

# Partnership With Native Americans Received \$258,000 Grant to Improve Native American Nutrition

Funding is part of more than \$5 million in grants awarded by the Walmart Foundation to Help Strengthen Local Communities

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DALLAS, Oct. 19, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- Partnership With Native Americans is one of nine organizations selected by the Walmart Foundation to receive grants to fund programs that address hunger and nutrition education, as a way to strengthen local communities. The [USDA](#) reports that 42.2 million people in America are at risk of struggling with hunger and this funding will increase access to nutrition education and emergency meals.

Partnership With Native Americans was awarded \$258,000, which will help serve 26,000 Native American people through the following programs:

- providing children nutritious snack and juice service through food pantries
- distributing emergency food supplies through food pantries
- providing fresh produce at eight elder nutrition centers
- supporting 10 community garden projects
- conducting canning and healthy cooking training in 15 communities
- equipping a mobile nutrition and training unit for use in Southwest communities

More than any other group in the U.S., Native Americans are impacted by food insecurity, affecting 23 percent of Native families. Many reservation communities face high rates of impoverishment and are located in food deserts – areas vapid of fresh fruit, vegetables and other whole foods – putting them at greater risk of diabetes and other nutrition-related illnesses.

"Support from the Walmart Foundation will enable us to continue delivering on our ongoing commitment to increase availability of healthier food options in remote tribal communities, by supporting community gardens, nutrition education, food pantries and other nutrition programs," said Robbi Rice Dietrich, President/CEO of Partnership With Native Americans.

"Collaboration and dedication are key to making a positive impact on the issue of hunger in local communities across the U.S. We're proud to work with Partnership With Native Americans to support hunger relief and nutrition education for individuals and families in need. Thanks to the programs these grantees have implemented, thousands of underserved people will have access to emergency meals and information to help themselves and their families make healthier life choices," said Carol May, Program Manager of the Walmart Foundation.

The grant awarded to Partnership With Native Americans is one of nine grants awarded to national nonprofit organizations totaling more than \$5 million to fund nutrition education and emergency meal programs with a focus on helping reach underserved populations.

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In October of 2014, Walmart announced a commitment to create a more sustainable food system, with a focus on improving affordability by lowering the "true cost" of food for both customers and the environment, increasing access to food, making healthier eating easier, and improving the safety and transparency of the food chain. The commitment includes a goal of providing four billion meals to those in need and invest in programs that provide nutrition education for 4 million people, by 2020.

For more information about the grant awarded to Partnership With Native Americans, visit [http://bit.ly/PWNA\\_walmartgrant](http://bit.ly/PWNA_walmartgrant)

#### About Partnership With Native Americans

Partnership With Native Americans (PWNA) is a nonprofit organization committed to championing hope for a brighter future for Native Americans living on remote, geographically isolated and often impoverished reservations. The organization collaborates with its reservation partners to provide immediate relief and support long-term solutions for strong, self-sufficient Native American communities. Established in 1990, PWNA works through its grassroots partnerships and distribution network to improve the lives of 250,000 Native Americans each year. For more information follow up on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#), or visit our website [www.nativepartnership.org](http://www.nativepartnership.org).

#### About Philanthropy at Walmart

By using our strengths to help others, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation create opportunities for people to live better every day. We have stores in 28 countries, employing more than 2.2 million associates and doing business with thousands of suppliers who, in turn, employ millions of people. We are helping people live better by accelerating upward job mobility and economic development for the retail workforce; addressing hunger and making healthier, more sustainably-grown food a reality; and building strong communities where we operate and inspiring our associates to give back. Whether it is helping to lead the fight against hunger in the United States with \$2 billion in cash and in-kind donations or supporting Women's Economic Empowerment through a series of grants totaling \$10 million to the Women in Factories training program in Bangladesh, China, India and Central America, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are not only working to tackle key social issues, we are also collaborating with others to inspire solutions for long-lasting systemic change. To learn more about Walmart's giving, visit [www.foundation.walmart.com](http://www.foundation.walmart.com).

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