

Draft Guiding Values for Investing in Indian Country

(Foundation-Native American Roundtable: July 2010)

- Be mindful of Tribal sovereignty and value the uniqueness of each Tribe
- Seek to understand Native culture and customs
- Appreciate Native intelligence and embrace affirmative, asset- based frameworks
- Deepen understanding of shared values
- Build long-term, reciprocal relationships based on respect, trust, honor and humility
- Invest for the long-term; be patient and willing to take risks
- Be willing to recast what success looks like and use a Tribal lens to do so

Statement:

We are honored by being able to give to one another, and our gifts reflect our relationships.....

Values:

- Relationship
- Truth
- Giving
- Respect

Principles:

- Engage in and encourage long-term relationships that are contextual to the community of focus.
- Trust that the community knows what is best for its current and future vitality, and respect their right to act as they choose. (Always respect the right of each partner to act as they choose.)
- Leadership is a primary need for progress, should be authentic within the community, and sustained by the community.
- The nature and form of our relationships will promote truth and transparency as we learn and grow together.
- Be committed to collaboratively realizing our full potential while demonstrating that each person has a place in community vitality; we are in relationship with each other and the world around us.
- No participant is without wealth that should be shared with each other, so our collective wealth will resolve our collective poverty.
- We are honored by being able to give to one another, and our gifts reflect our relationships.
- A vision is a journey that has not happened, which will be different than conceived, is better experienced in relationship with others, and requires the community to achieve success.