healthcare insurance eligibility through the Arizona Healthcare Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), and enrolled as appropriate.
- 100% of residents are assessed for SNAP benefits; AA classes
- 100% assessed for transportation to Veterans Administration (VA) for Day Programs
- 100% of residents with no income are assessed for Section 8 vouchers.

NAC analyzes data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), a HUD tool managed by Solari and used by housing providers serving homeless populations in Maricopa County. HMIS tracks all demographic data elements, case plan notes, and service connections. Data fields associated with outcomes listed above provide opportunities for continual analysis. Data is assessed monthly to improve outcomes.

Plan for Meeting Project Goals/Objectives

The plan for meeting project goals and objectives is to assign dedicated resident services team members to provide an array of services at workforce, senior, and permanent supportive housing communities, and to work in tandem with other NAC programs, and with NAC’s 31 community partners, to provide these services.

Each service site is supervised by experienced staff, many of whom have lived experience, who monitor and adjust services to each resident’s need. The ability to customize services to meet each resident’s need is important because high rates of behavioral health issues exist among residents in PSH communities -- including substance use disorders that require ongoing treatment services and/or recovery support programs.

The plan focuses heavily on after school and summertime support for children and families. 50% of families in NAC’s workforce housing communities are female, single parent households. Social determinants of health indicate that education ranks high in producing successful outcomes. Alleviating the need for expensive childcare, removes a heavy burden from parents, allows them to work and be productive knowing their children are in a safe and nurturing environment.

In summary, the plan is for resident services to create community, provide access to medical and behavioral health treatment, establish food security, promote continuing education and build life skills in adults and children that are necessary to advance the social determinants of health and positive outcomes.

Timetable for Project Implementation

NAC and its community partners will continue to provide an array of services at its housing communities in alignment with a July1-June30 fiscal year calendar.

B. Resources

1. *Current Funding Resources*

NAC expects to cover operating expenses from a combination of the following ongoing sources:

- Grants - Government/Tribal Nations grants
- Grants – Corporate, Foundation, Valley of the Sun United Way
- Donations from individuals, corporate, in-kind support

NAC has two other pending 12% tribal gaming grant applications submitted in 2023: each sponsored by the City of Phoenix: \$150,000 requested from Gila River Indian Community to support Homeless Youth Services, and \$25,000 requested from the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation to support the Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center.

2. *Project Partners*

NAC continues to work with the City of Phoenix and its 25+ community partners to deliver an array of resident services at both its affordable and PSH communities.

3. *Project Continuity & Sustainability*

NAC's Resident Services programming is a **continuing program** whose annual operations and program expenses are covered by the following sources: government/tribal, grants (Valley of the Sun United Way, foundation, corporate) and donations (monetary, in-kind). (*See B.1*)

4. *Funded 12% tribal gaming requests in the past five years*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Tribal Communities</i>	<i>Project/Program</i>
2017	\$50,000	Tohono O'odham Nation (TON)	Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center (Capital, Operations).
	\$50,000	Gila River Indian Community (GRIC)	Homebase Youth Services (Program Support)
2018	\$25,000	Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC)	Resident Services (Program Support)
2019	\$50,000	SRPMIC	Patina Mountain Preserve (SUD Program Support)
	\$25,000	Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation (FMYN)	Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center (Program Support)
	\$25,000	TON	Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center (Program Support)
	\$25,000	Ak-Chin	Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center (Program Support)
2019-2020	\$500,000	GRIC (\$250K annually over two years)	Patina Mountain Preserve (SUD Program Support)
2020	\$50,000	SRPMIC	Affordable/PSH Housing: Dunlap Point, Patina Mountain Preserve campus (Program Support)
2020	\$25,000	Ak-Chin	Peer/Recovery Support and Sober Living Program
2021	\$25,000	TON	Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center (Program Support)
	\$45,000	Ak-Chin	Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center (Program Support)
	\$25,000	FMYN	Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center (Program Support)
	\$100,000	SRPMIC	PSH (Homelessness) Programs
2022	\$50,000	Ak-Chin	Homeless Youth Services (Program Support)
	\$50,000	SRPMIC	PSH (Homelessness) Programs

C. Reports

NAC owns/operates 24 service sites in Maricopa County providing access to integrated healthcare, affordable and supportive housing, and community development services. Each program has an array of public/private funding sources with significant financial management, accounting and reporting requirements. NAC's reporting on the proposed program's progress and results also includes completing monthly financials documenting revenues and expenses.

D. Budget

NAC requests \$50,000 from the Ak-Chin Indian Community's Prop 202 12% grant program to support its Resident Services program serving varied target populations through its affordable and permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs.

Resident Services Budget - FY 2023/2024

REVENUE

VSUW	174,000
Corporations	210,000
Gov't Grants & Tribal (12% gaming)	225,000
Individual Donors	65,000
Other	212,285
In-Kind Donations	<u>250,000</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	1,136,285

EXPENSES

Salaries (Case Workers, Case Aides, Support Staff	475,500
ERE's	128,385
Consultants	4,000
Equipment	4500
Information Technology	17,500
Program Supplies	65,200
Food/Pantry	71,000
Operating Costs	73,200
Emergency Rental Assistance	47,000
In-Kind Donations	<u>250,000</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	1,136,285

E. Additional Information. None provided at this time.