First Nations Oweesta
Capital Access Convening, 2019

Policy and Research
The economy shows signs of gaining momentum, but only for a lucky few…

…large numbers of American families are left behind and barely scraping by.
Prosperity Now’s mission is to ensure everyone in our country has a clear path to financial stability, wealth and prosperity.
Today’s Speakers

Robin Danner
Policy Chair, Native CDFI Network (NCN)

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Moderator
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Session Goals and Agenda

- Discussion on federal policy
- Understand the opportunities and challenges of federal funding for programs that are important to Native Communities
- Learn about the various data sources that help Native communities understand how they are faring on a range of financial indicators
- Learn how you can use data to make the case for educating community partners, policy and programmatic change, fundraising, and more.

AGENDA:

- Overview of federal budget
- Overview and discussion on Native issues and policy priorities, at federal state and local level
- Overview and discussion of data and research
FY 2019 Federal Budget, An Overview

- **Discretionary Spending**
  - Defense: $606.5 billion
  - Non-Defense Discretionary (USDA, Treasury, HUD, etc.): $637.40 billion

- **CDFI Funding for FY 2019**
  - CDFI Fund: $250 million
    - Financial Awards and Technical Assistance: $160 million
    - Native American CDFI Assistance Program: $16 million
    - CDFI Bond Guarantee program: $500 million

- **New Markets Tax Credit**: $3.5 billion (through 2019)
What to Expect for FY 2020?

- **President’s FY 2020 Budget Request** – Not likely to get passed, but serves as starting point
  - Discretionary Spending
    - Defense: $750 billion (+24% from FY2019)
    - Non-Defense Discretionary (USDA, Treasury, HUD, etc.): $567 billion (-11% from FY2019)

- **CDFI Funding Request for FY 2020**
  - CDFI Fund: $0
    - Budget request calls for $14 million in funding for administrative expenses to run the NMTC and Bond Guarantee programs.
  - Financial Awards and Technical Assistance: $0 million
  - Native American CDFI Assistance Program: $0 million

- New Markets Tax Credit: No explicit request for funding made in budget request.
What to Expect for FY 2020?

House FY 2020 Appropriations for the CDFI Program
- CDFI Fund: $300 million (20% from FY 2019)
  - Financial Awards and Technical Assistance: $191 million (+20% from FY 2019)
  - Native American CDFI Assistance Program: $20 million (+25% from FY 2019)
  - CDFI Bond Guarantee program: $500 million

Senate FY 2020 Appropriations for the CDFI Program
- TBD
Overview of National & Federal Native Policy Priorities

▪ First - We Are Many and We Are One! Unique AND the Same!
  ▪ We Are Three and We Are One
    ▪ American Indians of the 48 States
    ▪ Alaska Natives of the 49th State
    ▪ Native Hawaiians of the 50th State
  ▪ Common History of Land Dispossession & Paternalism by Government Agencies
    ▪ Common History of Federal Land Trusts and Allotments (1887, 1906, 1921, etc)
    ▪ Common History of Re-acquiring Ancestral Lands & Changing Government Policies

▪ Second - We Are Self Governing with Amazing Nonprofit Vehicles
  ▪ 575+ Federally Recognized Tribes
  ▪ 60+ State Recognized Tribes
  ▪ 41+ Federally Defined Hawaiian Homestead Associations
  ▪ PLUS……Private Native, Member Native & Tribally Affiliated Nonprofits
Overview of National & Federal Native Policy Priorities

- **The Landscape of Native Priorities – is Huge**
  - Sovereignty is Everything….Health, Housing, Economic Development, Education, Etc
  - Trust Lands & Self Governing Orgs Are in 35 of the 50 States
  - 67 Native CDFIs are in 23 of 50 States

- **As a Result…..Individual Tribes & Nonprofits Organize in Policy Coalitions**
  - By State, By Region, Nationally……and Typically By Topic
    - National Congress of American Indians - NCAI (coalition of self-governing tribes)
    - Alaska Federation of Natives – AFN (coalition of self-governing tribes, villages, corporations)
    - Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations - SCHHA (coalition of self governing HA’s)
    - Native CDFI Network (NCN) – Coalition of Native CDFIs
    - National American Indian Housing Council – NAIHC (coalition of Tribal Housing Authorities)
    - Native American Finance Officers Associations – NAFOA (coalition of Tribal Finance)
    - And So On……
Overview of National & Federal Native Policy Priorities

- Since the Self Determination Policy Era Took Hold in the 70’s
  - Tribal Leaders Have Pushed for Tribal/Native Specific Federal Programs
    - Native Healthcare & Education Acts
    - NAHASDA (Housing Act)
    - Administration for Native Americans (ANA Social, Economic Development, Language)
    - NACA at the CDFI Fund! Many Others!
  - Tribal Leaders Have Pushed for “Federally Recognized Tribes” As a Specific Eligibility
    - Instead of Federal Grants Saying Eligibility is “states, nonprofits” – it says “states, tribes, nonprofits”

- What Are Some Priorities in 2019 Related to Native CDFI’s?!
  - Reauthorization of NAHASDA.........(Got $100M Plus Up Last Year! Yay!)
  - Increase NACA Fund Level to $20M - $30M........Make No Match Permanent
  - Trust Land Specific NMTC Program........
  - Position Native CDFI’s to Originate USDA 502 Loans on Trust Lands
  - Establish a National Native HUD Housing Counseling Intermediary
Discussion - National & Federal Native Policy Priorities

- **Take Away for Native CDFIs**
  - Stay Informed of Policy Priorities Adopted by Native Self Governing Coalitions
    - NCAI ~ AFN ~ SCHHA
    - Tribes and Trust Lands are in 35 States…….THAT’s **70 Senators** that Know a Tribal LEADER!
  - Stay Informed of Other National Native Coalitions
    - Native CDFIs in 23 States…….THAT’s **46 Senators** that Know a Native CDFI LEADER
    - JOIN the **Native CDFI Network (NCN)**! Attend Annual Policy Conference in DC! November 19-21!

- **Take Away for Non-Native Partners**
  - Engage in Formal Partnerships with Tribal & Native Coalitions – Totally Reciprocal!
    - Tribes & Native Orgs Typically Have First Name Basis Relationships with Congressional Members

- **Other Thoughts, Comments?**
Federal Budget—Opportunities

To protect funding for CDFIs and other priorities in FY 2020, now is the time to make your voice heard!

✓ Meet with your Members of Congress (in Washington, D.C. or in-district)
  ❖ Ask them to preserve or strengthen funding for CDFIs, New Market Tax Credits, and other priorities for Native communities (such as VITA funding, etc.)
  ❖ Your MOC will be on recess during the month of August

✓ Join with state-based allies and national groups (Prosperity Now, Native CDFI Network, OFN) to advocate for key priorities

✓ Join CFED’s campaigns and Facebook Action page to stay updated on our policy priorities on:
  ❖ Equitable tax reform
  ❖ Consumer protections
  ❖ Financial Security
  ❖ Affordable homeownership

Advocate with us: https://prosperitynow.org/advocate
Discussion:
What are some successful advocacy strategies you have used to secure policy or programmatic change?
Research and Data
Questions?

Discussion:

▪ How do you use data in your communities?

▪ How have you used data for policy advocacy (at state or local level)?
Thank you and keep in touch!

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