



THE NRC WAY

The NRC Way is to reduce immediate need on the reservations, while enhancing existing reservation programs and services. This dual focus builds for today and tomorrow, and creates more opportunities for positive change in reservation communities.

Here are the principles that guide our work:

1. **NRC works through reservation partners, who identify the needs in their communities that NRC can help them address. These are our Program Partners.** We provide goods and services to the partners, and work with them to plan and implement distributions and activities in their communities. This helps reduce the immediate need.
 2. **NRC helps Program Partners enhance the reservation programs where they work.** By volunteering with NRC, the partners learn how to work with outside resources, organize and advertise events, and recruit and coordinate volunteers. Their volunteers also build skills and confidence. This learning benefits reservation programs in the long run.
 3. **NRC gives preference to rural and remote communities with limited access to transportation and services.** Many who live on reservations reside in rural areas far away from health care, stores, schools, or employment opportunities. Many do not have transportation to get to the nearest town or facility. These are the areas that we prioritize for service.
 4. **When a group is selected for service, NRC strives to serve everyone in the group.** In addition to need, a group may be further defined by age, location, the Partner's service area, or other factors. These criteria make clear who is eligible to receive the service. Using this system helps to avoid any feeling of unfairness or partiality within the community that could undermine the effectiveness and credibility of NRC or its Program Partners.
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5. **NRC delivers only needed goods and services.** We work with Program Partners to understand what products are needed and in what quantities, then strive to match those needs with high-quality products. In other words, we do not "dump and run." Dumping goods merely because they are available doesn't guarantee a benefit. Some goods are unwanted or inappropriate. Delivering the wrong thing at the wrong time or to the wrong place can create a problem for the community. Thus, NRC only delivers to the Partners and only delivers goods that will help address the Partner's need.
6. **NRC insists upon program accountability.** We expect our Program Partners to care as much about the goods and services provided as we do. Goods and services must go only to the defined group and be reported on by the Partners in a timely fashion. We fulfill our obligations to our Program Partners, and we expect our Program Partners to fulfill their obligations to us.

NRC gives clear, written expectations to its Program Partners. NRC relies heavily on the Program Partners and other volunteers who live on the reservations to make our programs work. We clearly outline expectations as to what a community needs to do and what NRC will do for them. Building this line of communication makes our programs more effective because everyone's expectations are clear.

7. **NRC is also accountable to its donors.** We take seriously the management of resources that donors entrust to our care. We work efficiently and effectively year-round, to achieve the maximum reach and impact from available resources. This enables us to be a constant resource to Indian country and to the Partners who are counting on us.

For more information, contact info@nrcprograms.org.