



50th ANNIVERSARY REPORT



Dear Friends and Partners,

For five decades, the Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA) has been a source of resilience and cultural connection for the Native American community in the Portland-metro area. Many dedicated hands, courageous hearts, and gifted minds guided NAYA to this point. NAYA's 50th Anniversary wouldn't be possible without the incredible vision of NAYA's founders and leaders who dared to dream of a better future for Native youth.

In 1974, a group of passionate parents and volunteers created NAYA with a mission to uplift Native youth through education, cultural and community engagement. 2024 marked an extraordinary milestone in the journey they began. It was a time to reflect on our origins, the paths we've traveled, and the impact we've made in service to Native people.

This report includes stories of current staff who went from participating in our community programs, to becoming leaders in our organization. I came to NAYA a much younger man, a volunteer in my early 20s, and grew and changed with the organization. Over the past 15 years, I have had the privilege of serving NAYA in many roles, and I've watched our organization grow into a powerful, resilient, and dynamic force. It is humbling to have witnessed NAYA become the trusted and respected partner it is today—both in the broader community and among those we serve directly. Every day, I am reminded of the collective dedication and hard work that has allowed us to meet the evolving needs of our community with impassioned determination. I am honored to serve as the CEO of such an important and vibrant community organization at such a critical time.

Through the years, NAYA has responded to challenges and opportunities with bold innovation. From our early after-school sports programs to today's lifetime continuum of wraparound services, NAYA has remained a beacon of self-determination among our community members, offering them guidance and nurturing their leadership. Our programs are grounded in our cultural and traditional values and designed with our future in mind.

As we celebrate a strong legacy of impact, we turn an eye toward ensuring our next fifty years build upon our commitment to the resilience and vitality of our youth, families, Elders, and community. We are deeply grateful for the support of our partners, donors, staff, volunteers, and community members who have stood with us through every challenge and success. Together, we will continue to grow and ensure a bright future for our region's Native community.

Sincerely,



Oscar Arana (Chichimeca)
Chief Executive Officer



From Basketball to Traditional Games

NAYA was founded in 1974 by Native parents and volunteers concerned about the low graduation rates of Native American youth in Portland Public Schools. They provided Native students with after-school activities centered on sports, and tutoring help to keep students engaged in community and their education.

NAYA's Recreation Coordinator, Micah Johnson (Umatilla) is NAYA's second-longest tenured employee, and has been guiding our youth for more than 20 years. Micah understands the power of healthy recreation and sport, "Our programs impact the well-being of the youth and families by providing a healthy outlet as well as developing healthy habits," Micah explained. "Our programs create safe spaces for engaged and active Native youth and families to build confidence, cultural connections, and social bonds while benefiting from athletic activity." As a mentor and coach, Micah has encouraged generations of Native youth to find their strength through sport, carrying forward NAYA's tradition of community-centered learning.

Today, NAYA offers year-round recreation programs including seasonal basketball and volleyball for youth from 3rd through 12th grade, sports clinics, spring and summer camps, and recreation events for the whole family. Honoring NAYA's commitment to tradition and Native ways of knowing, NAYA also offers traditional games and cultural activities including Rock in Fist, stickball, and archery. These traditional activities provide a connection to culture and community while helping youth build physical and mental skills.

NAYA's early basketball and tutoring programs reflected what Native communities have always known: learning thrives through connection. Drawing from tradition, NAYA's after-school activities taught youth the power of teamwork and strategic thinking. Those early programs evolved into NAYA's Youth and Education Services, our foundational and largest department.


YOUTH AND EDUCATION

With more than 30 staff members and 40 different services, NAYA's youth and education programs offer multiple pathways for youth to achieve academic success and cultural connection.

NAYA's College and Career Center offers twice-weekly College Nights where students can research colleges and trade opportunities, get help with college, scholarship and FAFSA filing, sign up for college visits, and receive individualized coaching.

Our tradition of after-school activities continues as NAYA's Learning Center provides Native youth with after-school programming, including recreation, cultural arts, STEAM and literacy skill building, and help with homework.

NAYA's Educational Re-Engagement and GED support programs help community members who had to leave high school for family, health, or other reasons. Last year, in June 2024, nine students graduated with their GED certificates.



MICAH JOHNSON
UMATILLA



A SCHOOL FOR MANY NATIONS

In 2007, NAYA opened its alternative high school, the Early College Academy, to support the educational success of our youth. Operating in partnership with Portland Public Schools, the academy provides a culturally focused, student-centered learning environment that delivers a rigorous high school curriculum through Native ways of knowing.

Initially designed to blend high school and college curricula, the school underwent a student-led renaming effort in 2019 and became the Many Nations Academy (MNA). This change reflects the school's commitment to creating a diverse and inclusive learning environment, welcoming all students seeking an education grounded in a Native American worldview.

The MNA offers an educational experience rooted in core Native American values, emphasizing academic excellence and student empowerment. With a focus

on college and career readiness, MNA students have access to NAYA's College and Career Services, which provide post-high school preparation, ensuring students gain the skills, tools, and support needed to succeed in college and beyond. With an approach that has proven transformative for our students, the academy's project-based learning, small class sizes, and emphasis on relational learning honor the unique talents each student brings to the community. Since its founding, more than 160 students have crossed the graduation stage to receive their diplomas.



Finding Her Path to Leadership

As a teen who often skipped school, Tawna Sanchez (Shoshone-Bannock, Ute) was one of the youth NAYA set out to engage. Looking for direction, Tawna joined other youth, taking part in the very first programs the organization offered.

Leadership development is seen as key to uplifting the Native community. By 1998, NAYA created youth advocate positions, and Tawna was one of the first to fill the post as NAYA's second employee. Tawna found her place as a leader, providing guidance and support for the youth that followed.

Today, as Director of Family Services, Tawna leads a department with a broad scope, reflecting NAYA's commitment to addressing the holistic needs of our community members at every stage of life. The department now encompasses Early Childhood Services, Foster Care Services, Elder Services, and Parent-Child Support, embodying NAYA's understanding that truly supporting an individual often means offering support to their entire family.

Through comprehensive programming, NAYA strives to keep families together, empowering parents with essential tools for raising happy, engaged children, nurturing

early childhood development, and creating vital opportunities for Elders to visit and meet, participate in yoga and community gatherings, and access healthy food. This expansive range of services demonstrates how NAYA has grown from its youth-focused roots into a holistic family resource center serving the Native community across generations.

In 2017, Tawna took her dedication to the Native community to the state arena, becoming the second Native American to serve in the Oregon State legislature. "Representation matters, and it matters to the community I serve," she said. Since taking office, she has championed the Oregon Indian Child Welfare Act (ORICWA.) Developed in partnership with Oregon's nine federally recognized Tribes, ORICWA went into effect in 2021, strengthening protections for Native families in the child welfare system, addressing disproportionate rates of removal, improving services for Native children and families, and ensuring Native children who must be removed are placed with Native families, communities and cultures.

TAWNA SANCHEZ
SHOSHONE-BANNOCK, UTE





SERVING THE ENTIRE FAMILY

- We have grown our programming because our community has asked us to. In 1999, NAYA wrote a grant to launch a program to address domestic violence, with culturally focused, confidential emergency services.
- With the move to N Mississippi Ave, NAYA's Elder services was born. Volunteers welcomed Elders to potluck meals and bingo nights.
- Over the years, NAYA's Family Services has expanded to include culturally-responsive early childhood programs, designed to help parents learn and children thrive, including our Chxi San family playgroup, Parents as Teachers, Positive Native Parenting, and Early Head Start.
- Addressing the overrepresentation of Native American youth in the foster care system, NAYA offers a suite of services to help foster youth and their families navigate the foster care system.
- Serving more than 100 youth and 15-20 families each month, programming includes Parenting in 2 Worlds, Pathways to Adulthood Independent Living Program, Sibling and Family Visit Night, and the award-winning KEEP™ program.
- NAYA's Healing Circle empowers communities to break the silence around domestic and sexual violence by fostering strength, respect, and balance in relationships. Through crisis intervention, advocacy, education, safety planning, local resource navigation, and culturally relevant services, we are creating safer, supportive environments for survivors.



Culturally Empowered, Civically Engaged

William Miller (Cherokee, Blackfeet) was already involved in NAYA's Youth Services programming when he lost his father and brother in his teens. NAYA provided vital support and guidance during this difficult time, helping him build connection to his culture.

Our programmatic emphasis on cultural competency and policy engagement creates natural pathways to public service. William followed his path, working with State Representative Tawna Sanchez before rejoining NAYA as a staff member, eventually becoming Government Affairs Manager. In this role, William oversees civic engagement initiatives like NAYA's Policy, Advocacy, and Community Engagement (PACE) Team and the Portland Youth and Elders' Council (PYEC), where community can share information and facilitate meaningful conversations on local issues. This engagement extends through the Portland Indian Leaders' Roundtable, which unites 24 Native agencies to tackle shared challenges, and the Oregon LEAD program, which provides culturally relevant leadership training for emerging changemakers.

The political landscape demanded a stronger voice for Native priorities

beyond traditional nonprofit advocacy. In 2020 the NAYA board of directors approved the founding of the NAYA Action Fund as a 501(c)(4) organization to allow for expanding influence via direct lobbying and candidate endorsements – activities restricted for 501(c)(3) organizations like the NAYA Family Center. William was named the Action Fund's Executive Director in 2022.

Guided by NAYA's Community Priority Survey, which gathered input from community members across both Oregon and Washington, both NAYA's PACE Team and the Action Fund's victories strengthened economic empowerment, improved housing access, and supported behavioral health services while advancing NAYA's mission of fostering institutional change through advocacy and policy action.



WILLIAM MILLER
CHEROKEE, BLACKFEET



NAYA'S 2024 POLICY & ADVOCACY WORK

More than 50 community members participated in NAYA's Legislative Days of Action in both Oregon and Washington states

Successfully advocated for \$40M in combined funding through Oregon House Bills 4131 and 4041 for economic equity and development

Advanced six priority bills across two states, including Oregon's \$500M Housing Production Package and Washington's MMIWP reward program

Championed legislation addressing critical community needs from housing stability to financial education requirements

Convened 50+ leaders at Decolonizing Democracy Summit with One America Votes for election analysis and 2024 planning



50 Years of Impact



1974: NAYA is founded by parent and Elder volunteers concerned about the wellbeing of their youth.

1974



2006: NAYA “comes home” to the former Whitaker-Lakeside Middle School campus in NE Portland, the site of a former Chinook and Kalapuya fishing and trading village called Neerchokikoo.

2006



2007: In partnership with Portland Public Schools, NAYA launches the Early College Academy, an alternative high school offering culturally centered educational opportunities for 54 students.

2007

2001

2001: With a vision of building a community gathering space, NAYA moves to N Mississippi Avenue, allowing for program expansion.



2004

2004: NAYA, the Native American Youth Association, changes its name to the Native American Youth and Family Center.



2008

2008: NAYA begins its journey into affordable housing by acquiring the Sawash Portfolio, which includes Tistlal Village in North Portland.



2009

2009: NAYA goes under contract to purchase the campus at Neerchokikoo, beginning to reclaim the land for our community.



2020: NAYA's board of directors approves the creation of the NAYA Action Fund as a 501(c)(4) organization to expand political influence, advance priorities important to the Native community, and endorse candidates.

2020



2022: After two years, NAYA carefully welcomes staff and community back to campus. During the pandemic, NAYA provides 5,395 COVID vaccinations, 844 PCR tests, traditional medicines, foods, and cultural connection for our community.

2022

2024: NAYA opens k'wat yaka haws (Auntie's Place), a first-of-its-kind family shelter in Clackamas County, a vital resource to Native families experiencing houselessness, providing an entry point for Native families to access stable housing.

2024

2024: NAYA opens the redeveloped Tistilal Village, offering 58 affordable housing units including 16 permanent supportive housing units.

2024

2020: In response to the pandemic, NAYA closes campus and quickly pivots to provide virtual programming and COVID safety protocols. During the height of the pandemic, NAYA delivers 2,000 meals and 100 food boxes each week to families and Elders.



2023

2023: To provide opportunities for Native entrepreneurs and small businesses, NAYA celebrates the opening of our economic development office, munk-ye?lan saḡali.



2023

2023: With the help of generous supporters, NAYA pays off its campus mortgage, realizing its vision of creating a permanent home for our region's Native community.



From Resident to Asset Manager

To support the community with housing options, NAYA is growing its portfolio of affordable, culturally responsive housing developments. This work comes alive through stories like Maira Navarrete's 17-year journey from Tistilal Village resident to her current position as NAYA Asset Manager.

Tistilal Village was NAYA's entry to affordable housing, part of the 44-unit Sawash portfolio acquired in 2008. Today, the newly redeveloped property marks NAYA's first project as lead developer, offering 58 affordable housing units, including 16 permanent supportive housing units. As residents begin moving in to their new homes, Tistilal Village represents a milestone in NAYA's evolution as a Native developer creating culturally responsive housing solutions.

A deep connection between residents, staff, and culture strengthens NAYA's unique housing model. Through careful stewardship, NAYA works to ensure that its properties maintain strong community connections that reflect a deep understanding of our community's unique needs. The impact of communities like Tistilal Village, Nesika Illahee, Mamook Tokatee, and Hayu Tilixam extends far beyond a place to stay. Within two miles of NAYA's campus, the

latter three housing communities have added 165 units of affordable, culturally appropriate housing. Each development represents a thoughtful response to specific community needs, designed to foster connection and cultural celebration.

As NAYA has expanded its housing portfolio, it has also expanded its understanding of the kinds of support that community members need to thrive. Maira's experience as a long-time resident has helped inform NAYA's new resident support service model, ensuring that we are providing resources to meet our community's needs.

NAYA grew its community services in 2024, launching an in-house property management division. Starting with a nine-unit development, this Native-led initiative aims to ensure culturally responsive housing management across all NAYA properties.

MAIRA NAVARRETE



TISTILAL VILLAGE COMMUNITY

34 RELOCATED HOUSEHOLDS

22 HOUSEHOLDS ENROLLED...

...in Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), a matched savings program. Those accounts have a combined total of \$198,000 in matched savings.

19 TEMPORARY RELOCATIONS...

...with NAYA covering involved rent increases to maintain previous housing costs.

15 PERMANENT RELOCATIONS...

...receiving \$12,500 each. (73% more than the required \$7,200).

2 HOUSEHOLDS HAVE PURCHASED HOMES



A LEGACY OF INNOVATION AND COMMUNITY:

Building Homes, Building Futures

In Portland, where rising housing costs threatened to displace many in the NAYA community, a story of resilience and partnership began to unfold. Six years ago, we faced a pivotal question: Could we provide affordable housing in a way that honored our cultural values and met urgent needs? The answer was a resounding yes. With the intention to create opportunities close to NAYA's campus and services, our focus turned to the Cully neighborhood.



In May 2021, **Mamook Tokatee**, or “Make Beautiful,” opened its doors. This 56-unit development, also in partnership with Siletz and CDP, introduced a unique focus: supporting Native artists. With studio apartments and a community studio, Mamook Tokatee offered affordability and creative space. Its success was celebrated with the Charles L. Edson Tax Credit Excellence Award.

Nesika Illahee, or “Our Place” in the Chinook language, a 59-unit development opened in January 2020. A historic “first,” it utilizes Indian Housing Block Grants in an urban setting through a partnership with the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Community Development Partners (CDP), and the Native American Rehabilitation Association (NARA) also partnered with NAYA to complete the project. Twenty units are reserved for tribal members with on-site services provided by NARA. Nesika Illahee became a beacon of hope, its impact earning the Jack Kemp Excellence in Affordable and Workforce Housing Award.



The momentum continued with **Hayu Tilixam**, or “Many Nations,” which opened in December 2022. This 50-unit development, our third collaboration with CDP, included nine units of permanent supportive housing and culturally specific services by NARA. Hayu Tilixam's commitment to affordability and community earned it the 2023 Golden Hammer Award.

These three developments are a testament to our community's resilience and our vision for Cully. Looking forward to the fall of 2025, in partnership with Portland Community College and Home Forward, we will be offering 84 units of affordable housing, workforce development, and an Early Learning Center.

Together, these projects reflect our commitment to innovation, partnership, and the belief that everyone deserves a place to call home. Through affordable housing, we are building a future where the Native community can thrive.



From Client to Board Member

If you ask Cristal Finley about why she sought out NAYA, she'll tell you, "Becoming part of the NAYA community helped me find belonging in my new home."

Shortly after arriving in Portland, Cristal was eager to connect with other Native people in the community and found NAYA. She began volunteering and participating in NAYA programming, quickly becoming an engaged community member.

Instrumental in Cristal's journey was NAYA's Individual Development Account (IDA) program, which combines financial wellness training with matched savings opportunities to help participants achieve their financial goals. For Cristal, this meant funding her remaining college credits debt-free. "The IDA program didn't just help me finish school—it gave me real financial empowerment," Cristal shares.

As her career progressed, Cristal pursued the networking and mentorship opportunities provided by NAYA's Leadership, Entrepreneurial, Apprenticeship and Design (LEAD) program. The three-month leadership initiative empowers Native leaders to create positive change across public and private sectors. Since its inception, LEAD has equipped 150 Indigenous leaders with essential

leadership skills to serve in influential roles across Oregon and Washington's tribal organizations and government agencies, strengthening Native representation in regional decision-making.

Cristal graduated from the LEAD program in June 2024. "I'm stepping into my role as a leader with more strength and clarity than ever before," says Cristal. She credited the program, which boasts a formidable network of alumni, with reigniting her professional passion and preparing her to step into a leadership role serving on NAYA's board of directors.

NAYA's 13-member board of directors ensures that NAYA stays true to our values while providing strategic oversight and fiduciary responsibility. With Native people comprising 77% of the board's membership, NAYA ensures community voices and perspectives guide strategic direction and governance decisions. This Native American-majority board structure reflects the organization's commitment to Native leadership and self-determination at its highest decision-making level. Board members bring diverse professional expertise and cultural backgrounds to guide NAYA's growth and impact.

FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT FOR THE COMMUNITY

Since 2019, NAYA's Individual Development Account (IDA) program has helped community members like Cristal achieve their financial goals. With matched funds and tailored plans, participants can save for assets like homes, education, or businesses. Participants also attend financial wellness classes, gaining skills to manage resources effectively. A recent study highlights Oregon IDA participants surpassing national financial knowledge rates.

NAYA, one of two Native organizations in Oregon offering IDAs, has served hundreds of clients since its inception. IDAs foster self-determination, stability, and generational wealth, creating lasting impacts for Native families and communities.

CRISTAL FINLEY

CONFEDERATED TRIBES AND
BANDS OF THE YAKAMA NATION





2024 LEAD Cohort

Rooted in Culture, Leading for Change

- LEAD (Leadership, Entrepreneurial, Apprenticeship, and Design) was established in 2008 as a leadership development program specifically designed to support emerging changemakers and advocates within Native communities.
- The program is grounded in cultural values and takes a unique approach by drawing solutions from the wisdom and strengths within each diverse cohort.
- An alumni network of more than 150 community leaders support LEAD and its participants through networking and mentorship, indigenizing spaces in healthcare, government, social services, housing, business, and education.
- The program features monthly trainings and workshops where Native professionals teach various skills including leadership styles, community organizing, advocacy, fundraising, and organizational management.



- The program aims to develop future leaders in Oregon who will advocate for improving the lives of Native American children and families, while helping cohorts build stronger networks and relationships with their community and each other.



OUR LEGACY IN ACTION:

Coming Back to Give Back

From early childhood programs to the halls of the Many Nations Academy, from cultural gatherings to homebuyers' workshops, NAYA's story is our community's story. Many who joined us as youth are now leaders in their own right, bringing diverse experiences back to strengthen the community that supported them. Four remarkable journeys illustrate NAYA's lasting impact:



Alma Franco (Confederated Tribes of Colville and Yakama) joined NAYA at 7, participating in camps, dances, and cultural clubs. She graduated as valedictorian from the Early College Academy and earned a full-ride scholarship. Now, as an Intake Coordinator, Alma helps community members access housing programs, giving back to NAYA. She continues her journey with her 1-year-old daughter in the Early Childhood Program.



Savana Semallie (Diné and American Samoan) transitioned from attending family culture nights as a youth to becoming a NAYA Connections Coach. Now working in the College and Career Center, she supports others in the same space where she once received guidance and assistance, creating a meaningful full-circle journey in her role.

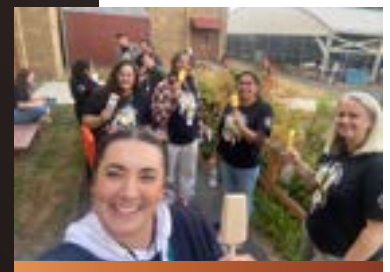
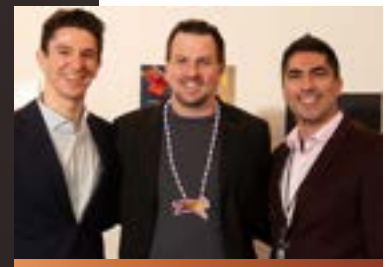
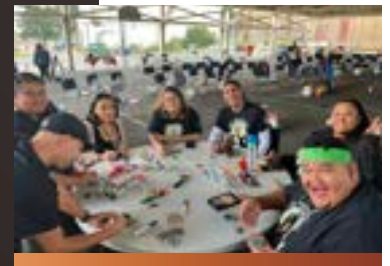


Cicilio Goodlance (Oglala Lakota) credits NAYA for helping him earn his high school diploma at NAYA's Early College Academy and pursue higher education through the College and Career Center. With a bachelor's degree in public health, Cicilio now works at NAYA, supporting youth in achieving their educational goals and giving back to the community that shaped his path.



Lillia Diaz, NAYA's Academic and Enrichment Coordinator in the Learning Center, grew up participating in NAYA programs like camps, volleyball, and the Learning Center. She later volunteered as a volleyball coach and completed her PSU Capstone in the garden. Now, she embraces this full-circle moment, eager to support youth and connect with the community in her new role.

At NAYA, we celebrate when program participants return to join our staff, bringing their lived experiences and passions to our mission. These individuals embody the transformative power of professional development, not only contributing to NAYA's success but also strengthening the workforce across our community. Their leadership, resilience, and dedication inspire others and set a powerful example of what is possible when we invest in our people.





k^hwat yaka haws

2024 marked a historic milestone in NAYA’s housing initiatives with the opening of k^hwat yaka haws (“Auntie’s Place”), the first-of-its-kind, culturally-specific family shelter designed to serve Native American families experiencing houselessness. Located in Milwaukie, this innovative facility expands NAYA’s housing services continuum offering a safe, supportive, and culturally rooted space for families in need.

Auntie’s Place features eight private family rooms, each accommodating up to seven household members and equipped with mini kitchens and private baths. One room is fully ADA-accessible. Shared spaces like a community kitchen and laundry facilities, foster a sense of connection and support among residents.

What sets Auntie’s Place apart is its celebration of Native culture. Indigenous artists, including Amaranta Colindres (Nahuatl Pipil Mayan, Caribbean (Yoruba Nigerian and Tahino Tribes), and European (Spanish, German-Jewish and Hungarian)); Arusha Dittmer (Ho-Chunk Nation); Chanti Mañon (Osage and Mazahua); and Leo Whitehorse (Rosebud Sioux Tribe), created stunning murals that transform the shelter into a vibrant, welcoming environment. These murals honor Native heritage and resilience, creating a space where families feel seen and valued.



Beyond providing immediate shelter, Auntie’s Place provides comprehensive support, including access to traditional healing practices, educational and employment assistance, and guidance in navigating housing and social services. The name k^hwat yaka haws (“Auntie’s Place” in the Chinook language) reflects the tradition of community aunties opening their homes to help others, embodying NAYA’s core values of kindness, respect, tradition, community, and pride.

This groundbreaking shelter represents NAYA’s commitment to addressing houselessness through culturally-centered solutions, preserving dignity and fostering community connections for Native families.

Reclaiming Our Past, Cultivating Our Future

LOOKING AHEAD – OUR NEXT 50 YEARS

NAYA's campus stands as a vibrant cultural hub for the Native community, with a vision of strategic, thoughtful, and community directed growth to deepen its impact. Our plans in the reclamation of our land include enhancing Wapas Nah Née Shaku, our community garden, to grow year-round crops, traditional foods, and medicinal plants, and create dedicated spaces for ceremony and community gatherings. An elevator will be installed to improve accessibility, and meet ADA compliance, and the addition of a new PA security system will safeguard our staff, clients, community members, and the campus.



Our vision includes our neighborhood of NE Cully, a place of enduring cultural significance for Native people since time immemorial. NAYA envisions Cully as a cultural corridor that celebrates Native presence through public art, cultural enrichment, and strengthened community connections, revitalizing residential and retail opportunities.



In December, the unveiling of *Raven's Welcome* symbolized NAYA's resilience and cultural pride. Public art is a vital tool for ensuring Native stories are seen and celebrated, fostering dialogue between Native and non-Native communities. It serves as a reminder of the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples in urban spaces like Portland, where Native families live, work, and thrive.

Raven's Welcome is part of NAYA's cultural corridor project in Cully, with at least two more installations planned. Each piece will honor Native heritage, promote healing, and foster inclusivity, creating a visible legacy for future generations. As *Raven's Welcome* stands tall on NE 42nd Avenue, it invites all who pass by to reflect on the importance of stewardship, community, and cultural resilience, transforming the heart of the Cully neighborhood.

Serving the Region's Native Community

Beyond Portland and Milwaukie, NAYA has been working to expand its physical presence in Southwest Washington, bringing essential resources and building community across the Columbia River. NAYA is now offering services such as rent assistance, financial wellness, homeownership education; and policy, advocacy, and community engagement in Southwest Washington, ensuring that the voices of Native families are heard and represented.



NAYA Board of Directors



Molly Washington

(Apache/N'dee)
N'dee Law LLC
Chair



Eddie Sherman

(Diné/Umó'ho'
Against the Current Consulting
Vice-Chair



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of the Grand Ronde)
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Karen St. Clair, LCSW

(Mdewankanton Sioux)
Psychotherapy Private Practice



Chabre Vickers

(Shoshone Bannock)
Prosper Portland



NAYA Staff

NAYA has more than 160 employees dedicated to serving our region's Native community.





NAYA's Community Garden, Wapas Nah Née Shaku, is part of a vision to reclaim our land, and to create a space where Native American traditions and practices are honored and celebrated.

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