

# WELLS FARGO

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## INVEST NATIVE from WELLS FARGO

### *Notice of Funding Opportunity*

Wells Fargo announces a Notice of Funding Opportunity for **Invest Native**, a \$20 million philanthropic commitment to Native American communities in six states. The Invest Native initiative aims to impact work within Wells Fargo's four priority philanthropic pillars of ***Housing Access and Affordability, Small Business Growth, Financial Health, and Sustainability & Climate Resilience*** among Native American communities in **Arizona, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming**. The program is designed as a grantmaking initiative to support a more equitable and prosperous future for Native Americans.

#### **About Invest Native**

Wells Fargo seeks to award capacity building grants up to \$100,000, and programmatic grants up to \$400,000.

- **Capacity Building & Planning grants** are one-year grants, up to \$100,000, that support activities intended to improve your organization's ability to serve your community, including staff training, strategic planning, community engagement, consultants for specific predevelopment or program needs, technology upgrades and other infrastructure needs. In many cases, these grants will strengthen an emerging organization's ability to be competitive for a larger, implementation grant as well as other types of philanthropic and public funding.
- **Implementation grants** are one-year grants up to \$400,000. Funding will be for project/program costs aligned with one of the four focus areas including strengthening housing access & affordability, small business growth, financial health, and sustainability & climate resilience.

Projects must fit within one of Invest Native's four funding pillars to be eligible. These pillars are:

- **Small Business Growth**  
Focus is to primarily support initiatives that accelerate growth opportunities for established small businesses to help them scale. Investments center on key drivers of growth: Capital, Network, and Knowledge.

- **Sustainability & Climate Resiliency**  
Focus is to support sustainability initiatives that drive an equity-focused transition to a low-carbon economy, with a focus on mitigating climate impacts and facilitating transition opportunities in low and moderate income (LMI) communities. Emphasis is to expand availability and access to sustainable finance transactions in LMI communities and developing and centering community power.
- **Financial Health**  
Focus is to invest in foundational structures and transformative solutions that address systemic inequities, build financial security, and advance wealth and legacy creation among historically marginalized communities. Emphasis is on financial stability (including financial access, asset building and financial counseling).
- **Housing Affordability & Access**  
Focus is to strive to foster interventions and innovative solutions that increase access to affordable, sustainable, and wealth-generating housing for vulnerable populations and communities. Emphasis will be on keeping people housed, housing stability, and opening doors to access.

## Eligibility

To qualify for Invest Native funding, an organization must meet ***all*** of the following:

- Be headquartered in and serve Native populations in at least one of the six Invest Native states including Arizona, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming.
- Be providing services under one of the four Invest Native pillars including: Housing Access and Affordability, Small Business Growth, Financial Health and Sustainability & Climate Resilience.
- Be Native led. This is defined as:
  - an organization having a CEO or Executive Director with a Native background *OR* having at least 50% Native representation on the organization's Board of Directors
- Be Native-serving: This is defined as:
  - ⊖ At least 50% of people served by the Invest Native grant are Native people.
- Be a Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE), a 501(c)(3) organization, a Native Community Development Financial Institution (NCDFI) with a 501(c)(3) designation, *OR* a Community Development Corporation (CDC) with a 501(c)(3) designation.

## **Non-Eligible Activities**

Grants will not be considered for the following:

- Individuals
- Organizations that discriminate on the basis of race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, country of origin, citizenship, veteran status, or disability status.
- Religious organizations unless they are engaged in programs that are non-sectarian, benefit a broad base of the community, and have a separate 501(c)(3) designation.
- Political action committees, candidates, programs, or leagues.
- Recreation, athletic, or sports teams, programs, or leagues.
- For-profit entities, including start up small businesses.
- Grants specifically for travel, including student trips or tours.
- Projects or programs that are not aligned with the four philanthropic pillar areas defined above.

## **Expectations**

- Quarterly meetings with Wells Fargo Community Relations Leads to share project updates and relevant community stories or experiences.
- Yearly impact report providing updates on chosen KPIs and other success metrics.

## **How to Apply**

The Letter of Interest is open from April 1 to April 24. Please submit your LOI form before April 24 at 11:59pmET at this link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/UWYs4aS5aJ>

The Invest Native core team will review all LOIs submitted and invite eligible organizations to complete the Full Application. This will include a Mandatory Project Narrative as well as information in Wells Fargo's Cybergrants portal.

Existing Invest Native grantees must submit LOIs in order to be considered for additional funding.

For more information about the Wells Fargo Invest Native initiative or questions regarding the application process, please contact: [investnative@wellsfargo.com](mailto:investnative@wellsfargo.com).