



Overview Information about the Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition (ONAC) and Updates from the Past Year

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What is the Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition (ONAC)?

ONAC is a Native-led nonprofit asset building coalition that works with tribes and partners interested in establishing asset-building initiatives and programs in Native communities.



When We Talk About Assets, What Do We Mean?

- Native communities may think about assets broadly. Assets are not just money. Assets can be thought of as what we value-kinship, family, natural resources, community, language, sovereignty, spirituality, education, etc.



Native Asset Building with ONAC Constituents

- We believe that tribes have been building assets for generations. This is not new to us.
- What is new to some Native communities is the information about mainstream asset building programs and how to design customized programs that meet the needs of our tribal citizens.



When We Mention Native Asset Building Programs In Oklahoma, What Are We Talking About?

- Native financial education programs
- Voluntary Income Tax Assistance
- Credit builder programs
- Native small business resources
- Homeownership assistance programs
- Children's Savings Account programs
- Native Individual Development Account programs
- Family emergency savings accounts



What Are Some of the Purposes of Asset Building Programs?

- Asset building programs can help individuals, families, and communities to:
 - Plug their leaking economies
 - Increase their financial literacy
 - Pass along intergenerational assets such as land
 - Change savings habits
 - Think about their future differently

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What Are Some of the Purposes of Asset Building Programs?

- Purchase assets such as homes, post-secondary education, dance regalia, etc.
- Repair and build credit
- Hold land in common
- Teach tribal history, values, and language, etc.



ONAC Vision

- Native families will have multiple opportunities to grow their assets, through participation in integrated and culturally-relevant Native asset building programs. With this vision, ONAC, as a statewide Native asset building coalition, works to increase the numbers of Native asset building programs.



ONAC's Involvement with Native Asset Building in Oklahoma

What ONAC Provides Constituents:

- Asset building resources, models, and strategies
- An Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition Conference to be held annually
- A forum to talk about any tribal, local, state, or federal asset building policies
- Opportunities to connect to Native and non-Native asset building practitioners in Oklahoma and around the country, for partnership



What ONAC Provides Constituents:

- Outreach to Oklahoma tribal leaders, tribal government programs, and other Oklahoma-based Native organizations/businesses to provide information about asset building
- Training and free technical assistance for those wanting to design and implement asset building programs
- Mini grants for Native asset building projects
- Funding for pilots, when available



History of ONAC

- 2001, initial meeting about the formation of a Native asset building coalition in OK (Center for Social Development and FNNDI)
- 2001-2006 coalition building supported by CSD and FNNDI
- 2006-2014, a project under FNNDI
- 2007-agreed to move a formal coalition forward
- 2014, nonprofit.



ONAC Leadership

- We have one paid consultant, Christy Finsel (Enrolled Tribal Member of the Osage Nation of Oklahoma), who directs ONAC (started in September 2011).
- We also have a volunteer ONAC Advisory Committee and Board
- ONAC welcomes your expertise and participation.



NAC
CREATING AND SHARING STRATEGIES FOR
ASSET BUILDING IN NATIVE COMMUNITIES

ONAC Advisory Committee

- Christy Estes, Chickasaw Nation
- Cynthia Logsdon, Citizen Potawatomi CDC
- Ed Shaw, Osage Financial Resources, Inc.
- Lahoma Simmons, FlintRock Development
- Shay Smith, Small Business Assistance Center, Cherokee Nation



ONAC Board

- Anna Knight, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma
- Dawn Hix, Choctaw Nation
- Mary Elizabeth Ricketts, Osage, Retired
- Terry Mason Moore, General Counsel, Osage Nation Office of the Chiefs
- Christy Finsel, ONAC Executive Director



ONAC's Target Constituents:

- Tribes in Oklahoma and their citizens
- Tribal government program directors and staff
- Native nonprofits
- Asset-building practitioners
- Local, county, state and federal programs that serve the tribes of Oklahoma



ONAC's 3 Programs

- Native asset builder professional development and program builder (conference, peer learning and networking opportunities, free TA)
- ONAC acting as an intermediary, funding mini grant projects, since 2014, 11 projects, \$39,000 awarded
- Children's Savings Accounts-600 accounts by April 2018



Work Highlights

- August '15, first four mini grantees finished their projects-final report in your folder
- September '15, spoke at FNDI LEAD Conference
- November '15, three more grantees awarded mini grants (Mvskoke Loan Fund, Citizen Potawatomi CDC, Eastern Shawnee Tribe of OK)-grant announcement in your folder, hear from them today
- March '16, four more awardees announced, grant announcement in your folder, hear from Kaw Nation and Native Alliance Against Violence today



Work Highlights

- December '15, opened first CSA with Cherokee Nation Child Support
- January '16, MyFreeTaxes.com link on ONAC website plus OK VITA and AARP tax sites listed
- February and March '16, opened 116 CSAs with Mvskoke Loan Fund
- March and April '16, opened 10 CSAs with Osage Financial Resources, Inc., \$200 per account



Work Highlights

- April-June '16, opened 38 CSAs with Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
- Speaking at Color of Wealth Summit about community economic development and racial equity
- Providing technical assistance to mini grantees, as needed
- Presented information about Native asset building resources as HHS tribal consultation



Work Highlights

- Spoke at Native Youth Empowerment Symposium about Native CSA programs and ONAC's work in this area
- Now on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn
- Sent constituents information about request for public comments regarding the 2011 National Strategy, Promoting Financial Success in the U.S., from the Financial Education Commission



Work Highlights

- Generated interactive map on home page of our website with ONAC CSA partners and mini grantees.
- Now able to open CSAs nationally, have online application designed.
- Letter of Interest for CSA partners, interest in more than 400 accounts than ONAC can fulfill at this time. Six more partners announced (partners, next slide).



Six Additional Partners

- Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
- Pawnee Tribe Title VI Elderly Meals Program
- BeLieving In Native Generations
- Housing Authority of the Seminole Nation
- American Indian Resource Center, Inc.
- The Scholarship Foundation Program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation



Culturally-Relevant

- ONAC has connected CSAs to Native art project and food cultivation.
- 1). Native arts component-building from Native asset building framework in financial education booklet, envision assets of importance to you and draw them, display artwork, calendars showcasing building assets throughout the year (next slide)



Culturally-Relevant

- 2). Native food cultivation-organic seeds and gardening instructions, tribal heirloom seeds when available
- In future, interested in leasing or purchasing land for Native food demonstrations for youth-link to CSAs



Reporting on Our Work

- For other updates about our work, please go to our website at oknativeassets.org, under the Our Work section. Quarterly reports are posted by year.



RFP for Next Round of Mini Grants

- ONAC will release a Request For Proposals (RFP) to fund constituents (tribes and Native nonprofits in Oklahoma) for another round of mini grants, by Spring 2017.



CSA Resources

- If you are interested in CSA peer learning calls, contact Christy Finsel, (405) 401-7873.
- ONAC is available to provide free CSA training and technical assistance to tribes and Native nonprofits in Oklahoma. We can help you design and implement a program.



We Welcome Your Involvement

- Join our listserv
- Opportunities for ONAC and constituents to speak at local and statewide events
- ONAC membership, donations, sponsorships, endowment
- Assist with networking/peer learning. We will share information about your upcoming asset building events.



For Further Information About ONAC:

- Please contact Christy Finsel, ONAC Executive Director, at cfinsel@oknativeassets.org or at (405) 401-7873.