

TRIBAL ENERGY ALTERNATIVES

# IMPACT REPORT

2024



TRIBAL ENERGY  
ALTERNATIVES  
A GRID AFFILIATE



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# WORDS FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



Greetings,

We are proud to present the 2024 Impact Report for the GRID Alternatives National Tribal Program, reflecting the tremendous progress we've made over the past year in advancing clean energy access, economic opportunities, and workforce development across Native American communities.

This report showcases the collective work of our team, tribal partners, and supporters who are committed to creating a more sustainable and equitable energy future for tribal nations. Together, we have made significant strides in installing solar systems, reducing energy burdens, and building a foundation for long-term, renewable energy solutions on tribal lands.

The projects and initiatives highlighted in this report represent not only the expansion of clean energy but also the empowerment of tribal communities through hands-on training, job creation, and leadership in the growing green economy. We are driven by our core belief that all communities, regardless of background or geography, should have access to the benefits of renewable energy—and that includes the many tribes across the U.S. who continue to face unique energy challenges.

In 2024, we saw impressive growth in solar installations on tribal lands, resulting in lower energy costs and stronger, more resilient communities. Our workforce development programs provided opportunities for Native American workers to gain critical skills in solar energy installation, creating local jobs that will serve their communities for years to come. However, we also recognize the challenges that remain: logistical hurdles, policy barriers, and funding gaps that continue to impede progress.

As we look ahead, we remain deeply committed to building stronger partnerships, elevating tribal voices, and creating transformative opportunities for the communities we serve. Thank you for joining us on this journey and for your continued support of the GRID Alternatives National Tribal Program.



# COMPANY OVERVIEW



GRID Alternatives' National Tribal Program has worked since 2010 to help tribal communities across the United States achieve their renewable energy goals. Using a community-centric approach, we partner with Tribes to identify, develop, finance and implement solar power projects that meet community needs, including education, hands-on training, and energy cost reductions for tribal members.

## VISION

We envision a rapid, equitable transition to a world powered by renewable energy that benefits everyone.

## MISSION

To build community-powered solutions to advance economic and environmental justice through renewable energy.

# TRIBAL IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

The GRID Alternatives National Tribal Program has made a significant impact in expanding clean energy access and workforce development across Indigenous communities. Through \$5.1 million in funding awarded to Tribes and tribal individuals, the program has successfully installed 2.4 MW of solar energy, bringing sustainable power to tribal lands. These efforts have led to an estimated \$9.5 million in lifetime energy savings, reducing financial burdens while promoting energy sovereignty. Additionally, the program has trained 78 tribal members, equipping them with valuable skills in the solar industry. With 69 tribal partners engaged, GRID Alternatives continues to foster strong collaborations, ensuring long-term benefits for Indigenous communities nationwide.

## 2024 TRIBAL IMPACTS

**\$5.1 million**

FUNDING  
AWARDED  
TO TRIBAL  
PARTNERS

**2.4**

MEGAWATTS  
SOLAR FOR  
TRIBAL NATIONS



**18**

STATES  
WORKED IN



**78**

TRAINEES



**\$9.5 million**

LIFETIME ENERGY SAVINGS



**69**

TRIBAL PARTNERS

# GRANT PROGRAMS

The Tribal Solar Accelerator Fund (TSAF) is a grant program designed to support Native American tribes in their efforts to deploy solar energy systems and expand clean energy access across tribal lands. TSAF provides funding to help tribes overcome the financial and logistical barriers to solar energy adoption, allowing them to develop projects that reduce energy costs, increase energy independence, and create local jobs.



Our grant opportunities include four major opportunities which are awarded bi-annually and include:

- Facility/Residential Grant up to \$200,000**
- Gap Funding Grant up to \$250,000**
- Capacity Building Grant up to \$200,000**
- Energy Planning Grant up to \$50,000**

Total Grant Funding **\$4.6M**

Total Grantees **24**

Total kW **1523**

Total States Served **12**

Total Facility Installs **12**

Total Residential Installs **32**

Total Trainees **8**

Total Lifetime Savings **6.89M**

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Tribal Workforce Development Team had a fruitful year collaboratively working with internal and external partners to complete a total of twelve education and workforce programs. Our programs consisted of experiential learning, leadership programming, and on and off site solar installation training. The team worked with various Tribal nations, tribal colleges and Universities, industry partners, and tribal-led organizations. All programs consisted of a pay as you learn model and were adapted to offer in person and remote learning opportunities. The Tribal Workforce Development Team brought on the addition of a Tribal Technical Trainer and a Tribal Workforce Administrative Assistant to adjust to our growing capacity needs. Workforce and education development programming continues to be developed and designed to support the ongoing need of building a diverse and skilled workforce in tribal renewable energy.



LEADERSHIP  
PROGRAM



SOLAR  
INSTALLATION  
TRAININGS



PROGRAM  
IMPACTS



Total Program  
Participants

**98**

Total Funding  
Dispersed

**\$406K**

Tribal Nations  
Represented

**40**

WFD  
Programs

**12**

# SOLAR INSTALLATION

GRID works with tribes to install solar electric systems for tribal members and community facilities. These projects can range from single rooftop solar installations to large-scale projects that meet the energy needs of the whole community. In addition to providing a source of clean, local, renewable energy, these projects typically reduce energy bills for households by 75-90%, savings that can be re-invested in the community.

Every GRID Alternatives project is an opportunity for tribal members to learn about solar installation and related energy issues. GRID partners with tribal colleges and workforce development programs to provide students with hands-on solar training and connections to local solar companies; offers workshops and energy efficiency education to tribal members; and works with k-12 schools to introduce students to renewable energy. GRID's SolarCorps program also offers year-long paid fellowship opportunities.

In 2024, the National Tribal Program Solar Installation Construction team worked on five major installations for tribal communities in New Mexico with the Pueblo of Santa Ana, Nevada with the Elko Band of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone, and in the state of Washington with the Spokane, Muckleshoot, and Yakama tribal nations.

Number of Installations	<b>101</b>	
Project Size	<b>864 KW-DC</b>	
Production	<b>1156 MW HRS</b>	
Trainees	<b>30</b>	
Lifetime Cost	<b>\$2.68 M</b>	
Savings		

# SOLAR FOR ALL



GRID Alternatives National Tribal Program is proud to be joined by other nationally recognized nonprofit partners, the Alliance for Tribal Clean Energy, Native CDFI Network, and Native Renewables, in proposing the Western Indigenous Network Solar For All (WIN-SFA) program. Our program is based on long experience working in Tribal communities and is designed to maximize Tribal household and community benefits and energy sovereignty while addressing environmental and climate resiliency. By providing Financial Assistance (FA) in the form of grants and incentives, along with Technical Assistance (TA) from organizations with deep experience in equitable deployment of Tribal residential-serving renewable energy, WIN-SFA will provide solar and its benefits to at least 2,910 Native American households across the nation by 2029. Program benefits will include expanded access to solar and storage in Tribal Nations; vastly improved and more affordable integrated energy solutions, both on- and off-grid; job training and inclusive Workforce Development (WFD) opportunities for Tribal members and opportunities for Tribal- and member-owned business enterprises; increased resilience against climate change impacts and other harms; and community-centered engagement and participatory governance based on relationships of respect and trust.

## Project Area & Outcomes

- Serving 2,910 households on Tribal Lands in NV, UT, NM, AZ, CO, and CA
- Residential-Serving Solar Energy = 14.39 MW\*, Solar+Storage, WFD, and upgrades
- 28% Project Deployment Technical Assistance
- 72% Financial Assistance for Tribal Communities



## Program Administration Team



# CALIFORNIA PROGRAM

In May 2024, the National Tribal Program hired TeMashio Anderson to serve as the California Tribal Program Director to help bridge the California Regional Offices and leading the strategy for California Tribal renewable energy collaborative efforts with consistent Tribal supportive service delivery in to reach each tribes energy goals. This includes listening to the tribal leaders/community/staff needs and working with each CA Regional office on a case by case basis with cultural sensitivity planning with outreach, presentations, and with funding opportunities/resources along with grant/technical, policy support. It is our goal to enhance and strengthen energy resilience and energy sovereignty by increasing access to funding for Tribal communities to achieve their renewable energy goals, support tribal leaders and youth in renewable energy to transform their communities, and support Tribal partners through building capacity needs.

## CALIFORNIA TRIBAL TESTIMONIALS

### Kerri Lozinto

Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians

*"My experience working with GRID was amazing. The team that I worked with that trained me were - always put safety first, they were very patient teachers/trainers. They were one of my favorite teams to work with since I have been working in the trades. With their encouragement they helped me regain a huge part of my confidence, being a woman working in the trades. I did not feel like a burden, I felt like a very important part of the team. It meant a lot to me. It's been a really great time working with GRID. This is something special."*



### TEMASHIO ANDERSON

Scotts Valley Pomo/  
Dine Nations

### Richard Billy

Housing Director - Hopland Band of Pomo Indians

*"I heard about GRID Alternatives and I was always very interested because I believe in solar going green aspect of helping Mother Earth... I just want to let GRID know that their persistence and steadiness and connection with the Hopland Band was tremendous."*

Federally Recognized  
California Tribes

**109**

# TRIBAL POLICY

During February 2024, the National Tribal Program hired Catherine Zingg to serve as the Tribal Policy Director and provide legislative tracking and lead our Tribal clean energy advocacy efforts. It is our goal to strengthen and advocate for Tribal communities across the country in legislative and regulatory arenas and increase Tribal representation in these spaces. In our policy priorities, we address several key issues facing Tribes in the renewable energy sector, all keeping at the forefront of our work the need to deepen energy burden relief across Indian Country due to past historical injustices. Tribes know their communities, needs, and energy strengths the best — we look forward to our advocacy as it moves towards equity, greater Tribal control of renewable energy resources, greater access to the benefits of distributed energy generation, and greater awareness of the developing knowledge of state and federal law in relation to solar energy.



**CATHERINE  
ZINGG**

Ho-Chunk Nation

## 2024 Policy Priorities

- Enhanced Cost Savings For Tribal Members on Utility Bills with a Focus on Solar
- Comprehensive State and Federal Funding with a Focus on Climate and Tribal Investment
- Supporting Natural Resource Management with Tribal Consultation

Total Legislative and  
Regulatory Efforts

**11**

Total States  
Engaged In

**7**

# THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

On behalf of all the National Tribal Program staff, we would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to our foundation, corporate, and individual donors in 2024! For 10+ years, the National Tribal Program at GRID Alternatives has been committed to uplifting tribal communities' voices and needs in an equitable and sustainable way and we couldn't have done it without supporters like you. Your belief in our mission and vision enables us to continue reaching out to more tribes each year. Together, we are supporting tribes in moving toward tribal energy sovereignty! Again, we extend our deepest gratitude for your generous support and dedication to the National Tribal Program at GRID.

Pilamayaye (Thank you)

Tanksi Clairmont (Sicangu Lakota/Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota)  
Co-Executive Director National Tribal Program - GRID Alternatives

## **2024 FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE FUNDERS**

AES Corporation  
All Points North Foundation  
Honda USA Foundation  
GitLab Foundation  
Google  
Invenergy LLC  
Meyer Memorial Trust  
Patagonia  
Sally Mead Hands Foundation  
Sempra Foundation  
U.S. Bank Foundation  
Waverly Street Foundation

## **2024 TRIBAL IMPACT CIRCLE DONORS**

Brendan Barrett  
Randy & Stefanie Beigle  
Janet Bering  
Collette Brown-Rodriguez  
Stacy Cloyd  
Amy Heart  
Andrew Kirchner  
The Kirchner Family Foundation  
Theodore and Linda Koeman  
Alexander Lehmann  
Rachel Margolese  
Lucille Smock  
Jackie Teague

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