

# CDFIS: SUPPORTING TRIBAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Financing Self-Determination and Economic Resilience

Native CDFIs support economic growth and opportunity in Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian communities by expanding access to capital where traditional financing is often limited or unavailable. Many tribal areas face unique barriers to investment, including geographic isolation, trust land ownership structures, and longstanding gaps in financial services. CDFIs address these challenges through flexible lending, technical assistance, and financial education tailored to local needs. Their investments support Native entrepreneurs, finance small businesses, and provide consumer lending that helps individuals build credit and long-term financial stability.

The following case studies highlight how CDFIs finance housing, small businesses, and community facilities while navigating unique structural and geographic challenges. From affordable housing developments on tribal lands in Wisconsin, to an Indigenous food truck in New Mexico strengthened through targeted lending and coaching, these stories reflect how Native-serving CDFIs align capital with community priorities to build lasting economic resilience.

### Annual Impact

- Native CDFIs make about \$400 million in loans and investments each year.

## NATIVE CDFIS

### EMPOWERING NATIVE COMMUNITIES THROUGH FINANCIAL SOVEREIGNTY

#### CDFI NETWORKS: NATIVE CDFI NETWORK

Native CDFIs are the financial backbone of Native communities. They provide capital, education, and opportunity where traditional systems have failed to reach – building Native-owned businesses, homes, and futures. The Native CDFI Network is a national organization that advocates, educates, and connects Native CDFIs.

Learn more about Native CDFIs' work at [nativecdfi.net/difference-makers](https://nativecdfi.net/difference-makers).



Native CDFIs: Driving **Small Business Success** in Indian Country



2024-25  
IMPACT  
REPORT