

# JUNE 2022

**THE HOPI FOUNDATION  
2022 COMMUNITY  
LISTENING SESSIONS**

**SUMMARY REPORT**

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# SUMMARY REPORT

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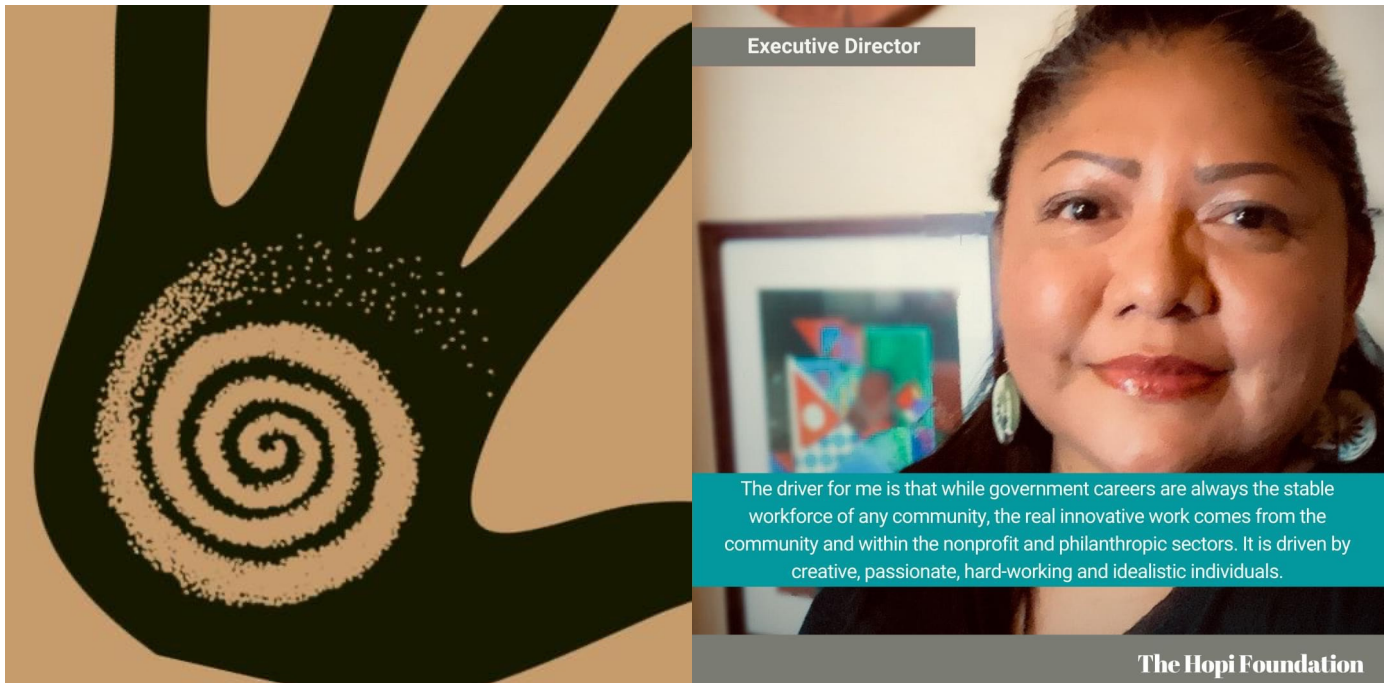
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# ABOUT

## THE HOPI FOUNDATION

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The Hopi Foundation is an Arizona 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1985 with service to the community through multiple programs that align with the organization's mission to build capacity of the Hopi and Tewa villages through localized efforts and programming. More information can be found at [www.hopifoundation.org](http://www.hopifoundation.org).



### PLANNING FOR 2022 COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSIONS

The Hopi Foundation sought support to activate a survey to elicit community response of the COVID-19 impacts to the Hopi-Tewa community and to determine the level of understanding for the non-profit role in the response to the pandemic for the Hopi Tribe. With a core planning team of the Hopi Foundation, Nrgi-1 Consulting convened planning meetings to prepare to host 3 virtual, radio broadcasted community listening sessions for the Hopi-Tewa people and communities.

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# A NOTE FOR OUR PUBLIC PARTNERS & COMMUNITY

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In preparing for this opportunity, the Hopi Foundation's goal was to provide a public forum to share community perspectives and learn what the impact of the pandemic has been for Hopi-Tewa families over the last two years. More importantly, the planning team was interested in capturing continuing needs and understanding what Hopi-Tewa members and community are facing in recovery. With this information the Hopi Foundation planned to share the community voice and feedback with the public to better inform practices and continue to build capacity for sustainable supports and community-driven solutions.

## VULNERABILITY

As you read this report, please consider that our Hopi-Tewa members who were able to join the live virtual sessions or submitted comment through social media and the community survey were so brave in sharing their vulnerability. We hope that the shared experience and perspectives give anyone reading this report the courage to continue to lead strong, capable lives knowing that we all contribute to the livelihood and survivance of our families, communities and culture.

As partners in the efforts of building capacity for the Hopi-Tewa membership and community, it is the desire of this team to share this report in the hopes it will inspire you to continue and/or expand your efforts. At the Hopi Foundation, the team has taken stock in the observation of higher needs for emotional supports in recovery.

The Hopi Foundation team has acknowledged that the work they do is highly attuned to meeting people where they are and in incorporating values in the work that support the emotional capacity of the people. The team is committed to leading with intention and planning around continuing supports for recovery that encompass social-emotional well-being.

This report is a living document that can be contextualized to your most local needs and the autonomy of your community and families. The community survey is adaptable and we encourage each community to modify and add questions to capture local needs.

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## SETTING THE STAGE

In March 2020, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic for the Hopi tribe, The Hopi Foundation recalls this experience to be pivotal in maximizing their resources and capacity with relationships across all sectors, especially in seeking funding partners to support the emergency response. Utilizing information from Nrgi-1 Consulting's summary report of immediate, household needs compiled from a web-based survey and 3 community listening sessions held for the Hopi-Tewa communities, this would become a targeted effort that resulted in broadening the scope of the Hopi Foundation's *Hopi Emergency Relief Fund*. In tandem, these coordinated efforts engaged and activated local and off reservation Hopi-Tewa members and residents, as well as community-grassroots organizations to respond to the most immediate needs of food, heating resources, and financial support.

The 2020 community listening session report highlighted a developing need for social-emotional support which is also evident in the 2022 Community Listening Sessions and Community Survey feedback.

## IDENTIFYING PRIORITY NEEDS

The Hopi Foundation credits the community response and feedback in serving as a driving force to the guidance in establishing the scope of work and efforts of the Hopi Emergency Relief Fund site and its' collective partners that include villages and community volunteers.

The 2020 community listening session's top 3 highest needs included groceries, household supplies and wood (for home heating). Other areas rising in need included Home Education for COVID-19, Healthcare Access, Animal Supplies and Emotional Support.



### FAMILY

HOPI-TEWA  
HOUSEHOLDS



### SUPPORT

MUTUAL AID &  
RELIEF EFFORTS



### COVID-19

GLOBAL TO LOCAL  
IMPACTS

## FORGING PARTNERSHIPS FOR HOPI-TEWA PEOPLE

Executive Director, Monica Nuvamsa recalls The Hopi Foundation engaging in direct communication with the Hopi Tribe's Chairman, Timothy Nuvangyaoma, to urge an Executive Order declaring a state of emergency that would allow for the tribe and local organizations, as well as the community, to begin preparing for what was to come with the spread of COVID-19. This included activating the Hopi Tribe's Emergency Response Team and emergency resources of the Hopi Foundation to support local needs and the community at large.

The Hopi Foundation would be named the primary non-profit partner of the Hopi Tribe to receive and seek COVID-19 financial and in-kind donations, as well as to coordinate incoming resources and partnerships for all Hopi-Tewa communities. This would establish the Hopi Foundation as a centralized source for local non-profits, grassroots and community organizers seeking to provide aide and mutual support to villages, members, and residents from Moencopi villages (Tuba City) to Yuhwelloo Paki (Spider Mound) community.



**"OMG, they stepped up. NO hesitation. Our people were in need and their prayers were answered."  
-community member**

## FORMALIZING DISTRIBUTION

### HOPI RELIEF SITE & DEPOT

With the establishment of a memorandum of agreement, the Hopi Foundation forged an early partnership through the Hopi Tribe with the Peace Academic Center (PAC). Formerly the Hopi Mission School, in Kykotsmovi, Arizona, the PAC would serve as the central depot.

Once officially organized, the Hopi Emergency Relief Fund (HERF) site would serve Hopi-Tewa communities for nearly 2 years of relief efforts for food, household goods and pet food distributions. While the HERF site served the greatest capacity for local and external support and resources coming to Hopi-Tewa communities, most villages and communities adapted by turning community centers into distribution sites to both limit mobility in spreading the Coronavirus and also afforded local members ease of access to resources.

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## HOPI EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

staff & crew members

### HOPI FOUNDATION STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

Cody Honani  
**HERF Relief Site Manager**

#### STAFF

Samantha Honani  
Hannah Honani  
Derick Lomayokva

#### VOLUNTEER CREW

Charlie Lewis  
Lional Parra  
Sam Lucas  
Latifah Huma  
Tyler Collateta  
Andre Dennis  
Jeanine Gaseoma  
Brennan Collateta  
Millie Koinva  
Julian Sombrero

### RELIEF EFFORT KEY PARTNERS

GREAT THANKS TO...

THE HOPI TRIBE  
PEACE ACADEMIC CENTER  
ANCESTRAL LANDS HOPI  
LOCAL NON-PROFITS  
COMMUNITY SERVICE  
ADMINISTRATORS  
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS  
GRASSROOTS-COMMUNITY  
ORGANIZERS

**A Sincere note of gratitude is extended to Marshall Masayesva, Ancestral Lands Hopi, for his leadership in training and building the capacity for members of the Hopi Relief Site in sanitizing practices needed to safely receive & distribute goods.**

# COORDINATED HOPI EMERGENCY RESPONSE

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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In tandem with non-profit support, the Hopi Tribe maintained the Hopi Emergency Response Team (HERT) site at the Hopi Veteran's Memorial Center (HVMC) with emergency response staff and tribal employees. The HERT site both purchased Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), cleaning supplies, and other goods to support the Hopi Tribe's response and mitigation of COVID-19. In coordination with Social Services processing burial assistance, the HERT provided burial kits with the appropriate PPE and written guidance materials. The Hopi Tribe's website hosted COVID-19 communication.

**The Hopi Foundation wishes to acknowledge and thank community partners in the COVID-19 response and relief efforts;**

Ancestral Lands Hopi

The Hopi Education Endowment Fund

- Hopi Higher Education Emergency Fund

The Hopi Foundation Programs

- Hopi Emergency Relief Fund

Hopi Relief

The Hopi Tribe

- Hopi Tribe CARES Act Committee

Hopi Tutskwa Permaculture

Navajo & Hopi Families Covid-19 Relief Fund

Neon Bear Cubs

Nurturing Indigenous Intelligence

Protect Native Elders

Red Feather Development

Sinmuy Amungem

St. Mary's Food Bank

U.S. Forest Service

Community Service Administrators

All Hopi-Tewa villages & members



FLOWING LIKE

KUYI  
88.1 FM  
89.1 FM LP

**"KUYI respects the heart & intellect of our audience. Every aspect of a person's life can be impacted positively by what we air: public safety & physical health content is here to be of benefit to the body while programming is there to uplift the spirit." -Richard A. Davis**

**THE HOPI FOUNDATION**  
*Lomasumi'nangwtukwstwmami*



## LOCAL & NATIONAL COMMUNICATION

KUYI 88.1 FM  
HOPI RADIO,  
A PROGRAM OF  
THE HOPI FOUNDATION

The Hopi Foundation further credits staff capacity in training and development with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) prior to the pandemic. This aided in a depth of understanding for the role that communication plays in releasing public information through the public,

Hopi radio station, KUYI 88.1 FM. With the Hopi Foundation serving as the licensee, this broadened the perspective of public service in radio communication that served a primary function in the COVID-19 pandemic for the Hopi-Tewa communities and listeners at large.

FEMA training provided a framework to coordinate regular communication from the most local levels to state and national news. The KUYI staff worked long hours maintain the airwaves and updating both social media and webpages.

# COVID-19 COMMUNITY IMPACT

## WHAT IS THE REALITY OF HOPI-TEWA COMMUNITIES?

**HOPI EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND**

*Testimonial*

★★★★★

**DERICK LOMAYOKVA**  
RELIEF SITE MANAGER

"I have the best crew! Each week they work hard and face challenges. Every Friday, with excitement, they distribute PPE kits to the people. It's awesome to see them do something that makes them happy!"

**ARIZONA GIVES DAY**  
APRIL 7, 2020

**THE HOPI FOUNDATION**  
Dimaasani' Naangwtakwaivaaani

**THE HOPI FOUNDATION**  
Dimaasani' Naangwtakwaivaaani

**IT'S SCARY, THEN YOU GET TEAMS LIKE THIS THAT SPARKS HOPE. I JUST HOPE THAT AS A TRIBE WE CAN COME TOGETHER TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE AND BRING OUR NUMBERS DOWN.**

**M. PANANA, BACA VI VILLAGE**

The Hopi Foundation in planning for the 2022 Community Listening Sessions emphasized strong values for gaining community feedback and perspective to inform their work as non-profit partners with a mission to build capacity in strengthening Hopi-Tewa communities and members beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

**THE FOCUS OF THE COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSIONS ARE TO CAPTURE THE COMMUNITY VOICE TO INFORM THE HOPI FOUNDATION AND OUR PARTNERS IN CONTINUING EFFORTS.**

In demobilizing the Hopi Emergency Relief site, the Hopi Foundation wanted to ensure that they were taking inventory of what had changed across Hopi-Tewa communities and engage the community to determine what needs remained in the transition to recovery efforts.



## SHARING GRATITUDE

OUR TEAM IS HAPPY TO SERVE THE HOPI-TEWA COMMUNITIES AND APPRECIATES YOUR PARTICIPATION AND FEEDBACK TO THE COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSIONS & SURVEY!

The facilitated, virtual Community Listening Sessions established 3 opportunities to engage Hopi-Tewa members and residents. Each date was set with opportunities to reach and engage the community during the day, evening and a mid-morning weekend. A community survey was developed to capture community reflections on COVID-19 impacts and to input on the role that non-profits played in the pandemic, as well as open comment for community feedback and recommendations.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & FEEDBACK

## STRONG VALUES

At the conclusion of the Community Listening Sessions, the planning team held a debrief session and collected results of the community survey (see addendum).

The following are collective themes that developed out of Hopi-Tewa member participation in the live sessions and through survey feedback.

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL  
CULTURE & FAMILY  
HARDSHIPS  
GENERAL CONCERN &  
FRUSTRATION  
HOPE  
COMPASSION  
GRACE



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## SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Members participating in the live sessions reflected on the weight of family and community deaths as a result of COVID-19 and the clear concern that there had not been time or formal efforts to support the grief across all Hopi-Tewa communities. With multi-generational losses, members felt that there should be a priority around social-emotional or mental health supports for the community to begin processing the loss of loved ones, develop healthy coping mechanisms, and establish continuing systems of support.

Reflecting on their mission and core values, The Hopi Foundation staff identified social-emotional support as a priority to incorporate in continuing efforts and programming.



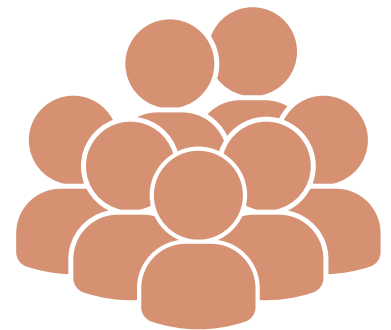
### SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL

#### GRIEF & LOSS

## CULTURE & FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Community feedback included elevated concerns for the extended period of being disconnected from culture and ceremony. There is a higher value for reconnecting to ceremony to maintain and pass on traditional knowledge. In relation to loss of life of elders throughout the pandemic, respondents and live participants worry that the continuity of passing traditional and ceremonial knowledge is at risk. Members are advocating for more opportunities to share knowledge of traditional foods that include the appropriate season to collect or harvest.

There was positive regard for the use of technology during the pandemic to demonstrate how people were learning new crafts, taking up traditional forms of art, and overall exercising creativity. During Executive Orders that restricted travel, limited work environments, and shut down most forms of local employment (food, arts & crafts vendors), families were at home reconnecting and maintaining family “bubbles.”



### CULTURE & FAMILY

#### DISCONNECT



### COVID-19

#### BLAME & GUILT

## EXTENDING COMPASSION & GRACE

During this time of isolation and being restricted to smaller groups of family or being alone, community members report that they learned first-hand what family and others were struggling with. This included personal strife, medical and mental health, physical limitations, dietary constrictions, and general well-being. Living in villages or multi-generation households also exposed the challenges of alcohol-substance use & abuse, as well as other risky behavior and activities.

With limitations of the local health care system, the restrictions on what could be considered a medical emergency made receiving health care almost inaccessible. Members of all ages across all Hopi-Tewa communities were not seen for routine medical health check-ups for existing and developing health conditions.

One respondent shared, "I've learned that our people are capable of so much when they are faced with adversity. I've come to honor and respect our Hopi culture in a way that I haven't before. Here at (named village) we haven't had ceremonies and that has [a]ffected us spiritually, emotionally, and mentally. Our heart hurts for those we have lost and our heart hurts for our ceremonies to resume once again."

In live discussion and by community survey, Hopi-Tewa members leaned into the message of extending compassion and grace for all affected by COVID-19. In reinforcing that this virus has taken so much life, our time should be focused on healing together in community.

**"We all need to work together, depend on each other and do our part to be successful."  
-community member**



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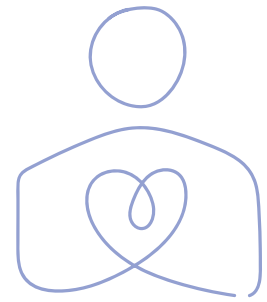
## COMMUNITY REFLECTION

“A lot of the systemic issues existed pre-COVID, it only exacerbated them because of the circumstances we were all dealing with. This includes the need for more long-term funding to support Health care needs, transportation, housing, counseling, trash collection (people didn’t know where to properly rid of their loved ones belongings that didn’t survive COVID), and clean water for the people.”

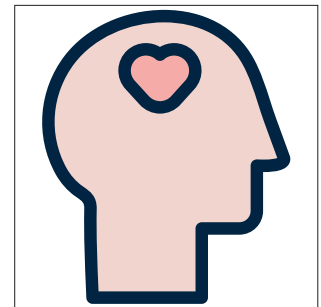
“Our people need economic development such as grocery, clothing, home, hardware and auto parts stores. We need to stop supporting border towns and become self sufficient.”

“Limited resources for members who live off reservation, do not qualify for service on Hopi to receive resources during pandemic. Thankful to family and friends who shared their PPE. Continued judgment to families from community of exposure and/or contracting Covid. Household continued to use sanitizers as a normal practice but decreased wearing masks. Education on cultural responsibilities during the pandemic and importance of continuing to practice.”

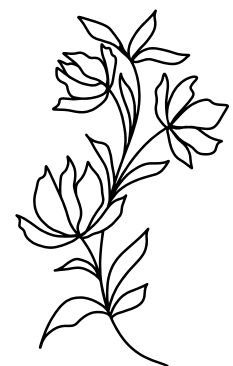
“The pandemic has shown me that there is a great need to start preparing ourselves again and building our ability and strength to respond to the needs that our community has through planning and organizing. We also need to teach our people to grow and learn skills or create resources that support one another beyond just a single family but for the whole community. We are not large enough that these values have to be put aside, we can still practice taking care of one another as a whole. I felt we were reminded in different ways what really matters to us as a human race and as a culture of people. Some of the specific needs that came out of the pandemic is that there are huge disparities in housing. Some households had 5 families in a small structure and had difficulty isolating when someone got sick. Some households lacked access to running water and laundry facilities for maintaining sanitation.”



**COMPASSION**  
**HOPI-TEWA**  
**COMMUNITIES**



**SUPPORT**  
**SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL**  
**HEALTH & WELL BEING**



**GRACE**  
**HUMILITY**

# THE ROLE NON-PROFITS PLAYED

## FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNITY

- Informing the Public of COVID-19 signs and symptoms
- Regular distribution of food boxes and PPE
- Help for people who don't normally have access to services
- Hopilavayi knowledge
- Organizing [for] community emergency needs

## COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO THE AWARENESS OF ROLES THAT NON-PROFITS PLAYED DURING THE PANDEMIC INCLUDED GENERAL KNOWLEDGE TO EXPERIENCE VOLUNTEERING ALONGSIDE VILLAGES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS.

- Outreach to resources most people are unaware of
- Funding assistance, some offered grants to villages
- Provided additional services that the Tribe did not or could not provide
- Delivered care packaged for households testing positive for COVID-19

“Nava-Hopi Covid Relief played a very integral role for assistance to Community members on both Dine and Hopi Nations with PPE, Information, food boxes, as well as guidance services being offered by entities other than themselves. Hopi Emergency Relief Fund- I was not very aware about until halfway through the second year at a PPE distribution at the old Mission school, C.O.P.E. out of Gallup was also very present with information, PPE, Food boxes, and also guidance with services available through other sources.”

“Fiscal Sponsorship, relief efforts (food, water, wood, and essential safety supplies), trash clean up's, and leveraged funding for essential needs during Tribal shut-down.”

“Nonprofits are able to shift their priorities according to the communities and people they serve which make them key resources to providing much needed services and/or financial assistance for tribal members.”

**A huge thank you goes out to all community partners!**





## COMMUNITY REFLECTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

“These wonderful organizations have helped the community through these tough times especially when it became a dire need for food and health supplies. Their outreach taught our people how to prepare and live through this pandemic.”

“Very, very critical. They were able to tailor community support based on community needs quickly and were a key resource in supplies and information. If it weren’t for nonprofits, Hopi would have been in a grave situation today. It also helped those of us living off reservation to know how to help, support home and advocate. It reiterates that community reliance and involvement is important – nonprofits saved more people than they can ever account for.”

**The values of a Hopi life drove a collective mission to provide for Hopi-Tewa members and communities during the pandemic and will continue to be foundational values of the work of the Hopi Foundation.**

# REFLECTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

## HIGHLIGHTS

The community valued the following means of support during the peak of the pandemic;

- Informing the Public of COVID-19 signs and symptoms
- Regular distribution of food boxes and PPE
- Help for people who don't normally have access to services
- Hopilavayi knowledge
- Organizing [for] community emergency needs
- Outreach or [sharing] resources most people are unaware of
- Funding assistance, some offered grants to villages
- Provided additional services that the Tribe did not or could not provide
- Delivered care packaged for households testing positive for COVID-19

## COMMUNITY INSIGHT

While many people benefitted from the efforts of non-profit organizations and community-grassroots efforts, there is strong support to raise awareness or share more direct information of the greater scope of a non-profit's independent work. Members responding acknowledge that it was during the pandemic that they had an opportunity to have interaction with these groups and appreciated the emergency response in their time of need.

The Hopi Foundation served as a coordinating organization between formalized non-profit operations and community-grassroots organizers to strengthen communication and support collaborative, community-wide efforts. In evaluating the needs of the community, the Hopi Foundation created partnerships and grant opportunities to serve the most local needs.

Through the opportunities of the Community Listening Sessions, the Hopi Foundation intends to connect with their partners and to integrate feedback to inform continued programming that offers sustainable solutions in recovery and builds capacity for Hopi-Tewa members and community.

# REFLECTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

## ADDENDUM

Accompanying this report is an addendum that is a summative data reflection of the Community Survey of Hopi-Tewa member respondents.

It's important to note that while there was an attempt to share information of the opportunity to join the Community Listening Sessions, there were limitations to conducting a virtual platform vs. being in the community to host these live conversations.

## A MODEL FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Hopi Foundation is grateful to participants and to KUYI 88.1 FM for streaming live, as well as hosting replays of these sessions. As capacity builders, communities and families are encouraged to use the Community Listening Session format and/or the survey to continue these important conversations in your villages, workplaces and with families. Personalizing this model will have greater impact in the most local setting.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLANNING

- Create an invested planning team and any roles for specific tasks.
- Identify a main point of contact for incoming questions (phone, email, time of availability).
- Create a set number of meetings to plan and track your progress in preparing for the Community Listening Sessions.
- Establish shared agreements that include what is within the scope of work, your capacity as a group, and perhaps identifying what you can or cannot do.
- Establish goals for completing tasks with someone responsible for following up and keeping communication flowing.
- Consider what the best modes of engagement will be to allow your full membership or audience to participate (in-person, virtual, survey, etc).
- Identify your audience: Who are you bringing together?
- Identify purposeful questions: What are you seeking solutions or recommendations for that would help your participants to engage in the Community Listening Session?
- Identify a communication plan for sharing out your information and making sure you reach all the people or groups you want in attendance.
- HAVE FUN!! Know that your efforts are appreciated.

# REFLECTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

## PLEASE CONSIDER

The community and the world for Native-Indigenous people has experienced a very real threat to our way of life and in order to repair this harm, we should be most aware of how we continue to engage as partners to communities.

- Be informed and understand the local leadership's process and ability to connect with what you are aiming to achieve or provide.
- Identify and establish consistent methods of communication and points of contact. Update this as people change or transition in/out of roles.
- Meet people and communities where they are.
- Get to know the cultural values of each community and the partners you want to work with to align best practices around your efforts.
- Use your talents and resources to build sustainable capacity with the members and communities you will work with.
- Honor the knowledge, work and contributions of everyone.

## CLOSING CALL TO ACTION

*"In every Indigenous community I've been in, they absolutely do want community infrastructure and they do want development, but they want it on their own terms. They want to be able to use their national resources and their assets in a way that protects and sustains them. Our territories are our wealth, the major assets we have. And Indigenous people use and steward this property so that they can achieve and maintain a livelihood, and achieve and maintain that same livelihood for future generations."*

~ Rebecca Adams

In reflection of the engagement in support of the Hopi-Tewa community and its members throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Hopi Foundation is encouraged to develop stronger programs and efforts that have long-term, sustainable impacts.

The next phase of planning for recovery requires partnership and community feedback to inform programming and sustainable practices that repair the harm to culture and humanity. The best advocates for localized change and progress comes from the heart of its community. Thank you to every member who has contributed to efforts across Hopi-Tewa communities, your work is an investment in the future of our generations and the continued life of Hopi-Tewa people.

# **ADDENDUM**

**COMMUNITY SURVEY, SUMMATIVE DATA REFLECTION**

