

Native American Connections

4520 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix AZ 85013

The Native American Connections is a local non-profit that provides services to the Native American community. NMTC financing was used to acquire and rehabilitate a six-story, 82,165 SF office building and parking structure to establish a center to provide services to Native Americans in 2005. Built in 1976, the building underwent renovations including updating elevators and a rooftop water tower, tenant improvements, flooring, walls, entrance doors and exterior signage. The space was reconfigured to add a training room, kitchenette and retail space in the building.



The intent of this project was to improve the efficiencies of program service delivery to the urban Native American community through the co-location and provision of a seamless set of non-competing programs, and to offer a larger umbrella of funding partnership opportunities to the agencies and their respective fiscal resources.

At the time, the Valley lacked a geographic center for the Native American community, a place where Native Americans could gather together to express and share cultural traditions with fellow tribal members or with the community at large. The Valley also lacked a central location for Native Americans to access health care, social services, recreation and community resources.

Community Impact

The NMTC loan allowed Native American Connections, Inc., Native American Community Health Center, Inc., and Phoenix Indian Center, Inc. to create a Native American Urban Center. These combined nonprofit entities provided behavioral health, affordable housing, workforce, education, medical, dental and senior services. Additional tenants include the Arizona Department of Economic Security, and three current nonprofit entities focusing on youth and education. These combined entities will provide behavioral health, affordable housing, workforce, education, medical, dental and senior services.

During most of 2007, NAC the Phoenix Indian Center and Native Health employed over 250 individuals, NAC had 114 employees as of November 30, 2007 (92 full-time, 10 part-time, 5 on-call and 6 student interns. PIC employed 25 individuals, including three contract employees during 2007. PIC also employed 49 people under its subsidized short-term employment program during 2007, NACHC had a total of 67 full-time employees as of December 15, 2007.

In 2013, NAC served 1231 clients via outpatient services (79% were Native Americans); served 320 people with finding jobs via Workforce Services and 1,500 individuals who used the resources for self-directed jobs searches, resume development, and email use; reached 6222 patients through the medical and dental programs; provided 375 individuals with GED preparation classes via the Adult Literacy program; provided 51 training session for 886 behavioral health professionals; assisted 1048 individuals with housing assistance by providing housing within NAC communities or referrals to other local agencies.

Lender: PCDIC, Mutual of Omaha Bank, Prudential Insurance Co.

Investor: M & I Development Corp., Mutual of Omaha Bank

Community Profile:

- Poverty Rate 23%
- Median Family Income 79.2%
- 2000 Census Tract 04013108801

Project Highlights

- Project Costs \$7.8 Million
- NMTC Allocation \$6,056,000