

Our Goals

Focusing on the Pacific Northwest, we will:

- Address the root causes of problems, including colonization
- Build bridges between Native Americans and non-Natives, emphasizing education and cultural sharing for mutual enrichment
- Consult closely with tribal leaders to address needs, such as tribal sovereignty, natural resources, and the preservation of cultural heritage, and sacred places for future generations
- Use our capabilities, contacts, and resources to address Native issues and concerns



The Program Committee

Our multicultural board weaves their experiences together to expand consciousnesses to Native ways of being.



Board Members (from left to right):
Ann Bates, Board Member
Jonathan Betz-Zall, Secretary/Treasurer
Ellany Kayce (Tlingit Nation), Chairperson
Jeffrey Smith (Makah), Executive Director
Esther "Little Dove" John, Board Member

Contact Us

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www.nakani.org



**Nakani
Native Program**



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*A Native connector in
the Pacific Northwest*



Introducing Nakani Native Program

A Native-led nonprofit in Seattle

Nakani is a Tlingit word for a person or entity which serves as a connector and go-between for different people and cultures.

The Nakani Native Program builds and strengthens leadership and organizational capacity in the Native community. We recognize the deep cultural conflicts that exist between mainstream society and Native Americans and bridge gaps to promote equity and social justice for all.

Our Mission

“To provide social and political support to Native Americans in the Pacific Northwest, expressing values of simplicity, peace, integrity, community and equity.”

Our values ground our work in a space common to both Native and non-Native communities.

Our Background

An Outgrowth of AFSC

After the Quaker non-profit, American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), laid down its highly regarded Northwest Indian Program, AFSC supported the former staff and committee members in continuing their work.

Same Vision, New Strengths

Nakani carries the same vision and passion of the Indian Program under AFSC, but now has greater autonomy to continue the legacy of sixty years of service regarding Pacific Northwest Native issues.

Our Partners

An important aspect of our work is partnering with other organizations and causes. We are currently working with: Urban Native Education Alliance, Washington Indian Arts and Crafts Project, Idle No More Washington, Canoe Nations Support Consortium, and Puget Sound Cohort/Race Forward. We are looking forward to teaming up with more organizations as issues emerge.



Our Programs

Supporting the Tribal Canoe Journey

Nakani provides technical support and training for canoe families and hosts involved in the Tribal Canoe Journey. One of our projects is a guidebook for communities hosting the canoe journey.

Advocating for Tribal Sovereignty and Treaty Rights

Nakani monitors current threats to tribal rights and informs the public on how they can support the interests of indigenous peoples.

Building Bridges Between Cultures

As a go-between Nakani provides education and cultural sharing opportunities for the mutual enrichment of Native and non-Native people. A current initiative is providing Indigenous equity and social justice training to both of these groups.