

Community Food Project Grantees in Arizona

Nine CFP grants have been awarded to organizations in Arizona between 1996 and 2006, totaling \$1,406,212. Three of these grants are profiled below.

Tohono O'odham Community Action

Grants awarded: \$80,000 in 1997 for 3-year period; \$135,000 in 2001 for 3-year period.

Tohono O'odham Community Action was founded in 1996 to revitalize the Tohono O'odham Nation, an area where over 50% of adults suffer from adult-onset diabetes, and unemployment rates are over 60%. A CFP grant in 1997 has enabled the group to work towards culturally appropriate, agriculturally based economic development. In addition to establishing a community farm, an equipment cooperative, and a seed bank, the project has coordinated processing of traditional foods, a farm stand and farmer's market, and institutional purchases of food grown within the Nation. Working towards improved nutrition and cultural revitalization, the project has developed educational materials that promote production and consumption of traditional foods, and the re-establishment of traditional songs, stories, and ceremonies.

Hopi Community Food Project

Grant awarded: \$35,000 in 2001 for 2-year period.

The Hopi Pu'tavi project was founded in 1999 to foster economic development activities on the reservation, which suffers from 50% unemployment. Their Community Food Project began with an assessment of farming systems on the reservation, to determine farmers' needs and concerns. The project also worked towards a business plan for a community corn grinding enterprise to provide on-the-job training and micro-enterprise opportunities for low-income members of the Tribe.

Developing Innovations in Navajo Education (DINE)

Grants awarded: \$230,000 in 2002 for 3-year period.

DINE works to address the Navajo Nation's alarming decrease in traditional agricultural knowledge and food self-reliance, coupled with increasing food-related health concerns. With a CFP grant, they established the Foods Project, which works with Navajo families in the Southwestern Navajo Nation to revitalize traditional dryland agriculture and to re-establish a self-sufficient, sustainable society. A CFP grant in 2002 allowed the organization to extend its agricultural outreach through the Navajo Agricultural Technology Empowerment Center, or NAVATEC. At 50 Nation Chapter Houses, DINE has provided computer-based training tools for dryland agriculture through Internet-equipped laptops. By supporting local agriculture, the project increases the availability of locally grown foods to assist needy community members, and to help in the rediscovery of a traditional Navajo diet and lifestyle.