



**ANCESTRAL
LANDS**
Hopi

2020 COMMUNITY REPORT

The Ancestral Lands Hopi (AL-Hopi) Program was established in 2017 to provide opportunities for youth in employment, education and service for Hopi Reservation youth and young adults. AL-Hopi has now wrapped up our fourth year of operation and we are happy to share our end of year report with you as well as some of our accomplishments for the year!

COVID-19 RELIEF RESPONSE



The AL-Hopi office had a challenging year of programming primarily due to the COVID-19 Pandemic but we were able to adapt quickly to provide support to the Hopi Community. In early March we had fielded leadership teams and immediately pulled them from the field due to the alarming rise in COVID-19 severity. Our organization then set to work on overhauling the policies and procedures needed to safely put crews back on the ground. However, the Stay at Home Orders as well as rise in cases locally forced us to consider pulling all out of state and most off reservation project work with our partners. We realized early that our program's crew structure could provide services to the Hopi Community during the ongoing pandemic and in late Spring we shifted crews to support community relief work. With this

shift, We were able to get crews back on the ground with strong COVID mitigation protocols and we were able to run another successful and safe operation for this very difficult 2020 year.

MUTUAL AID/RELIEF WORK

AL-Hopi partnered with the Hopi Foundation to begin developing a process needed to bring in and safely distribute essential supplies such as food, PPE, and cleaning products. This is intended to help reduce community members needing to travel to cities to shop for necessities therefore hopefully reducing exposure.



Early in the partnership, we began the planning stages of developing a relief operation with staffing comprised of Ancestral Lands Crews and the newly formed Hopi Foundation's Emergency Relief Team with funding and inventory support from Navajo & Hopi Families COVID-19 Relief. This operation receives, processes, and distributes relief goods on a weekly basis to the Hopi Community. The development of this operation would not have been possible without the partnership of non-profits built to serve the Hopi Community during the Pandemic.

2020 FIREWOOD PROJECT



The closure of the Navajo Generating Station and subsequent stop in production of coal, the primary heating source for the Hopi community, impacted the Hopi community heavily this winter. The closure of

NGS, compounded with the COVID-19 pandemic created harsh conditions for Hopi's vulnerable groups such as the elderly. Preparation for the wintertime was critical as the community continues to deal with the ongoing pandemic and travel being restricted.

A partnership of Non-profits consisting of Ancestral Lands Hopi, The National Forest Foundation, and Red Feather Development Group, with technical support from the Hopi Foundation was formed. The partnership was created to pilot solutions to help address the immediate need by removing barriers such as





transportation, access to equipment, large supplies of material, and technically trained chainsaw crews. We received funding support from this partnership as well as the BIA, and significant support from the CARES Act approved by the Hopi CARES Committee.

We then approached the Village of Kykotsmovi and the Village of Sichomovi to enter into an agreement to become “Staging Areas” for shipment of large quantities of material needed to supply the projects needs. Whole logs were shipped in from restoration projects from both Bill Williams Mountain and Lockett Meadow to be processed at the staging areas by AL crews.

Ancestral Lands Hopi provided the processing, splitting, and delivery of full cords (4X4X6 feet tall or approx. 2 long truck beds) to villages that provided us a list of those most in need. We were able to deploy local youth and young adults to serve their community during the pandemic on this project.

This small scale project was not able to serve the entire Hopi community, but is a step forward in development of partnerships and mechanisms needed to expand the project further. This project was able to deliver 171 cords of firewood directly to community members of all 13 villages that needed it most with an additional 20 cords to be processed.



OTHER PROJECTS



With funding support from the Natwani Coalition we were able to field a 6-week Farm Program focused on supporting farming, gardening, and orchard projects. The crew worked on increasing production capacity by building additional garden beds, compost bins, and getting ready for the summer season. The crew was also able to assist with the distribution efforts coordinated with the Hopi Foundation along side other relief crews.

We were also asked for help with the Pasture Canyon irrigation ditch which routinely overflows due to overgrowth and maintenance issues. The project was considered an emergency project as the Villages of Moenkopi rely on water supply during peak agriculture season. A crew was fielded in 2017 to assist with the project and we will continue to partner with villages on development of a management plan or assistance with clean out of the waterway. The crew was able to clear about half a mile of overgrowth as well as remove undergrowth of invasive species along the water corridor. It was a muddy but fun project!



AL HOPI 2020 CREWS

Crew Members #631:

Daryl Domingo 19, Deer Clan, Walpi
 Jeanine Gaseoma, 20, Isswungwa, Tewa
 Tyrell Lamson 19, Nuvawungwu, Shungopavi

Crew Members #630:

Andre Dennis 21, Maswungwa, Kykotsmovi
 Anthony Domingo 21, Deer Clan, Walpi
 Ke'Andre David 19 Patkiwungwa, Walpi
 Latifa Huma 19, Kyarwungwa, Tewa

Crew Members #632:

Dillon Qomvi 22, Qalwungwa, Shungopavi.
 Issac Torivio 21, Qalwungwa Shungopavi.
 Lenmana Honie 19, Patkiwungwa, Walpi
 Tyler Collateta, 22, Qalwungwa, Shungopavi

CREW LEADERS



#630FA Lauren Eustace
Qa'owungwa,
21, Tewa



#631 Erin Eustace,
Qa'owungwa,
22, Tewa



#632 Leon Coochise
Patkiwungwa, 23,
Shungopavi



#630 Hali Lomayesva
Patkiwungwa, 24,
Sichomovi

ANCESTRAL LANDS HOPI IN NUMBERS

Total Number of Youth+Young Adults Employed Ages 18-24	15
Amount of Americorps Education Awards Dispersed	\$20,894
Number of Mutual Aid Essentials and PPE boxes distributed	2,176
Number of Firewood Cords Processed and delivered to Elderly and Vulnerable	171

SOME WORDS FROM THE PROGRAM MANAGER



What a rough ride 2020 has been for us all. Every year with this program has been drastically different and each one has had its challenges. Each year, with a small but dedicated team we seem to persevere despite those challenges. One of my personal highlights for the year was being able to maintain a safe positive space for our youth to grow, be challenged, and find meaningful work during a global pandemic. I am also happy to report that we did not have any COVID-19 positive cases within our program

thanks to the strong protocol developed and decisions made to keep our participants safe.

I want to take the time to thank the Ancestral Lands Hopi Crew Members. Every year we challenge you, ask you to step up, and preform at the level of professionals. Every year you continue to surpass myself and your Leaders expectations. This year is no exception as you rose to the challenge during uncertain times to serve your community with enthusiasm and great attitude. That energy carries us through the long days of planning, coordinating, and implementing these projects and encourages us to keep this program going for those who will fill your hard hats next. Kwak'kwah-Asquali for all you have done this year for your community and for our program.

I also want to thank our community, funders, and partners for your continued support of our growing program. Without that support, I would not have a program to helm. Thank you to Conservation Legacy, Ancestral Lands, Navajo & Hopi Families COVID-19 Relief, Th Hopi CARES Committee, The BIA Western Region, Hopi Foundation, the National Forest Foundation, Red Feather Development Group, Flagstaff Fire Department, Kykotsmovi/Sichomovi villages, Crossing world Hopi Projects, and everyone I have forgotten or has lended a hand to our efforts this year.

Kwak'Kwah-Thank You
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