Intertribal Friendship House
Overview

MISSION
Intertribal Friendship House mission is to promote the ability of Native people to thrive in an urban environment through ceremony, traditions and cultural connection, to provide a safe environment to strengthen cultural identity, promote health, inter-generational healing and support the development of extended family.

IFH achieves its mission by providing programs that are community driven, culturally oriented, and responsive to the needs of the community. We offer all aspects of programs that deal with individual, family and community wellness, such as health, nutrition, food sovereignty, social justice, historical trauma, youth leadership and development, cultural and ceremonial activities.

Our programs target segment groups such as elders, family, parents, youth and children in addition to the entire community.
Our dedicated staff and most incredible volunteers have again done a fantastic job with a year of diverse programs. Our many regular activities included dinners and gatherings, monthly elders’ luncheons, food distribution, weekly drum and dance, gardening, classes in making regalia and traditional food, youth leadership, art circles, positive support groups, healing gatherings, all our annual seasonal activities, and a hugely successful summer youth cultural program and Youth Leadership Council led Urban Rez Youth Gathering. Hosting for the protocol gathering of the canoe families here for the historic Alcatraz Canoe Journey was literally packed to overflowing with people, many of them Northwest tribal visitors who shared with us their traditions, songs and ceremony.

IFH continued to implement strategies to diversify cultural programing & increased participation in traditional, cultural and ceremonial programing.

We increased and maintained staff and hired a full time Cultural Program Coordinator. We hired a grant writer that helped with grant writing.
Achieved Outcomes

Outcomes we achieved during the year toward the goal.

1.) Hired a grant writer.
2.) Increased Partnerships
3.) Increased the number of volunteers
4.) Increased cultural programing by 25%
5.) Fundraising committee raised donor funds.
6.) Built stronger financial support to increase programing.
7.) Developed partnership with and received funds from tribes.
8.) Increased individual donations through a donor appeal letter.
9.) Increased the number of individual donors by more than 35%.
Ensured a Sustainable Organization

Because we strengthened our financial support, we were able to increase staffing. IFH hired a full time Cultural Program Coordinator. We have also established a relationship with a Bookkeeper Consultant and a new CPA. IFH has hired one grant writer consultant earlier in the year that will continue into the next year. They have been instrumental in helping to secure new funders. An administrative staff member keeps track of all the new donors and funders. Increased the number of volunteers, community members volunteer at events, help with teaching cultural activities, help with building upgrade and repairs, and fundraising.
IFH Building and Space Accomplishments

In these sadly difficult times we are truly blessed to own our building and in caring for our facility we purchased a new industrial stove, crucial for serving over 8,000 meals each year, reconfigured our wonderful community garden with new boxes and plantings, and installed a new roof, something on our to do list for a few years!

IFH fund development committee priorities raising funds for building repairs. Another funding strategies to purchase new restaurant size freezers and refrigerator hopefully this next year. IFH is also in need of resurfacing our parking lot and fence. We are currently reviewing costs of replacing our lighting with LED lights that can cut our electric costs by 85%

The old (12 years) garden boxes were removed as they were rotted, and volunteers built and installed new boxes. We continue to grow traditional plants and medicines.

Achieved Outcomes

1.) Mural (outside) restored.
2.) Purchased a new commercial stove
3.) Remodeled the Youth Leadership Council room
4.) Painted the Event Hall floor and re-stained the benches.
5.) Replaced the roof above the kitchen and dining room area.
6) Garden boxes removed, and new ones built. (old ones were rotted)
List of Financial Supporters

We rely on our generous individual donors and institutional partners to support our mission.

During the FY 2018/2019 IFH raised $56,000 individual donation. Donations came through appeals on Facebook, website (CrowdRise), corporate employee matches, donor appeals, annual gala fundraising event, individual donors. The board is active in participating on the fundraising committee. While the board has engaged in their leadership and roles in the committees that grew from our strategic planning process including a Building Sustainability Committee (which has ensured the upkeep of the building), an emphasis has been placed on the Financial Health Committee, who has focused on overseeing the fund development plan, direct fundraising through events like the annual IFH anniversary gala and assisting in grant development when appropriate.

Financial Support

Christensen Fund
California Endowment
SEVA Foundation
Chickasaw Nation
Humboldt Area Foundation
California Endowment
SEVA Foundation
ATU 1555 Local
Common Council
Humboldt Area Foundation
Gathering Tribes
Potawatomi Nation
Joe Myers Research Center
Beulah John CMT
Seventh Generation Consulting
Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Foundation
Maier Pfeffer Kim Geary & Cohen LLP
Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC
California Consortium for Urban Indian Health
UC Berkeley American Indian Graduate Program
The Walter & Elise Haas Fund
William & Elsie Hass Arts Fund
Hewlett Foundation
Novo Foundation
Yocha Dehe Community Fund
Silicon Valley Community Fund
San Francisco Foundation
Running Strong
Akonadi Foundation
IFH has maintained and enhanced positive relationships with current funders and expanded foundation support. Three fourths of IFH foundation funding is for general support.
"To me, IFH is a safe space for me, and for others. A place where I am able to celebrate who I am, and a place to support the native community in Oakland, and to keep traditions strong."

-Nathan Lomayesva (Navajo/Hopi/Cherokee)

IFH is a place where I can go to feel safe to connect with others, and learn more about my traditions.

-Stormi Alejandro (Sioux/Pueblo)
"The IFH represents community and culture. Being able to participate in our urban native community is a blessing and very therapeutic and healing. The IFH means I can give back to our youth and community."

Ramona Madden
Dine, Northern Arapaho

"I've been coming to IFH since I was a kid, its like a second home to me"

"Its one of the only places that I really ever see other Native People"

Keshkoliattakai Perez
Oglala Lakota and Dine