

## Diversity and Civic Leadership Program Year-end performance summary

**FY 2007-08**

**July 2007 through June 2008**

1<sup>st</sup> year grant began December 2007.

Organization: Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA)

**GOAL: Community Involvement**, Increase the number and diversity of people who are involved and volunteer in their communities and neighborhoods.

- Examples of developing culturally appropriate strategies to bring constituency together to build community identity, understanding of existing City governance structures, and/or skills to analyze City power dynamics.
  - **Portland Youth and Elders Council** - a community-led group that nurtures its leaders by reaffirming Native cultural values and identity, facilitating inter-generational dialogue and exchange, providing a network of resources, and building community organizing skills. Historically, native peoples were by necessity civically engaged – leadership by consensus required a high level of dedication from each family and tribal member and decisions made by the tribal leadership were often ones of survival and were always made with the tribe, clan or family in mind. Although the arena has changed, contemporary civic engagement within the dominant culture, as well as within decision-making processes in our own communities', impacts the day-to-day quality of life of our communities. Food provided at meetings.
  - **PYEC subcommittees** – Governance and Elections Subcommittee, Communications Subcommittee, What is the PYEC Subcommittee
  - **PYEC mission, goals and functions** – developed by consensus process
  - **PYEC meeting on PIAC** – Afifa presents overview of ONI's committee
  - **PYEC cross-generational lunches** – between elders and High School students
  - **Meetings with Mayoral and City Council candidates**
  - **People of Color/Immigrant and Refugee Voter Forum**
  - **Mayoral Candidates Forum** – Sam Adams and Sho Dozono
  - **Q & A session** – with Sho Dozono, mayoral candidate
  - **ONI Community Connect recommendations** – Helped support before Council
  - **History of Indian Organizing in Portland video** - Held cross generational organizing meetings. Completed 17 elder video interviews who shared their experience about what the community has been through since the 40's, engaging the City, challenges faces, lessons learned organizing Native community.
  - **Booth at Delta Park Pow-Wow** - Elders conducted face to face interviews with other elders that came to their booth, took notes, will share with youth.
  - **Discussion with TriMet GM** - Produced advocacy letter. Succeeded in getting bus stop in front of center. Addressed issues of:

- Extending bus service to NAYA Family Center during weekday hours
- Tribal Identification
- Prejudice and Racism
- Age Required to Have a Honored Citizen Ticket or Pass
- TriMet Forms
- Number of Native American Employees at TriMet
- **Discussion with Ted Wheeler, Chair of Multnomah County** - produced a document advocating on various issues. Some highlights of the letter include:
  - Elders Programming funded by Multnomah County
  - Work Systems Incorporated
  - Number of Native American Employees at Multnomah County
  - Assigned advocate between Chairs office and the Native community
  - Document distribution for the Making the Invisible Visible
  - Corridor emissions in the Cully Neighborhood
- **Cully-Concordia neighborhood assessment** - with Planning staff. Produced advocacy letter sent to Cully-Concordia Neighborhoods highlighting:
  - Native American Heritage Recognized at Cully-Concordia Parks
  - Affordable Family Housing
  - Gentrification
  - Schools that reflect the needs of our Children
  - Economic Development
  - Trimet access
  - How priorities are set in Cully-Concordia meetings
- **Multnomah County budget forum** – 375 attended, partnered with DCL groups
- **City Council meetings** – PYEC members spoke re: Colwood Golf Course
- **Work Systems Inc training, board mtg** – Hosted training and board mtg. Six PYEC members testified on better employment and community building efforts.
- **NW Areas Foundation grant** – ONI grant helped leverage \$3 million grant to support PYEC advocacy, leadership development, cross Native organization partnership building.
- **Making the Invisible Visible report** – contributed to NAYA project, describes diverse history of Portland’s Native American community.
- **Portland Indian Leaders Roundtable** – 6 PYEC member participate, monthly
- **GOTV** – hosted two GOTV events
- **Capital campaign** – PYEC assisting to raise \$12 million to purchase building.
- **VISTA** – PYEC hired VISTA to help with PYEC civic engagement and trainings.
- Have you convened any gatherings/meetings or events to accomplish this goal/program function? If so, how many gatherings/meetings? Attendance?
  - 1<sup>st</sup> quarter – 5 activities, 170 attendance
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter – 7 activities, 80 people
  - Over 1<sup>st</sup> year

- 11 large meetings through year, 30-60 (up to 120) people at monthly meetings
- 50 working groups, average 10-20 attending
- 400 face to face contacts
- 380 tribes represented

**GOAL: Capacity Building**, Strengthen neighborhood and community capacity to build identity, skills, relationships and partnerships.

### **Communications**

- Describe the methods of communication currently used to outreach to your group.
  - Database
  - Direct mailings (to 200 people month)
  - Email list
  - Webpage
  - Print newsletter – Native Network (goes to 1,400 people)
  - Phone tree/calls
  - Word of mouth
  - Blog
  - Brochure – develop document highlighting PYEC mission, purpose, priorities
- How many people are receiving these communications on a regular basis?
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr –200 people
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr – 1,400 people
- Describe one example of how one of these communication strategies is supporting your community building and livability efforts, fostering dialogue on policy issues, or publicizing opportunities for involvement with the City?

### **Leadership development**

- As a result of this project describe one method to develop leadership opportunities for your constituents to become effective advocates on City public involvement initiatives and/or initiatives by your organization to achieve economic and social equity? How many people have participated?
  - City of Portland 101 - Orientation about local power structures
  - Political organizing as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit including fundraising, leadership development, and community organizing.
  - Youth leadership development
  - TriMet 101 training with Fred Hansen General Manager of TriMet.
  - Cully-Concordia Neighborhood 101 training with BOP planner
  - Work Systems Inc. training
  - Middle and High School youth training – general leadership development

## Partnerships and Collaborations

- Describe a new or update on a collaboration or partnership developed as a result of this project with other community organization(s), neighborhood and/or business association(s) where there may be opportunities to work on common community and neighborhood livability issues?
  - NAYA Family Center has built new relationships with the other project organizations: IRCO, Latino Network, Verde, CIO, Oregon Action, Urban League. Joint forums such as Mult Co budget forum, candidate forums.
  - Bureau of Planning – training/discussion
  - Cully Association of Neighbors
  - Multnomah County – training/discussion
  - Oregon Fair Housing Council
  - Portland Indian Leaders Roundtable
  - TriMet – training/discussion
  - Vision Into Action Steering Coalition
  - Work Systems, Inc.
  - We worked with the following organization to help develop “Making the Invisible Visible” document:
    - Bonneville Power Administration Tribal Affairs (BPA)
    - Bow and Arrow Culture Club
    - ChristieCare
    - Concerned Indian Citizens
    - Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
    - Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC)
    - Good Spirit
    - Lewis & Clark, Indigenous Ways of Knowing Program
    - National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA)
    - Native American Program, Legal Aid Services of Oregon
    - Native American Youth and Family Center
    - Native People's Circle of Hope
    - Northwest Indian Veterans Association
    - Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB)
    - ONABEN – A Native American Business Network
    - One Sky Center
    - Oregon Native American Chamber
    - Pi Nee Waus
    - Portland Indian Elders Association
    - Portland State University Institute for Tribal Government
    - Portland Public Schools Title VII Indian Education
    - Portland Youth and Elders Council
    - Wisdom of the Elders

**GOAL: Public Impact.** Increase community and neighborhood impact on public decisions.

### **Representation on City advisory committees**

- How many people have participated on city advisory committees, boards, commissions?
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr – 25 people
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr – 25 people
  - Diversity and Civic Leadership Advisory Committee
  - Human Rights Commission
  - ONI Budget Advisory Committee
  - Public Involvement Advisory Council
  - Portland Planning Commission
  - Vision Into Action Steering Committee
  - Portland Parks and Recreation Board
  - Housing & Community Development Commission
  - Coalition of Communities of Color
  - Portland Superintendent's/Elected Officials Roundtable
  - United Way of Columbia-Willamette, Vision Council

### **Culturally appropriate public involvement model**

- Please describe any opportunities this quarter you have had to engage with City public involvement efforts. What have been some of the successes or challenges in engaging in this process?
  - Providing childcare is incredibly helpful
  - Interpretation accommodations.
  - Communication strategies could be more transparent and accessible to a wider variety of community members with varying levels of literacy and knowledge of local power structures.
  - Hall's week at Jefferson High as being incredibly engaging; therefore, having the City come into communities more often would be appropriate to engage more diverse communities.
  - The Diversity and Civic Leadership Organizing Project has already raised collective consciousness about civic engagement and policy issue across communities.
  - We base many of our decisions on consensus. No one speaks on behalf of our community. We also believe in a seventh generation model. How do we hear the voices of our next generation? When we take into account consensus and a seventh generation model, it forces us to think very carefully with any major decisions and must take into account our future generations. Many of the issues we have as central teachings were taught by our elders and these basic teaching have not changed. We continue to honor and practice our cultural traditions and values at all of our meetings, by including blessings from an elder at the beginning and end of our meetings.