



# ALASKA NATIVE HERITAGE CENTER

The Alaska Native Heritage Center is honored to be guests in the traditional territory of the Native Village of Eklutna, a Dena'ina Athabascan tribe.



**2020 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT**

The Alaska Native Heritage Center (ANHC) is a vibrant cultural and educational center located on the outskirts of Anchorage, Alaska. As the only statewide cultural and education center dedicated to celebrating all cultures and heritages, ANHC serves as a **statewide resource for Alaska Natives**

from birth until Elder, and we support and celebrate all of Alaska's Native people, including Iñupiaq, St. Lawrence Island Yupik, Athabascan, Eyak, Haida, Tsimshian, Tlingit, Unangax̂, Alutiiq, Yup'ik, and Cup'ik.

We also work with the rest of the world and our community to engage with Alaska Native culture.

We understand that we are uniquely positioned to create meaningful engagement, authentic exhibits, and dynamic opportunities that generate compassion for and comprehension of the intergenerational resilience inherent in our people's experiences.

## MISSION

Alaska Native Heritage Center preserves and strengthens the traditions, languages, and art of Alaska's Native People through statewide collaboration, celebration, and education

## VISION

Thriving Alaska Native people and cultures are respected and valued.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tabetha Toloff, Chair  
Haven Harris, Secretary  
Maude Blair, Vice Chair

Brandy Niclai, Treasurer  
Vanessa Norman  
Lauren Johnson

Roy Tansy  
Jed Ballard

Francisca Demoski  
Dena Sommer-Pedebone

## STAFF

Emily Edenshaw  
Jennifer McBride  
Shyanne Beatty  
Tara Bourdukofsky  
Paul Asicksik

Michelle Trefon  
Yaari Walker  
Jens Hopson  
Joshua Cannon  
Andrew Weaver

Tatiana Ticknor  
Presley West  
Jamieann Bell  
Gregory Stewart  
Marge Nakak

Joseph Jessup McDermott  
Jon Berlin  
Elvina Lincoln  
Eric Harris

## CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

**ATHABASCAN**  
Jon Ross  
Tabetha Toloff  
Charlie Pardue  
Aaron Leggett  
Samuel Johns  
Genevieve John  
Dewey Hoffman

**IÑUPIAQ/ST. LAWRENCE ISLAND**  
Greg Nothstine  
Roy Mendenhall  
Perry Pungowiyi

**ALUTIIQ/UNANGAX̂/SUGPIAQ**  
June Pardue  
Ethan Petticrew  
Anna Hoover  
Mike Livingston

**TLINGIT, HAIDA, TSIMSHIAN, EYAK**  
Eleanor Hadden  
Theo Bayou  
Diana Riedel  
Judy Ramos

**YUP'IK/ CUP'IK**  
Esther Ilutsik  
Eric Sommerville  
Ossie Kairaiuak



## TABETHA TOLOFF, ATHABASCAN, BOARD CHAIR

**For the Alaska Native Heritage Center (ANHC), 2020 was an incredible year of resilience,** re-imagination and renewal that re-inspired our Board and staff who serve our mission. While we did not have the number of visitors or public events as in previous years, we leaned into our close-knit community partners and explored potential for new partners as well as innovative cultural programs. Our work was accomplished both in-person and remotely and continued to support our people, including our Alaska Native youth.

I am so grateful for ANHC's committed and passionate leadership and staff who are the heart and soul of our organization, which in 2020 was named one of "America's Cultural Treasures". Together, they stayed the course in support of ANHC's mission, which for over 20 years has preserved and strengthened our traditions, languages, and art.



## EMILY KENEĞĞNARRKAYAAGAQ EDENSHAW YUP'IK & IÑUPIAQ, PRESIDENT & CEO



[Watch ANHC Leadership Video](#)

**What a difference a year makes!** Looking back one year ago, I never could have imagined the challenges lying ahead for our organization and our community. Despite these challenges, I stand in awe when I think about how far we have come in the last 365 days.

When the pandemic reached Alaska in March 2020, we were a mere two months out from our summer Cultural Tourism season. Since 1999, we've relied on our bustling summer season to generate revenue, provide employment and a place of cultural learning for our summer interns, and sustain our spirits as we share our cultural knowledge and values with the hundreds of visitors who visit the Alaska Native Heritage Center (ANHC) daily.

This past summer was markedly different. Though we are proud to share that we safely reopened for tourists and our community, we also experienced a visitor reduction rate of 96 percent.

We were forced to curtail cultural programming and lay off staff to survive as an organization, but even on our hardest days, our team relied on one another to find the light in the dark. Each person at ANHC sought out the meaning that was intertwined in the collective hardships, and in many cases, turned the problem into an opportunity that would teach us new strength and skills. We made a promise to ourselves and one another that we would come out of the pandemic stronger than we entered it, and I think you will find throughout this report that we fulfilled our promise.

Over the last year, it has become increasingly evident that our culture is our greatest form of healing, and we've made it our focus to make sure everyone has access to their culture, no matter where they are. We've utilized Zoom, Facebook Live, and BlueJeans to provide Indigenous storytelling, cooking lessons, and art classes virtually to our online community. We've delivered over 900 at-home cultural kits to provide cultural connection to Indigenous youth across the country. We've provided virtual tours and laid the groundwork for more immersive and online experiences in the future.

Other highlights from the past year include being named one of twenty American Cultural Treasures by the Ford Foundation, our grants team securing local, state, and federal funding to fulfill our mission, and a restructured internship program to offer week-long Master Artist Workshops to the individuals who hold the key to our future: our youth.

After an intensive period of regrouping, re-strategizing, and reimagining, we are more hopeful than ever about our opportunities ahead despite ongoing uncertainty, and we are enormously grateful to those who have supported us this year. Fulfilling our mission during a global pandemic simply would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our staff, board members, community, partners, and supporters.

From the bottom of my heart, quyana, thank you, to all who believed in us and supported us this last year. We are stronger together, and we look forward to strengthening our partnerships within our community and beyond for years to come. We also look forward to seeing you at ANHC!

# highlights

**FY21  
WAS UNLIKE  
ANY YEAR  
THE ALASKA  
NATIVE  
HERITAGE  
CENTER HAS  
EVER SEEN.**

We lost more than \$1 million due to the impacts of COVID-19, but we also created culture boxes, hosted virtual tours, secured grants, and brought our gift shop back in-house. We are excited to see what the future holds, and thank the many Funders and partners that stayed by our side during the most challenging time our organization has ever seen.

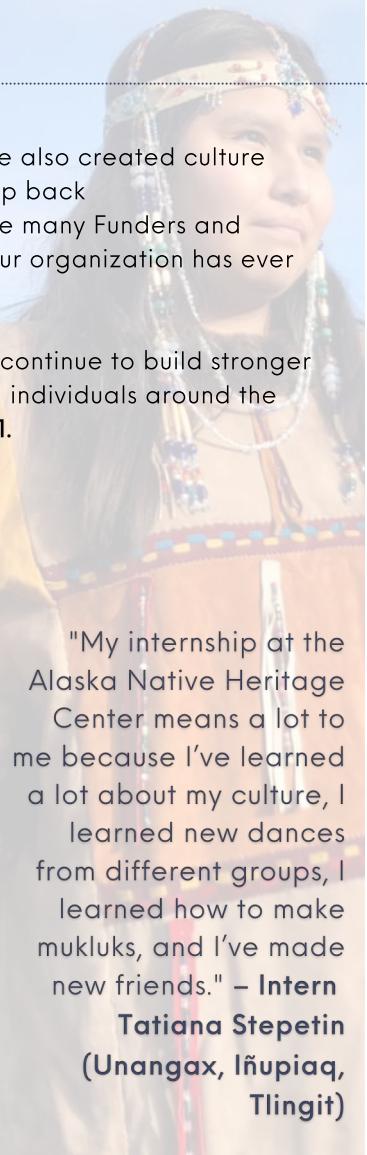
While the pandemic is still ongoing, we are proud to share that we continue to build stronger relationships with our community, our partners, each other, and with individuals around the world each day. **Here are some of our proudest moments from FY21.**

## FIRST ANHC WINTER INTERNSHIP

The pandemic gave us a chance to step back and focus on what matters: our people, and specifically, our youth. We extended our internship program to host interns throughout the winter season and restructured the program to put the needs and desires of our interns first.

Our interns assisted with the production of virtual cultural programming, presented to community members and professional partners on private tours, and attended weekly professional development seminars designed to help them become active leaders in their communities. They attended week-long Master Artists Workshops, designed curriculum for our Culture Box Initiative, and attended trainings based in cultural values and methods of healing, such as Native Wellness Institute's Indigenous 20 Something Project.

At ANHC, we believe our Youth are our future, and we believe the future is looking bright! Quyana to the The Aleut Corporation, Calista and our ILEAD grant for making our winter internship possible.



"My internship at the Alaska Native Heritage Center means a lot to me because I've learned a lot about my culture, I learned new dances from different groups, I learned how to make mukluks, and I've made new friends." – Intern Tatiana Stepetin (Unangax, Iñupiaq, Tlingit)



We remain truly humbled and honored that we were chosen to participate in Operation Fish Drop along with valued community partners who made this important initiative possible.

## OPERATION FISH DROP

When CIRI Shareholder Descendant Sam Schimmel (St. Lawrence Island Yupik & Kenaitze Indian) reached out to ask the Alaska Native Heritage Center for help distributing **over twelve thousand pounds of salmon** to the Alaska Native Community, our answer was an immediate yes.

Our team was honored to be a part of Operation Fish Drop, a youth-led initiative to provide food security for Native families and Elders during the pandemic while ensuring continued access to traditional, nutrient-rich foods common in subsistence diets.

In March of 2021, ANHC staff and interns worked to distribute **400, 25-pound boxes of Sockeye Salmon to Elders, families, and individuals.** Our online sign-up form filled within 48 hours, so we knew to expect a big crowd and a busy day--but we were still blown away by the warmth, kindness, and gratitude shown by our community members.

"To see our youth come forward and recognize a need in our community, and then take action to make sure families were able to eat their traditional foods, is incredible. The way the community came together and supported Sam and his initiative is what makes being a part of the Alaska Native community so special."  
- Darla Graham, Operation Fish Drop Recipient

## CULTURE BOXES

Our Culture Boxes began as an idea our from strong partner, The CIRI Foundation. Today, our Culture Boxes are a culturally-reflective social enterprise that continues to grow each and every day.

Grounded in the mission and vision to meet our community where they are, our Culture Boxes include culturally-relevant, age-appropriate activities individually tailored and packaged by our interns. In FY21, we have shipped over **more than 1,000 culture boxes** across the country.



"Our family received 3 culture kits, our kids are 12, 10 and 3 and they all enjoyed the activities, from beading necklaces to sewing projects. The opportunity to connect my children to my own cultural roots is priceless and we are so thankful for the love and knowledge that went into each of these kits. Quyanaa from our family, we look forward to more experiences like this in the future!"

- Chandelle Cotter, Culture Box Recipient

## AMERICA'S CULTURAL TREASURES

In September 2020, ANHC was chosen to be one of "America's Cultural Treasures," a national initiative from the Ford Foundation that provides grants to support BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) arts and cultural organizations severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.



We are honored to be part of this impactful cohort of organizations conducting meaningful work across the country.

We are particularly honored to represent Alaska with this unprecedented and historic investment in the Alaska Native community.



## 2021 Interns

Breeze Anderson  
Safire Anderson  
Antilleon Atcherian  
Myles Ayuluk  
Chance Belson  
Lucille Chiklak  
Catrina Cortez  
Ayden Dan

Teri Ferreira  
Peter Griggs  
Taylor Hamilton-Feyko  
Mari Day Hansell  
Jacob Ipoock  
Erica Isaac  
Tava Kairaiuak  
Roman Lowe

Raegan Lowe  
Christine Noratak  
Lucy Roberts  
Teodolo Sanchez  
Emmerie Stone  
Christopher Sumdum Jr  
Torrie Tracey  
Kinsie Young



[Watch ANHC  
Intern Impact Video](#)

# Alaska Art Alliance



[Watch ANHC  
Partnership Impact Video](#)

For over three years, **ANHC has partnered with the Alaska Art Alliance**, an Alaska Native-led cultural nonprofit whose mission is to support adults who struggle with addiction, homelessness, and reentry from incarceration.

The Alliance provides them a place to work and reconnect with their authentic selves through arts and culture. Through our partnership with the Alliance, we have witnessed firsthand the power of healing through arts and culture.

Thanks to generous funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, we were able to expand this partnership with plans to connect Alaska Native artists and apprentice learners; leverage resources to provide in-person and virtual exhibit space grounded in healing, truth-telling, and community change; and establish an art-based business co-op initiative with Alaska Art Alliance that establishes workshop and market space for its program participants!



**"I believe that once one is capable of providing for his or herself, then he or she is capable of impacting others and creating an environment for them to do the same,"** said Leon Kinneeveauk, leader of the Alaska Art Alliance. **"This is the essence of the partnership between the Alaska Native Heritage Center and the Alaska Art Alliance."**



# FY 21 WAS ONE OF OUR most impactful YEARS YET

 [Watch ANHC Family Impact Video](#)



## 8+ Employees

Actively pursuing higher education or training educational programs



## 25+ Storytellers

Hosted by ANHC



## 1,000+ Culture Boxes

Delivered to youth across the country



## 22+ Artist Branding Kits

Sent to Alaska Native Artists to support their transition to online sales during COVID-19



## 30+ Cultural Workshops

Virtual & Face-to-Face

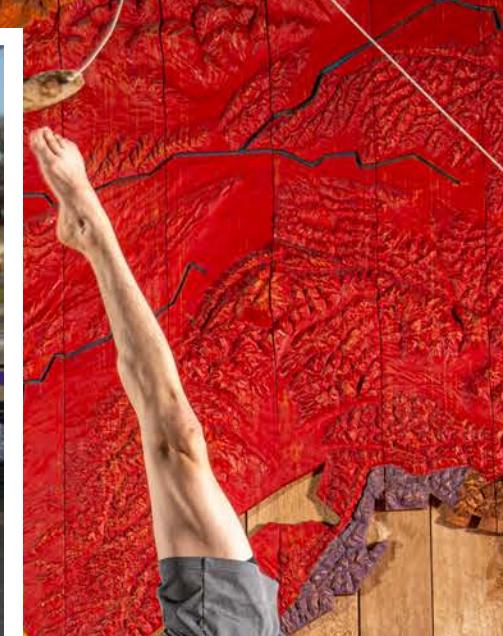


## 25+ Interns

Developed public speaking skills and cultural tourism business practices while connecting to culture

 [Watch ANHC Elder Impact Video](#)

# culture



community

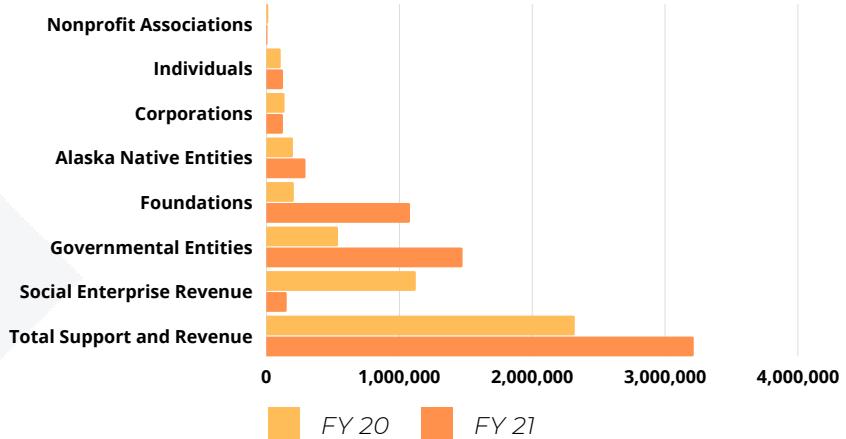
traditions



# FINANCIALS

**Financially, FY21 presented one of the largest challenges ANHC has ever seen.**

The global pandemic proved devastating to our in-person facility rentals and summer tourism season, which generates nearly a third of our revenue each year. However, our expenses were controlled, and CARES Act Funding allowed us to retain staff and even increase staffing levels later in the year.



Generous grants from the Ford Foundation later in the year helped bolster our financial recovery, and we are well positioned to take advantage of the recovery in FY22.

## TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUES..... FYE 3/31/21 FYE 3/31/20

Nonprofit Associations	\$1,474,451	\$538,220
Individuals	\$292,397	\$198,654
Corporations	\$1,078,705	\$206,230
Alaska Native Entities	\$122,930	\$106,261
Foundations	\$84,985	\$134,761
Governmental Entities	\$7,500	\$12,694
Social Enterprise Revenue	\$152,921	\$1,122,527
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$3,213,889</b>	<b>\$2,319,347</b>

\*ANHC Financial Statements were audited by BDO, ANHC received an unqualified opinion. BDO performed a Single Audit and there were no exceptions nor findings.

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY: Statement of Activities

	FYE 3/31/21	FYE 3/31/20
<b>Total Support and Revenues</b>	<b>\$3,213,889</b>	<b>\$2,319,347</b>
Direct Program Expenses	\$1,516,960	\$1,445,106
Supporting Services Expenses	\$758,499	\$858,287
Other Including Depreciation	\$302,532	\$466,415
<b>Net Change in Assets</b>	<b>\$635,898</b>	<b>\$-450,461</b>

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY: Statement of Financial Position

	FYE 3/31/21	FYE 3/31/20
Cash - Unrestricted	\$1,613,945	\$373,329
Cash - Temporarily Restricted	\$1,657,242	\$602,561
Other Current Assets	\$518,228	\$423,989
Endowment Trust Accounts	\$1,328,283	\$987,711
Property and Equipment - Net	\$12,593,771	\$13,164,246
Contributed use of Land	\$1,568,743	\$1,598,630
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$19,280,212</b>	<b>\$17,150,466</b>
Current Liabilities	\$1,600,405	\$542,128
Long Term Debt	\$435,571	\$0
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$2,035,976</b>	<b>\$542,128</b>
Net Assets	\$17,244,236	\$16,608,338
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$19,280,212</b>	<b>\$17,150,466</b>

# ANHC Family OF SUPPORTERS

## CELEBRATING LEVEL

Ford Foundation  
Alaska Community Foundation  
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation  
Municipality of Anchorage  
National Education Association  
State of Alaska  
US Department of Health & Human Services  
US Department of Education

## HERITAGE LEVEL

Southcentral Foundation  
MJ Murdock Charitable Trust  
WESTAF Regional Arts Fund  
Weidner Property Management

## IVORY LEVEL

CIRI  
Sealaska  
Rasmuson Foundation  
Chugach Alaska Corporation

## SHARING LEVEL

Aleut Corp  
Curtis McQueen  
Susan Friedenberg  
The CIRI Foundation

Atwood Foundation  
Cook Inlet Tribal Council  
First National Bank of Alaska  
Alaska Permanent Capital Management  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

## CONNECTING LEVEL

GCI  
Koniag  
Wells Fargo  
Alaska Airlines  
Northrim Bank

Calista  
BP Exploration  
Conoco Phillips  
Exxon  
Doyon, Limited

Peak Oilfield Service  
The Carr Foundation  
Anthony & Amanda Mallott  
Bristol Bay Native Corporation  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Alaska Community Foundation

## FRIENDS LEVEL

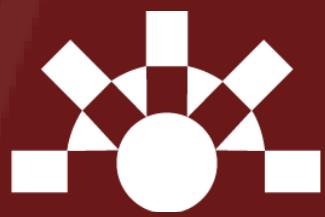
Eklutna, Inc.  
Steve Hinds  
Maude Blair  
Sam Mazzeo  
Diane Kaplan  
Shawn Briscoe  
Victor Mallozzi  
Warren Bratten

Kirsten Powers  
Jacqueline Carr  
Willard Bratten  
Herb Schroeder  
Tiffany Tutiakoff  
Susan Anderson  
Adam Gibbons  
BDO

Roger Crossland  
Morgan Christen  
Jeff Kinneveauk  
Blue Arctic Waste  
Dr. Robert Onders  
Knik Tribal Council  
Kris Norosz  
Roger Crossland

Knik Tribal Council  
Sezy Gerow-Hanson  
The Schierhorn Family  
Larry & Barbara Cash  
Tom & Sheila Barrett  
Coffman Engineers  
Alaska Conservation Foundation  
Alaska Permanent Capital Management  
Rod Worl & Dawn Dindwoodie  
Gottstein Family Foundation  
Georgianna Lincoln  
Christopher Cooke





ALASKA  
NATIVE  
HERITAGE  
CENTER

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