



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

United South and Eastern Tribes (USET)

Established in 1969, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) is a non-profit, inter-Tribal organization representing 30 federally recognized Tribal Nations from the Northeastern Woodlands to the Everglades and across the Gulf of Mexico. USET is dedicated to enhancing the development of Tribal Nations, improving the capabilities of Tribal governments, and improving the quality of life for Indian people through a variety of technical and supportive programmatic services.

USET Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF)

Established in 2014, the USET Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF) is a non-profit, inter-Tribal organization advocating for thirty (30) federally recognized Tribal Nations from the Northeastern Woodlands to the Everglades and across the Gulf of Mexico. USET SPF is dedicated to promoting, protecting, and advancing the inherent sovereign rights and authorities of Tribal Nations and in assisting its membership in dealing effectively with public policy issues.

USET Community Development Financial Institution (USET CDFI)

Established in 2016, the USET Community Development Financial Institution (USET CDFI) is a private financial institution dedicated to delivering responsible, affordable lending capital to help Tribal Nations strengthen their economies and prepare for mainstream financing options that will lead to a more strategic investment of community projects and spark job growth. The overarching purpose is to administer assistance and opportunities to USET Tribal Nations.

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USET Celebrates 50 Years

The Passing of the Fire

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USET 50th Anniversary Celebration and Gala

Approved by the USET/USET SPF Board of Directors as part of its 50th Anniversary milestone, the new logo includes a tree at its center. The four roots of the tree are representative of our four founding member Tribal Nations—Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and Seminole Tribe of Florida. Without their vision, courage, and dedication to elevate the voice of the Tribal Nations of the south and east, USET/USET SPF would not exist today. The tree is symbolic of the collective strength of our membership and its commitment to stand together as a unified family of Tribal Nations.

The tree used in this representation is the Council Oak, a historic tree on the Hollywood Seminole Indian Reservation. In the 1950s, Tribal leaders held various meetings with federal officials under the tree, culminating in the federal recognition of the Seminole Tribe of Florida on August 21, 1957. The significance of the Council Oak was recognized on December 4, 2012, when the site was added to the National Register of Historic Places.



FROM USET/
USET SPF
PRESIDENT
KIRK FRANCIS



Dear USET Family and Fellow Sovereignty Protectors,

First and foremost, I want to acknowledge our significant organizational milestone of celebrating 50 years in 2019! In 1969, our founders put forward a vision to create an organization that would elevate the voice and interests of the south and eastern Tribal Nations. At the core of their vision was an understanding that we are stronger as a collective of Tribal Nations, working together to find common ground and bind ourselves in a unified voice—*Because There Is Strength In Unity*.

While there continues to be much more work ahead of us to achieve the goals, aspirations, and dreams that we have for our people and Tribal Nations, I am confident that our founders would be proud to see that their vision has led to a unified family of Tribal Nations working together to protect, promote, and advance our inherent sovereign interests, rights, and authorities. I am proud to say that USET has evolved and grown into a premier regional Tribal organization that is assisting its members through an array of programmatic support services, having national influence and impact on federal Indian law and policy, and working aggressively to combat the overall societal ignorance that exists through an approach of indigenous truth, righteousness, and justice.

The opportunity to accomplish all of this would not be possible if not for our founders. In acknowledgement, honor, gratitude, and respect for our founding members—the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida—the vision set forth 50 years ago has afforded our family of Tribal Nations a platform to work together and elevate our unified voice...*Sgi, Shonaabesha, Yakókih, Sho Na Bish*...THANK YOU!

In 2019, the USET family grew to 30 Tribal Nations when it welcomed the addition of the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe - Eastern Division, and the Rappahannock Tribe. Additionally, USET continued its tremendous growth and maturation that has strategically positioned us to be engaged on so many levels and across a broad spectrum of issues. This report highlights just some of our many programmatic, policy, legislative, litigation, and educational efforts over the past year.

As we leave another decade behind and start a new, I am proud of our many accomplishments, but I am also reminded that our work is far from complete. We still face the challenges of unfulfilled trust and treaty responsibilities and obligations, questioning of our constitutionally based diplomatic relationship with the United States, constant challenges to our inherent sovereign status, marginalization and invisibility of our people, historical revisionism and untruths, and legal fictions created to support and justify acts of injustice. Ultimately, these challenges interfere with our ability to fully exercise our inherent sovereign rights and authorities and prevent us from realizing the respect and honor that we deserve within our own homelands.

However, while there are many challenges remaining, more importantly, I am reminded of our resolve, perseverance, and strength that will allow us to overcome and prosper. As we start this new decade, let us remind ourselves of our calling and purpose as an advocacy, education, and social justice organization; let us use these challenges to further sharpen, strengthen, and solidify our efforts; let us recommit and rededicate ourselves to the work of this organization; and let us be mindful that the path to achieving our greatest aspirations and dreams requires an assumption of greater risk taking, a demolishing of self-imposed barriers and limitations, the release of understandings, beliefs, and practices that accompany a colonized mind, and an understanding and appreciation that we are stronger together!

In doing so, we will honor the legacy of our ancestors and ensure a bright future for our relatives who have yet to come. Together, we can and will move mountains.

I hope that you enjoy this report and I look forward to an even more engaging, productive, and successful new decade!

In Brotherhood,
Natalanapemānawak (All my relatives)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Francis'.

Kirk Francis
President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET)
USET Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF)

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS



B. Cheryl Smith
Treasurer

Chief, Jena Band of Choctaw Indians
B. Cheryl Smith has spent her professional career working in various capacities for the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, including as a member of Tribal Council from 1975 until 1998, 2004 through 2010, elected Chief in 2010.

Kirk Francis
President

Tribal Chief, Penobscot Indian Nation
Kirk Francis has served as Chief of the Penobscot Indian Nation since 2006 and holds the distinction of being the Nation's longest-serving Chief since the electoral system began in 1850. Prior to becoming USET President, he served as Treasurer.

Robert McGhee
Vice-President

Vice-Chairman, Poarch Band of Creek Indians
Robert "Robbie" McGhee serves as the Vice Chairman of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Tribal Council and has been an advocate for Native American issues at all levels of government.

Lynn Malerba
Secretary

Chief, Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut
Chief Mutawi Mutahash "Lynn" Malerba became the 18th Chief of the Mohegan Tribe of Connecticut in August of 2010, which is a lifetime appointment, and is the first female Chief in the Tribal Nation's modern history.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas

Cecilia Flores, Chairwoman
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Wayne Adkins, Assistant Chief and
Financial Officer

Chickahominy Indian Tribe – Eastern Division

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Charles Bradby, Councilman

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Narragansett Indian Tribe

Anthony Dean Stanton, Chief Sachem
Cassius Spears, Jr., First Councilman

Oneida Indian Nation

Ray Halbritter, Nation Representative
Brian Patterson, Bear Clan Council
Member

Pamunkey Indian Tribe

Robert Gray, Chief
Bradby Brown, Vice Chief

Passamaquoddy Tribe at Indian Township

William Nicholas, Chief
Darrell Newell, Vice Chief

Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point

Marla Dana, Chief
Elizabeth “Maggie” Dana, Vice Chief

Penobscot Indian Nation

Mark Sockbeson, Vice Chief
Lee Francis, Tribal Councilwoman

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Robert R. McGhee, Vice Chairman

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Mark “Thunder Hawk” Fortune,
Assistant Chief

Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe

Eric Thompson, Chief
Beverly Cook, Chief

Seminole Tribe of Florida

Marcellus Osceola, Chairman
Jim Shore, General Counsel

Seneca Nation of Indians

Rick Armstrong, President
Matthew Pagels, Treasurer

Shinnecock Indian Nation

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Cheryl Andrews-Maltais, Chairwoman
Richard Randolph, Vice Chairman

Leadership as of 2/19/20 publication
date.

NATION REBUILDING

USET PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Tribal Utility Finance Forum

USET strives to find opportunities for inter-organization collaboration. To help accomplish this goal, the USET Office of Economic Development and Office of Environmental Resource Management collaborated on the second gathering of the Tribal Utility Finance Forum. After a very successful Capitol Hill Reception during the 2019 USET SPF Impact Week Meeting, USET partnered with the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST) and sponsors MacMahon Associates and BakerTilly to hold the second Tribal Utility Finance Forum in Green Bay, WI. The Forum gathered industry experts, Tribal Leaders and Tribal utility leaders and managers to discuss entrepreneurial and economic opportunities of Tribal utility structures, including the need for capital improvement plans, alternative sources of financing for capital improvements, and revenue generation through established rate structures. The USET Tribal Utility Finance Forum's goal is to be the principal gathering to explore development and advancement of Tribal utility structures through the lens of economic development so they might better serve their Tribal Nations, their citizens, and communities.



Participants during the second Tribal Utility Finance Forum.



Participants visiting and touring the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin water treatment facility during the second Tribal Utility Finance Forum.

USET Hosts Best Practices Conference

In summer 2019, USET hosted its first Annual Best Practices Conference in Nashville, TN. The conference focused on presenting best practices from various sectors within Tribal Nation communities and across Indian country in order to achieve stronger community connections and improve the health status of Tribal citizens. Participants attended sessions about:

- new methods of communication;
- tools for data improvement;
- new GPRA measures and ways to meet GPRA targets;
- behavioral health and common trends around trauma-informed care; and
- how to address historical trauma through traditional methods of substance abuse prevention and reduction strategies.

The conference was well attended and even brought participants from as far away as Alaska. The USET Tribal Health Program Support department hopes to expand the Best Practices Conference to provide even more sessions, tracks, and collaboration among various departments within USET and Tribal Nations. The next USET Best Practices Conference is scheduled for August 2020 in Nashville, TN.



Elizabeth Neptune, Health Director, Passamaquoddy Health Center at Pleasant Point, opened the conference with a presentation highlighting the impact of historical trauma and the power of resiliency when designing and delivering health care programs.

Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country

Five years ago, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) awarded USET with a 5-year Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC) grant. The purpose of GHWIC is to reduce rates of death and disability from commercial tobacco use, diabetes, heart disease and stroke, and reduce the prevalence of obesity and other chronic disease risk factors and conditions in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. The grant brought great success and triumphs for the GHWIC Tribal Nation partners. In the last year of the grant, the USET THPS staff assisted the Tribal Nation partners with working towards sustainability for the success of their programs.

All the USET GHWIC Tribal Nation partners have utilized their program successes to apply for additional funding opportunities, and four have been awarded additional monies.

This year the CDC announced that USET was awarded another 5-year GHWIC grant. The USET THPS staff are working diligently to expand upon lessons learned from the first grant and to partner with even more USET Tribal Nations to assist in building strong, healthy, and vibrant Tribal communities within USET Tribal Nations.

Technical Assistance Site Visit at Catawba

The USET Office of Environmental Resource Management (OERM) conducts site visits to member Tribal Nations and their water and wastewater utility systems. In December, Margaret Washko, OERM Program Manager, was accompanied by Sally Brady, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Lab Supervisor, on a site visit to the Catawba Indian Nation. The visit focused on asset management; standard operating procedures; and field monitoring, sampling, and laboratory analysis by Catawba utility staff. The Catawba utility staff use a system that meets requirements of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and their goal is for their lab to be certified by the EPA and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.



Catawba utility staff take field samples.

USET Conducts Wetlands Delineation Training

The Penobscot Indian Nation hosted the USET Wetland Delineation Seminar August 19-21. The seminar consisted of a classroom component and a field component covering an introduction to wetland delineation methods. The presentations included wetland characterization, evaluation techniques for hydric soils of the region,

wetland mitigation policy, plant and tree identification, and an introduction to writing wetland program plans. Classes were instructed by regional wetland and soil scientists from the US Forest Service, US Army Corps of Engineers, and the state of Maine.



Maine State Soil Scientist David Roque teaches about wetland field delineation.

NATION REBUILDING

USET PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Seneca Nation of Indians Promotes Breastfeeding

The Seneca Nation Health System conducted a community health assessment with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC) grant and technical assistance from USET staff. The community health assessment assisted in identifying health-related priorities that were important to the Seneca Nation community, including breastfeeding. This led to the purchase of a Mamava lactation pod. This pod provides a clean and private area for mothers to use for pumping and/or breastfeeding. The pod is housed in the patient waiting area of the Tribal Health Clinic. Seneca Nation worked with a graphic designer to customize the outside of the pod to create a warm and inviting look for breastfeeding mothers.

In addition, Seneca Nation has educated prenatal patients about the importance of nutrition and breastfeeding. This support ensures that needed services and information are offered to keep infants, women, and families of the Seneca Nation Health System in the best of health. The positive impacts on the community are increased quality of life for mother and baby, a demonstrated commitment to women and families, and the normalization of breastfeeding.



USET Holds Tenth Annual Tribal Utility Summit

Water and wastewater treatment utilities depend upon highly technical staff that require ongoing educational support. USET is approved by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to provide operator and laboratory analyst certification for Tribal Nation Utility Department staff. In the USET region, member Tribal Nations operate a total of 54 treatment plants and 56 water distribution/wastewater collection systems.

Annually, USET convenes a Tribal Utility Summit (TUS), and the 10th Annual TUS was graciously hosted by the Oneida Indian Nation. Oneida Nation Representative Ray Halbritter opened the event with a traditional welcome and shared a video that provided an historical chronology of the Oneida Nation within the Haudenosaunee Confederacy before European contact, through the colonial period,

and their role in the founding of the United States; and ultimately, to reacquisition of ancestral homelands and self-determination within their territory.

The USET Certification Board provides oversight for the annual TUS, which is primarily funded by EPA Regional Offices, the US Department of Health and Human Services, and the US Department of Agriculture, to assist Tribal Utility team members in acquiring their continuing education units to maintain their certifications. The 80 participants enjoyed events and seminars including the Federal Emergency Management Agency Disaster Management for Water and Wastewater Utilities, process control of wastewater plants, to monitoring the location of water pipelines using state of the art tracking systems.

Tribal Epidemiology Center Article Published in Public Health Journal



The USET Tribal Epidemiology Center (TEC) published an article this year in a special supplement of the Journal of Public Health Practice and Management. This supplement was dedicated to highlighting public health in Indian country. The USET TEC's article detailed a current surveillance project that is working to improve the quality and quantity of mortality data for the purpose of preparing a mortality report for each USET Tribal Nation. While the

TEC provides Tribal Nation data and statistics to inform policy and programmatic practice, the USET organization as a whole is dedicated to promoting and protecting Tribal Nation sovereignty and the rights of American Indian/Alaska Native citizens. This important project fulfills both missions by returning data to the Tribal Nations for ownership, thus promoting and protecting data sovereignty and allowing Tribal Nation leaders and health officials to make fully informed policy and programmatic decisions based on the most accurate data available.



Seminole Tribe of Florida Tribal Historic Preservation Office Assistant Director Juan Cancel leads a review of the sites visited on the Big Cypress and Brighton Reservations with SE CASC and HERO staff.

Seminole Tribe of Florida Develops Climate Adaptation Plan

USET Tribal Climate Science Liaison Casey Thornbrugh accompanied Southeast Climate Adaptation Center (SE CASC) Assistant University Director Aranzazu Lascrain and North Carolina State University Ecologist Lauren Nichols on a site visit to the Seminole Tribe of Florida's Heritage and Environmental Resources Office (HERO) in February. The purpose of the site visit was to meet with HERO staff and to tour the Seminole Tribe of Florida's

Big Cypress, Brighton, and Hollywood Reservations. USET's Tribal Climate Science Liaison and the SE CASC are assisting HERO with a climate adaptation plan vulnerability assessment for the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The climate vulnerability assessment is one step in a Climate Adaptation Plan to uphold, protect, and advance the sovereignty of the Seminole Tribe of Florida even through the effects of climate change.

Advancing USET Tribal Nation Enterprises and Businesses

Economic development and business enterprises are vital for Tribal communities in upholding and strengthening Tribal sovereignty and Nation rebuilding efforts. Promoting trade and business opportunities is one way USET is working to support building healthy and vibrant Tribal economies. First released at the USET 2018 Semi-Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN, the USET Tribal Enterprise Directory was revised to reflect a comprehensive list of Tribal enterprises and business activities of USET member Tribal Nations. The Directory is a resource to promote inter-Nation trade and access to federal and state procurement opportunities.

USET staff participated on various panels and attended regional and national events and meetings. At the second annual "All Roads Lead to Chaco Canyon" Tribal Trade Conference, hosted by the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, USET staff presented on the implementation of Tribal trade opportunities using the USET Tribal Enterprise Directory. Other events from the past year include the Reservation Economic Summit (RES) presented by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED), Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) Annual Meeting, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Economic Development Corporation (ATNI-EDC) Economic Development Summit, and the first Louisiana Rural Economic Development Summit, hosted by the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana. Supporting

regional and national economic development events highlights the prominence and opportunities for economic development activities within USET member Tribal Nation communities and their enterprises.

The inaugural USET exhibition booth on display at the Reservation Economic Summit (RES) Trade Show.



Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana Chairman David Sickey delivers opening remarks at the 2nd Annual "All Roads Lead to Chaco Canyon" Tribal Trade Conference.

UPHOLD, PROTECT, ADVANCE SOVEREIGNTY

USET PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Climate Resilience Summit

USET's Office of Environmental Resource Management (OERM) held a Tribal Climate Resilience Summit on August 27-29. Seventy people including Tribal leaders, professional/staff, Tribal youth, Department of the Interior – Northeast and Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Centers (NE/SE CASCs) representatives, and other partners convened at the Oneida Indian Nation's Turning Stone Resort Casino Conference Center in Verona, New

York. Discussions and presentations included climate change impacts on Tribal Nations within the USET region, Tribal-based climate adaptation plans as well as resources available for building resilience within Tribal Nations and communities. Tribal youth, undergraduate, and graduate students gave oral and poster presentations on research projects and examples of climate change resilience within their Tribal Nations and communities.



Panel presentation on effective partnerships between Tribal Nations, federal agencies, universities, and non-governmental organizations in addressing climate change impacts and building resilience within Tribal communities.

Regional Indigenous Foods provided at USET's Climate Resilience Summit

The USET Office of Environmental Resource Management (OERM) held a Climate Resilience Summit on August 27-29 at the Turning Stone Resort Casino. In planning the Summit, OERM worked to support Native American businesses and reduce the event's carbon footprint by working with the Turning Stone Resort Casino to source foods from regional Tribal producers. This partnership supported local/regional Tribal businesses while reducing greenhouse gas emissions by transporting food over a shorter distance. The Climate Resilience Summit also reduced waste during the Summit by eliminating plastic

water bottles, styrofoam, and paper/plastic cups, utensils, and plates. Beverage stations were set up with glasses and washable coffee mugs throughout the Summit. Meals included wild rice soup, cornmeal crusted grilled walleye, roasted acorn squash, corn soup, and many other Indigenous foods from Tribal producers. The Climate Resilience Summit not only addressed climate adaptation, but also climate change mitigation through providing regional, healthy foods consistent with Tribal cultures and with minimal impact on Mother Earth.



Healthy snacks provided during the breaks included in-season (late summer) and locally sourced fruits and vegetables.



Proteins from regional Tribal Nations included brown trout from the Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians, walleye from Red Lake Nation Fishery, and roasted pork from the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe.



Vegetable and starch dishes included maple roasted sweet potatoes and Three Sisters Salad with regionally sourced corn, beans, and squash.

Public Health Leadership Institute

Public Health Program Coordinators Keshia McElroy and Daphne Hamilton were chosen as members of the Region IV Public Health Training Center at Emory University's inaugural Public Health Leadership Institute (PHLI) cohort. Keshia and Daphne competed with 144 other applicants for four slots designated for Tribal health organizations.

All 28 PHLI fellows are employed by state and local public health departments or Tribal organizations in the Southeast, where they manage programs, supervise staff and/or demonstrate leadership potential. According to Region IV Public Health Training Center Program Manager Michelle Carvalho, "This is a phenomenal group of dynamic leaders propelling public health in the eight Southeastern states."

The Region IV Public Health Training Center at Emory University launched the PHLI in partnership with the J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development at the University of Georgia to advance adaptive and strategic leadership skills among public health professionals. The Institute is an 8-month experience providing 40 contact hours of online and in-person interaction and peer consultation.

Funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Region IV Public Health Training Center works to build the capacity of the public health workforce to meet national, state, and local needs. The Region IV Public Health Training Center is one of ten regional HRSA-funded training centers throughout the US and a member of the national Public Health Learning Network.



Keshia McElroy and Daphne Hamilton attend the Public Health Leadership Institute Retreat in October.

Students at WaYS winter mini-camp in Ellitsville Plantation, Maine.



Wabanaki Youth in Science: Integrating Technology, Science and Traditional Culture

Connecting the next Wabanaki generation to their cultural heritage and legacy of environmental stewardship is a long-term goal of the Wabanaki Youth in Science (WaYS) program. A year-long series of activities, including earth camps, are held to encourage youth to pursue STEM education and careers. Melding Native culture and western knowledge is achieved by bringing together students, cultural knowledge keepers and natural resources professionals. USET supported the WaYS program and earth camps.

A fisheries expert talks with WaYS summer earth camp participant Wambli Martinez and USET Technical Assistance Specialist Colin Martin at Moosehead Lake in Maine.



WaYS summer earth camp participants learn about electrofishing.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

USET PROGRAMS & SERVICES

USET Continues Partnership with Close Up Foundation for Youth Leadership Development

For more than 20 years, USET and the Close Up Foundation have partnered to bring Tribal Nation member youth to DC during USET's Impact Week Meetings in Washington, DC. A total of 96 youth from 18 USET member Tribal Nations participated in the week of education, inspiration, and empowerment of young people to exercise their rights and accept the responsibilities of citizens in a democracy. This year was meaningful as Catawba Indian Nation and Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida sent youth for the first time since Close Up and USET began their partnership in February 1998. The program is designed to develop each participant's ability to engage in citizenship at all levels of the US government and within their Tribal Nation.

Youth from USET member Tribal Nations present their Tribal Action Initiative to Tribal Leaders and USET Impact Week participants.



Close Up youth participants develop statements explaining what sovereignty means to them and present those statements to the USET/USET SPF Board of Directors.

Students begin the week by examining eras of federal Indian policy and quickly shift to current issues impacting them and their Tribal Nations. Students develop and practice citizenship and leadership skills throughout the week, and this unique partnership with USET provides students with the opportunity for genuine engagement through two components. The first is creating a Tribal Action Initiative and presenting the Initiative to Tribal Leaders and USET Impact Week participants. The second is developing a Sovereignty Statement explaining what sovereignty means to them and recommending specific actions USET and Tribal Leaders can take to protect sovereignty. The students present their Sovereignty Statements to the USET Board of Directors at the end of the week.

Also this year, UNITY joined the USET/USET SPF 2019 Impact Week meeting to provide information about opportunities for South and Eastern Tribal youth to become involved in event planning for the 2019 National UNITY Conference in Orlando, Florida, and the 2020 National UNITY Conference in Washington, DC. UNITY's mission is to foster the spiritual, mental, physical, and social development of American Indian and Alaska Native youth, and to help build a strong, unified, and self-reliant Native America through greater youth involvement. UNITY is a national network organization promoting personal development, citizenship, and leadership among Native American youth. UNITY has a network of 275 Tribal youth councils in 34 states.

Leadership Development in Economic Development

Continuing the build out of USET's economic development core competency, a wide array of leadership development opportunities and activities took place during 2019. At the Reservation Economic Summit (RES) Annual Conference in Las Vegas, NV, the longest and largest gathering of Tribal economic development professionals, USET hosted a gathering to assemble and promote fellowship among participants from the USET region.

The USET Office of Economic Development also initiated various programs to support leadership development including piloting a professional development mentorship program and participating at the American Indian Business Leaders (AIBL) Annual Conference for Tribal high school and college students interested in pursuing entrepreneurship and business management education. USET also created the first economic development professional excellence award to highlight and uplift economic development professionals in the region. The award was named after its first recipient, Chris Thompson, in recognition of his work on the USET Economic Development and Entrepreneurship Committee.



Connie and Lesley Thompson accept the inaugural Chris Thompson Economic Development Professional Excellence Award during the 2019 USET SPF Annual Meeting.

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

USET ORGANIZATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPACITY

New Funding Awards Support Increased Infrastructure and Capacity

During 2019, USET's Tribal Health Program Support (THPS) department experienced tremendous growth due to new grant funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

CDC awarded several new grants to:

- increase public health infrastructure and capacity within the USET Tribal Epidemiology Center;
- improve opioid data within Indian country; and
- establish baseline blood lead data for American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) children.



As a result of new funding, Alexis Goddard, Taloa Berg, and Destiny Smith joined USET as THPS Administrative Assistants in 2019.

SAMHSA awarded a grant to:

- increase prevention and community activities aimed to reduce alcohol use among AI/AN youth;
- increase connections with SAMHSA Regional Mental Health Technology Centers to provide free behavioral health resources such as infrastructure development, training, and workshops for Tribal Nations;
- increase the incorporation of cultural practices within behavioral health treatment and prevention services; and
- provide additional behavioral health training.

These awards allowed USET to create and fill 10 positions within the THPS department. The additional positions have brought new skills and subject matter expertise to THPS, which will allow USET to provide enhanced technical support and assistance to member Tribal Nations. The THPS department is planning for even more growth next year.

ENTERPRISE AND SUBSIDIARY DEVELOPMENT

USET ORGANIZATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPACITY

Capitalization of USET CDFI Loan Fund

As part of building capacity, USET CDFI continued its capitalization effort to support growth of a loan fund. USET CDFI adopted a capitalization plan and business plan that incorporated a mix of federal assistance and a campaign to seek support from USET member Tribal Nations. The USET CDFI loan fund has been supported primarily through federal fund assistance, specifically from the USDA Revolving Loan Fund program. The CDFI loan fund was fortunate to receive additional contributions this year in the form of a generous gift from a USET member Tribal Nation that will be used to support the continued buildout, financing economic development projects of USET member Tribal Nations. As a 501(c)(3) organization, all donations to USET CDFI are tax deductible.

First USET CDFI Application

The USET CDFI initiative was first introduced as part of the long-term strategic plan adopted by the USET Board of Directors in 2016. Much of the effort has been building the capacity to develop a loan fund that will support lending to economic development projects within the USET membership. This goal was realized in 2019 when the first application for loan services was received and processed. Underwriting and review technical assistance was conducted in partnership with strategic partners made from USET CDFI's inception, including First Nations Oweesta Corporation.

COMPREHENSIVE POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENDA

USET SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION FUND STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Refuting Constitutional Challenges

USET SPF has consistently advocated around the issue of constitutionality with all branches of government. Undermining the constitutionality of programs, laws, spending, and exemptions specific to Tribal Nations and Native people flies in the face of well-settled law that defines our relationship with the United States as political in nature and not one based on race. Indian country must remain vigilant and continue to challenge and oppose any efforts within the federal government—executive, legislative, and judicial—that seek to undermine the constitutionality of our relationship.

In 2019, the Administration continued to hold that it could not provide a blanket exemption from state-imposed Medicaid work requirements to those eligible for Indian Health Service benefits due to “civil rights concerns,” despite our political status. Meanwhile, litigation seeking to overturn the Indian Child Welfare Act continued to make its way through the courts.

This fundamentally flawed narrative, if allowed to go unchallenged, has the potential to erode the very foundation of Tribal Nation-US, government-to-government, sovereign-to-sovereign relations. It is critically important that all Indian country recognize and appreciate the magnitude of this current challenge and its potentially broader implications. USET SPF continues to partner with other Tribal organizations, both national and regional, in order to ensure a strong, coordinated message from Indian country, both for the short and long term. Together, we are working to ensure that the strong legal basis of our relationship with the United States is the focus of our argument.

Restoration of Tribal Homelands

USET SPF Tribal Nations continue to work to reacquire our homelands, which are fundamental to our existence as sovereign governments and our ability to thrive as vibrant, healthy, self-sufficient communities. In fulfillment of the trust responsibility and obligations to our Nations, the federal government must support healthy and sustainable self-determining Tribal governments, which fundamentally includes the restoration of lands to all federally recognized Tribal Nations, as well as the legal defense of these land acquisitions.

While USET SPF member Tribal Nations ultimately seek full jurisdiction and management over our homelands without federal government interference and oversight, we recognize the critical importance of the restoration of our land bases through the land-into-trust process. We further recognize that the federal government has a trust responsibility and obligation to Tribal Nations in the restoration and management of trust lands. With this in mind, it is vital that the land-into-trust process be available to and applied equally to all federally recognized Tribal Nations.



During Impact Week 2019, the USET SPF Board honored Rep. Deb Haaland (NM), one of the two first Native women elected to the US Congress.

USET SPF has been advocating for a fix to the Supreme Court decision in *Carcieri v. Salazar* since it was handed down in 2009. *Carcieri* has created a deeply inequitable 2-class system, in which some Tribal Nations have the ability to restore their homelands and others do not. This 2-class system serves to deny these Tribal Nations a critical component of the trust relationship, vital aspects of the exercise of inherent sovereignty, and the opportunity to qualify for several government programs. USET SPF continues to call for the immediate passage of a fix that contains the two features necessary to restore parity to the land-into-trust process: (1) a reaffirmation of the status of current trust lands; and (2) confirmation that the Secretary has authority to take land into trust for all federally recognized Tribal Nations.

In May, the US House of Representatives, by a vote of 323-96, passed H.R. 375, legislation to fix *Carcieri*, with strong bi-partisan support. It is important to note that there continue to be small, but influential, pockets of opposition to a *Carcieri* fix in the Senate. While the fix previously passed the House in 2010, it has never passed the Senate, due to this opposition and the nature of Senate procedure, which allows for any Senator to hold up consideration of a bill. With this in mind, advocacy and a unified voice from our member Tribal Nations and all of Indian country is more important than ever. USET SPF has turned its focus to identifying and removing barriers to passage in the US Senate as we seek to achieve a fix once and for all.



*USET SPF President Kirk Francis and Vice President Robert McGhee joined a Tribal leader meeting with Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer to urge his leadership in supporting and achieving a fix to the SCOTUS decision in *Carcieri v. Salazar* once and for all.*

The Federal Budget

Following yet another President's Budget Request containing deep cuts to federal Indian agencies and programs, USET SPF continued its advocacy for the fulfillment of the federal trust responsibility and obligations, including full funding for Indian country. Because of our history and unique relationship with the United States, the trust obligation of the federal government to Native peoples, as reflected in the federal budget, is fundamentally different from ordinary discretionary spending and should be considered mandatory in nature. Inadequate funding to Indian country needs to be viewed as unfilled treaty and trust obligations and should not be vulnerable to year to year "discretionary" decisions by appropriators. Federal spending in fulfillment of trust and treaty obligations is not responsible for the federal deficit and must be held harmless as our nation seeks to reduce its debt. USET SPF envisions a future in which federal funding to Tribal Nations is no longer a discretionary choice and all dollars are contractable and compactable.

On December 20, 2018, the US Commission on Civil Rights (USCCR) issued a report titled "*Broken*

Promises: Continuing Federal Funding Shortfall for Native Americans." *Broken Promises* confirms what we in Indian country already know—with the exception of some minor improvements, the US continues to neglect to meet its "most basic" obligations to Tribal Nations. Notably, the Report found that the funding of the federal trust responsibility and obligations remains "grossly inadequate" and a "barely perceptible and decreasing percentage of agency budgets." Though these chronic failures have persisted throughout changes in Administration and Congress, it is time that both the legislative and executive branches confront and correct them. Throughout 2019, USET SPF leadership and staff advocated for action on *Broken Promises* findings and recommendations, including legislative action, culminating in our testimony at a House Natural Resources Committee oversight hearing in November. As a result of Tribal advocacy, there is a current effort to draft and introduce ambitious and wide-ranging legislation to begin to improve the delivery of federal trust and treaty obligations to Tribal Nations.



*USET SPF President Kirk Francis was one of three Tribal leaders invited to appear on a Congressional panel to begin to take action on the findings and recommendations of the *Broken Promises* Report. Credit: House Natural Resources Committee*

On September 25, USET SPF, represented by Wampanoag of Gay Head (Aquinnah) Chairwoman Cheryl Andrews-Maltais testified before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples of the United States in favor of extending advance appropriations to the Indian Health Service (IHS), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and all federal Indian funding. Following the longest federal government shutdown in history, Indian country has renewed calls for legislative action to insulate the federal fiduciary trust responsibility and obligations from Congressional inaction and political stalemates. On top of chronic underfunding, funding for federal Indian agencies and programs is almost always delayed and is frequently subject to government shutdowns. Advance appropriations is funding that becomes available one year or more after the year of the appropriations act in which it is contained, allowing for increased certainty and continuity in the provision of services. USET SPF supports and continues to urge advance appropriations for both IHS and BIA, and all federal Indian funding, as a more complete recognition of the federal trust responsibility and obligations. In the long

term, USET SPF continues to call for full and mandatory funding for all federal Indian programs and services, inclusive of and beyond IHS and BIA.



Wampanoag of Gay Head (Aquinnah) Chairwoman Cheryl Andrews-Maltais testified before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples of the United States in favor of extending advance appropriations to all federal Indian funding. Credit: House Natural Resources Committee

Economic Development

Economic sovereignty is essential to Indian country's ability to be self-determining and self-sufficient. Rebuilding our Tribal Nations includes rebuilding our Tribal economies as a core foundation of healthy and productive communities. USET SPF has identified and seeks action on a number of barriers to economic development in Indian country, including access to capital, lack of parity in the tax code, and the indeterminate status of trust lands.

Taxation

USET SPF remains focused on the advancement of tax reform that would address inequities in the tax code and eliminate state dual taxation. Revenue generated within Indian country continues to be taken outside its borders or otherwise falls victim to a lack of parity. Similarly, Tribal governments continue to lack many of the same benefits and flexibility offered to other units of government under the tax code. Passage of comprehensive tax reform in late 2017 without Tribal provisions was unacceptable. USET SPF continues to press Congress for changes to the US tax code that would provide governmental parity and economic development to Tribal Nations. 2019 saw the first meetings of the Treasury Tribal Advisory Committee (TTAC) after a nearly 5-year wait to begin its work. The TTAC was created by the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act (PL 113-168) (GWE), a law that passed in September of 2014. In addition to establishing the TTAC to advise on the taxation of Tribal Nations, GWE ensures that certain benefits provided by Tribal Nations to their citizens for the "general welfare" are tax exempt, temporarily suspends audits related to general welfare benefits, and requires that Internal Revenue Service (IRS) field agents receive training on Indian country and federal Indian law.

The seven-member TTAC includes USET SPF Secretary Lynn Malerba.

Protecting Tribal Sovereign Immunity

Sovereign immunity from suit is an aspect of sovereignty possessed by federal, state, and Tribal Nation governments. The purpose is to provide protection against loss of assets held in common for many people for the performance of vital government functions. However, while the US Supreme Court has repeatedly acknowledged that Tribal sovereign immunity is a "core aspect of" and a "necessary corollary to" Tribal sovereignty, Tribal Nations have been subject to an increasing number of challenges and attempts to limit this foundational government authority, both through the courts and in Congress.



Seneca Nation Councilor Robert Jones educates Treasury and IRS officials on the 1842 Treaty of Buffalo Creek, which states that the Nation shall not be taxed.

These challenges include attempts to erode sovereign immunity as a result of off-reservation and other economic activity, as well as tort-based lawsuits against Tribal Nations and their government-owned entities. In support of an Impact Week 2019 Board resolution, USET SPF is helping to organize partnership work with the legal representatives of Tribal Nations and organizations to devise risk management strategies for tort victims in an effort to protect Tribal sovereign immunity more broadly. The effort focuses on action from both the legislative and executive branches to support this bedrock sovereign authority. USET SPF recently produced a briefing paper summarizing the current threat to Tribal Nations' sovereign immunity from tort claims, especially arising from off-reservation commercial activities, and providing broad strokes methods for addressing the threat.

Public Safety and Tribal Jurisdiction

The public safety crisis facing Tribal Nations and our people is directly attributable, at least in part, to US policies of colonialism, termination, and assimilation, as well as the chronic failure to deliver upon the trust

responsibility and obligations. In order to support safe, healthy Tribal communities, the United States, including all branches of government, must act to provide parity to Tribal Nations in the exercise of our inherent sovereign rights and authorities. This includes recognizing our full criminal jurisdiction over our lands and people. In June, USET SPF Secretary Lynn Malerba testified before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs (SCIA) in support of five public safety bills that address critical gaps in the exercise of special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and ensure that the United States fulfills more of its obligation to Indian country by providing necessary resources. As Congress considered proposals to reauthorize VAWA, USET SPF urged an expanded recognition of Tribal jurisdiction that reflected and supported governmental parity for Tribal Nations.



USET SPF Secretary Lynn Malerba testified before SCIA along with representatives from NCAI, DOI, and DOJ, in support of Tribal public safety legislation and the full restoration of Tribal criminal jurisdiction.

Advancing Tribal Health

Indian country, including the citizens of USET SPF Tribal Nations, suffers from lower health status and lower health outcomes than the rest of the United States. As long as the Indian Health Service (IHS) is drastically underfunded, this reality will remain. As Congress and the Administration fail to uphold the trust responsibility to provide health care, USET SPF has continued to advocate for the full funding of IHS, the reauthorization of the Special Diabetes Program for Indians, and the expansion of self-governance, as well as innovative ways to stabilize and extend funding. In addition, USET SPF is working to ensure any health-related and other research directed at Tribal communities and citizens is conducted in a way that recognizes Tribal sovereignty and protects Tribal data. While USET SPF recognizes the importance of scientific discovery and advancement, we stress that the federal government must work to prevent ethical violations against our communities and our people.

Infrastructure and Tribal Review

As interests outside of Indian country seek the expedited deployment of new technologies and other infrastructure across the United States, USET SPF maintains that

any buildout cannot come at the expense of Tribal consultation, sovereignty, sacred sites, or public health. USET SPF remains committed to protecting vital Tribal historic and cultural reviews, as well as Tribal consultation requirements, as streamlined federal permitting processes are being considered. This includes working toward a model that seeks Tribal Nation consent for federal action in recognition of sovereign equality.



*"We have to set ourselves up to make sure that our youth, our kids, our future, are educated on why maintaining sovereignty is important, and on why we have to keep sovereignty intact."
-Crystal Williams, Secretary/Treasurer, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
From remarks made during USET/USET SPF Impact Week 2019*

Sovereign Management of Environment and Natural Resources

Over the last several years, Tribal Nations have made jurisdictional gains when it comes to the protection and management of natural resources on Tribal lands, including mechanisms providing for "treatment as a state" (TAS) in the regulation of these resources. USET SPF is working to ensure the continued promotion of Tribal sovereignty and self-determination, as well as additional opportunities to extend the TAS designation.

As the current Administration seeks to roll back key environmental regulations, USET SPF stands in opposition to actions that would impede the exercise of our inherent sovereign authorities while urging meaningful Tribal consultation. This includes efforts to narrow the scope of Tribal certification authority under the Clean Water Act, as well as redefine which bodies of water are subject to Tribal regulation.

Protection of Sacred Sites

While the practice of spiritual and ceremonial traditions and beliefs varies significantly among USET SPF Tribal Nations, our spirituality is overwhelmingly place-based. From the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians' Nanih Waiyah mounds to the ceremonial stone landscapes of New England, each member Tribal Nation has specific places and locations that we consider sacred. These



"Tribal Sovereignty means the ability to chart our own course moving forward and being able to make our own decisions for the best interest of our Tribal citizens now and for future generations."
-Robert Gray, Chief, Pamunkey Indian Tribe
From remarks made during USET/USET SPF Impact Week 2019

places are often the sites of our origin stories, our places of creation. As such, we believe that we have been in these places since time immemorial. Through these sites, we are inextricably linked to our spirituality, the practice of our religions, and to the foundations of our cultural beliefs and values. Our sacred sites are of greatest importance as they hold the bones and spirit of our ancestors and we must ensure their protection, as that is our sacred duty. As our federal partner in this unique government-to-government relationship, it is also incumbent upon all branches of the US government to ensure the protection of these sites.

Trust Modernization

USET SPF, along with Tribal Nations and organizations, continues to seek a modernized, 21st century relationship with the federal government. It is time for a new model that promotes a truly diplomatic, nation-to-nation relationship between the US and Tribal Nations, and that empowers each Tribal Nation to define its own path. This mission should inform each action taken by this Administration affecting Tribal Nations. USET SPF is committed to working in partnership with all branches of government to achieve federal Indian policy reflective of the capabilities of 21st century Tribal Nations, as well as our inherent sovereignty and status as governments.

First-Ever Native Presidential Forum and USET SPF Candidate Platform

The Frank LaMere Presidential Forum was named in honor of well-known Native American rights activist Frank LaMere and was the first-ever presidential election forum focused entirely on the concerns of Native Americans. All candidates and the incumbent were invited to this bi-partisan, 2-day event, during which each participating presidential candidate responded to



David Sickey, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana Chairman, and Kitcki Carroll, USET Executive Director, attended the Frank LaMere Presidential Candidate Forum in August. The Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana served as the Forum's Lead Premier sponsor.



Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana Chairman David Sickey and Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) Chairwoman Cheryl Andrews-Maltais were part of the panel that questioned Senator Elizabeth Warren during the Frank LaMere Presidential Forum.

questions from panels of elected Tribal officials, Tribal citizens, and Native American youth. Participants from the USET region included USET/USET SPF President Kirk Francis, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) Chairwoman Cheryl Andrews-Maltais, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana Chairman David Sickey, Penobscot Indian Nation Ambassador Maulian Dana, and USET/USET SPF Executive Director Kitcki Carroll.

During the USET SPF Annual Meeting, hosted by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, the USET SPF Board of Directors approved an organization first—the USET Sovereignty Protection Fund Candidate Position



Checklist. This document, which will be distributed to all 2020 Presidential candidates, lays out the policy principles and priorities that provide a foundation for the modern-day US-Tribal Nation relations envisioned by our Tribal leadership:

- Recognize, Promote, and Advance Tribal Sovereign Rights and Authorities
- Commitment to Meaningful and Evolved Trust Relationship
- Uphold and Defend Political Status
- Prioritize and Increase Funding for Federal Fiduciary Obligations
- Restore Tribal Homelands
- Remove Barriers to Economic Development
- Invest in and Rebuild Tribal Infrastructure
- Promote Truthful Narratives About Tribal Nations and Native People

Reclaiming Native Truth

In June 2016, the Reclaiming Native Truth project was launched as a national effort to foster cultural, social, and policy change by empowering Native Americans to counter discrimination, invisibility, and the dominant narratives that limit Native opportunity, access to justice, health, and self-determination. Reclaiming Native Truth's goal is to move hearts and minds toward greater respect, inclusion and social justice for Native peoples. Between 2016 and 2018, Reclaiming Native Truth conducted an unprecedented research campaign designed to increase our understanding of the dominant narrative about Native peoples in the United States.



*"Despite all of the federal government's attempts to exterminate Tribal Nations, I think one common thread that is woven through all of the fabric of the Tribal Nations is our tenacity and perseverance."
-Richard Sneed, Principal Chief, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
From remarks made during USET/USET SPF Impact Week 2019*

Researchers found that deficits in education and limited personal experience with Native people and Tribal Nations contributed to a dominant national narrative that renders our history and contemporary life invisible or stereotyped. The research also revealed opportunities to change this narrative through education and increased historical accuracy, as well as framing messages in hopeful tones that appeal to personal values. USET SPF is committed to a continued partnership and promotion of the project's goals and narrative in an effort to change the narrative about Native people and federal Indian policy.

STRATEGIC PARTICIPATION IN LITIGATION

USET SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION FUND STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

USET SPF remains committed to defending our inherent sovereign rights and authorities in the courts. 2019 brought a number of cases with the potential to change the application of federal Indian law, including challenges to our unique political status and relationship with the United States.

USET SPF continues to engage in amici efforts aimed at protecting the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) from constitutional challenges. The vital protections provided by ICWA to Tribal Nations and our citizens are of significant import to Tribal sovereignty and culture. In a major victory for Indian Country this August, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in *Brackeen v. Bernhardt* (formerly *Brackeen v. Zinke*) held that ICWA and its implementing regulations are constitutional, including finding that ICWA is not race-based for purposes of the equal protection clause. In doing so, the Fifth Circuit overturned a grant of summary judgment by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas in favor of the plaintiffs that struck down the Indian Child Welfare Act as unconstitutional and also found its implementing regulations unconstitutional and in violation of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). Regrettably, upon motion of the other party, the Fifth Circuit has vacated that decision and is going to rehear the case *en banc*, which means before a larger panel of judges. USET SPF remains vigilant, as this litigation is an existential threat to key underpinnings of Tribal sovereignty and the Federal trust responsibility.

In addition, USET SPF is also working diligently to preserve the Tribal cultural review process. For the last 15 years, USET/USET SPF has been at the forefront of working with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and tele-communication companies to assure the protection of Tribal cultural heritage and respect for Tribal cultural expertise—including negotiating a voluntary Best Practices Agreement with the FCC. Unfortunately, in 2018, the FCC reversed its support

for Tribal Nations and adopted an order that exempted “small cell” wireless facilities (also known as 5G) from historic-preservation review under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). If allowed to stand, this would have meant that telecommunications companies could construct hundreds of thousands of cell deployments without seeking Tribal Nation input or review. In response, USET, along with several Tribal Nations (including USET member, the Seminole Tribe) and Tribal organizations, filed suit to vacate the FCC Order. On August 9th, the United States Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit rejected the FCC’s 2018 Order finding that exempting small cell infrastructure from Tribal review and consultation would have undermined federal laws that Congress put in place to protect this country’s irreplaceable cultural heritage, including Native heritage.

Similarly, USET SPF continues to support our brothers and sisters in the Great Plains, as they seek justice on the Dakota Access Pipeline. In June of 2017, a decision from the DC District Court held that the Army Corps of Engineers “did not adequately consider the impacts of an oil spill on fishing rights, hunting rights, or environmental justice, or the degree to which the pipeline’s effects are likely to be highly controversial” when it approved the permits to the Pipeline. The Judge subsequently sent the case back to the Army Corps of Engineers to conduct this analysis. The Corps has completed this process, and the case is now before the DC District Court once again. On August 16, the Standing Rock Sioux and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribes filed a motion for summary judgement, arguing the Corps’ subsequent determination that the environmental impacts of the pipeline were adequately considered is “a sham.” In support of further Tribal litigation on this issue, USET SPF joined other Tribal Nations and organizations on an amicus brief in support of the Tribal Nations that focuses on the importance of Tribal consultation in the environmental review process, and the lack of meaningful Tribal consultation in this case.





USET CELEBRATES 50 YEARS



USET was honored to welcome friends and relatives to join the celebration of our 50th Anniversary during the 2019 USET/USET SPF Annual Meeting on the sovereign territory of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

The Passing of the Fire between USET member Tribal Nations who host our meetings has become a USET tradition. Unique to this year's fire ceremony, all USET member Tribal Nations contributed sage, tobacco, cedar, and other items to the fire as a ceremonial expression of unity. The unity ashes were placed in 50th Anniversary commemorative jars that were distributed as a keepsake from this special occasion.



The Board of Directors Meeting began with a powerful grand procession of Tribal Leaders in traditional regalia.



During celebrations throughout the week, USET honored several important influences. The four founding Tribal Nations (Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, and Seminole Tribe of Florida) received special recognition throughout the events.



Joe Dan Osceola



Robert Thrower



Chris Thompson

The **Earl J. Barbry, Sr. Lifetime Achievement Award** was created in 2013 in recognition of Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana Chairman Earl J. Barbry, Sr., and his exemplary leadership and dedication to the citizens of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribal Nation, Indian country and his promotion of USET's mission of unity. USET's first president, Joe Dan Osceola (Seminole Tribe of Florida), and Robert Glenn Thrower, Jr. (Poarch Band of Creek Indians) became the third and fourth recipients of this distinguished award.

The **Chris Thompson Economic Development Professional Excellence Award** is in recognition and appreciation of Tribal professionals and their innovation, dedication and contributions to economic development success in USET member Tribal Nation communities while promoting USET's mission of unity. In its first year, this honor was awarded to Chris Thompson (Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe) for whom the award is named.



Throughout the week, leaders from Tribal Nations across the south and eastern United States discussed important topics such as protecting Tribal Nation homelands, building sustainable Tribal Nation economies, constitutionality threats and challenges, and protecting our communities through the restoration of Tribal jurisdiction. During the President's Panel, past USET Presidents joined USET/USET SPF President Kirk Francis to discuss their experiences and prospects for the next 50 years for the organization and for Indian country.



"Where I see USET now is really remarkable and I see it as one of the strongest organizations in Indian Country. I am really proud to be a part of it and I think the organization at year 50 is exactly where the founders saw it back in 1969. I think we're right where we're supposed to be and foundationally very strong."
-Kirk Francis, USET/USET SPF President



Leaders from National Tribal organizations and the USET region discussed building strong, vibrant, and sustainable Tribal Nation economies. USET Tribal Leaders shared their insights, experiences that helped them achieve success, and steps taken to build and strengthen their economies.



"The United South and Eastern Tribes, its member Tribal Nations, and the many leaders who have been instrumental over the years in helping with the growth of this vital organization and strengthening our presence in Indian country, have been the forbearers of vision, have been voices of change, and have been instruments of strength for our Native people. As one of the founding members of USET, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians celebrate the collective success, tremendous diversity, and commitment of USET/USET SPF to build brighter futures for our next generation of Native people. It is through our common bonds as America's first people that we will continue to thrive and persevere as Tribal Nations strengthened by the bond of our unity."

-Cyrus Ben, Chief, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians



For the 50th Anniversary Celebration, 3'x3' star quilts in the USET colors of red, black, and white were gifted to each USET member Tribal Nation in honor of their membership and commitment to unity. Over time, star quilts have evolved into a pan-Indian symbol that express the highest level of recognition and respect to the recipient. Further, star quilts are intended to be symbolic of the morning star, making their relevance that much more meaningful to Tribal Nations of the South and East where the morning star first embraces turtle island.



"You can feel the strength in unity when you engage in a USET meeting and it is a beautiful feeling. It is inspiring to know how many Native people the collective Tribal Nations represent. There is tremendous pride and strength derived from USET; knowing that you have all these Tribal leaders standing together to be recognized. It is very powerful."

-William Nicholas, Chief,
Passamaquoddy Tribe at Indian Township



The Board of Directors toured the lands of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, their facilities, and community offerings that have experienced tremendous growth as a result of their strong leadership. Other highlights of the Annual Meeting and Celebration included a “Trip to the Moon” welcome reception, the 50th Anniversary Gala, and the youth stickball exhibition, all hosted by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.



In the spirit of acknowledging 50 years of advocacy and collaborations, USET honored regional and national Inter-Tribal Organization Partners and DC Advocacy Representatives. USET is thankful for their friendship, collaboration, and hard work for Indian country.



USET 50th Anniversary





y Celebration and Gala



2019 HIGHLIGHTS & EVENTS



The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development's 2019 "Native American 40 Under 40" award recipients.

USET Tribal Citizens Among "Native American 40 Under 40"

The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) announced their 2019 class of 40 Under 40 Award Recipients, including USET Tribal Nation citizens:

- Cory Blankenship (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians), Secretary of Treasury for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Cherokee, NC
- Tomasina Chupco-Gilliam (Seminole Tribe of Florida), Project Specialist for the Native Learning Center, Tamarac, FL
- Elizabeth Malerba (Mohegan Tribe), Legislative and Policy Director for United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., Washington, DC
- Madeline Sayet (Mohegan Tribe); Freelance Theater Director, Mystic, CT
- Megan Young (Poarch Band of Creek Indians), Director of Strategy and Special Projects for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Atmore, AL

Nominated by members of their communities, this prestigious award is bestowed to individuals under the age of 40 who have demonstrated leadership, initiative, and dedication and have made significant contributions to their communities.



Economic Development Contributions of USET Tribal Nations and Citizens Recognized

Throughout the year various USET Tribal Nations and citizens were recognized for their outstanding contribution and dedication to economic development in Indian Country, including:

The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) honored Rodney Butler, Chairman of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, with the Tribal Gaming Visionary Award and the Poarch Band of Creek Indians with the American Indian Leadership Award during the 2019 INPRO Awards.

Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Chairman Rodney Butler received several honors this year, including the Tribal Gaming Visionary Award from the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development, the John Kieffer Sovereign Award from the National Indian Gaming Association, and was named Citizen of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut.

The Opportunity Finance Network, during the first annual Native CDFI Awards, honored Four Directions Community Development Corporation as the 2019 Native CDFI Catalyst Award recipient.

Native Business Magazine unveiled their inaugural Top 50 Entrepreneurs in Indian Country. Entrepreneurs recognized within the USET membership include:

- Michell Hicks (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians), Chief Strategy Group, Inc.
- Justin Bennett (Cayuga Nation), Ongweoweh Corp.
- Morgan Owle-Crisp (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians), Seven Clans Brewing
- Lance Gumbs (Shinnecock Indian Nation), Shinnecock Lobster Factory
- JC Seneca (Seneca Nation of Indians), Six Nations Manufacturing, Native Pride Travel Plaza and Buffalo Cigarettes
- Sally Snow and Will Perry (Seneca Nation of Indians), Wolf Run

Native Business Magazine also unveiled their inaugural Top 30 CEOs in Indian country list, including:

- Stephanie A. Bryan, Chairwoman and CEO, Poarch Band of Creek Indians
- Jim Allen, Chairman, Hard Rock International; CEO, Seminole Gaming (Seminole Tribe of Florida)
- Mark Hubble, CEO, Kitwyah, LLC (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians)
- Mario Kontomerkos, CEO, Mohegan Gaming and Entertainment (The Mohegan Tribe)
- Ray Halbritter, Oneida Nation Representative and CEO, Oneida Nation Enterprises (Oneida Indian Nation)
- Holly Gagnon, President and CEO, Seneca Gaming Corporation (Seneca Nation of Indians)
- John James, President and CEO, Foxwoods Resort Casino (Mashantucket Pequot Tribe)
- "Sonny" Johnson, President and CEO, Pearl River Resort (Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians)



Stephanie Bryan, Poarch Band of Creek Indians Chairwoman and CEO, was named one of the top 30 CEOs by Native Business magazine. She was also honored as a "Woman Warrior" by the National Indian Gaming Association for her excellence in Tribal leadership.



During their 37th Annual Conference, the Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) honored Phylliss J. Anderson, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Tribal Chief, with the 2019 Tribal Leader of the Year Award (above), and Jean Swift, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, with the 2019 Executive of the Year Award (below).



Susan Hammond, Executive Director of the Four Directions Community Development Corporation, accepts the 2019 Native CDFI Catalyst Award during Opportunity Finance Network Annual Conference in Washington, DC.



Cheryl Andrews-Maltais, Chairwoman of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), was honored at the 24th annual National Indian Women's "Supporting Each Other" Luncheon in Washington, DC, and was named Woman of the Year.

Narragansett Tribal Leaders and USET Executive Director Speak at National Conference

CityMatCH, a national membership organization of city and county health departments' maternal and child health (MCH) programs and leaders, held its 2019 conference in Providence, RI, on September 23-25. CityMatCH organizers opened by acknowledging the conference was taking place on the ancestral homelands of the Narragansett Indian Tribe. Narragansett Chief Sachem Anthony Dean Stanton and Medicine Man John Brown then welcomed the 800 participants.

USET Executive Director Kitcki Carroll gave the opening keynote address, entitled "America's Original Sin: The Untold Truth of Tribal Nation-United States Relations and Its Relevance to Today's American Division." The presentation examined the origins of Tribal Nation-United States relations and current-day diplomatic relations, our shared history from an indigenous perspective, and how our inability and/or unwillingness as a country to be honest with our original sin has resulted in many other shameful periods of history in the United States over the years. It also contemplated whether our inability and/or unwillingness to be honest with our past, to not work towards truth and reconciliation, and our lack of awareness of how our understanding of history informs our belief systems and ultimately contributes to the divisiveness and polarization that we are experiencing today.



Narragansett Medicine Man John Brown, USET Executive Director Kitcki Carroll, and Narragansett Chief Sachem Anthony Dean Stanton spoke to more than 800 participants at the national CityMatCH conference.



Alexis Goddard

Alexis joined USET on January 14 as a Tribal Health Program Support (THPS) Administrative Assistant. She has 5 years of administrative experience with Indian Health Service in the Nashville Area Office.



Taloa Berg

Taloa joined USET on January 28 as a THPS Administrative Assistant. She has previous experience working with Indian Health Service in the Nashville Area Office. Taloa is a citizen of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.



Margaret Washko

Margaret joined USET on February 25 as the Office of Environmental Resource Management (OERM) Senior Project Coordinator. She came to USET with 23 years of in-depth operations and engineering management experience. Margaret is responsible for monitoring and managing project schedules and budgets to ensure goals and objectives are accomplished as specified within the scope of work.



Colin Martin

Colin joined USET on March 11 as the Office of Environmental Resource Management (OERM) Technical Assistant Specialist. He comes to us with experience in Wetland Restoration projects and Watershed Protection. Colin is responsible for providing technical assistance and support to member Tribal Nations in drinking water and wastewater utilities.

**Danielle Johnson**

Danielle joined USET on March 25 as a Tribal Program Health Support (THPS) Program Manager. She has 6 years of experience in behavioral health, program evaluation and data management. Danielle is responsible for assisting USET THPS personnel and USET member Tribal Nations in developing and managing public health programs and projects to improve the overall general health of Tribal populations.

**Lauren Burns**

Lauren joined USET on April 8 as a Tribal Program Health Support (THPS) Program Coordinator. Lauren has a Master's of Public Health with an emphasis on Social and Behavioral Health. She also has experience in behavioral health, program evaluation and data management. Lauren is responsible for assisting USET THPS personnel and USET member Tribal Nations in developing and managing public health programs and projects geared towards improving the overall general health of Tribal populations.

**Keshia McElroy**

Keshia joined USET on May 13 as a Tribal Program Health Support (THPS) Program Coordinator. She has a Master's of Public Health in Social and Behavioral Sciences and a Bachelor of Science in Public Health. Keshia is responsible for assisting USET THPS personnel and USET member Tribal Nations in developing and managing public health programs and projects geared towards improving the overall general health of Tribal populations.

**Emily Field**

Emily joined USET on July 8 as a Tribal Program Health Support (THPS) Evaluation Specialist. Emily has 3 years of experience as an Evaluator/Epidemiologist with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council Tribal Epidemiology Center. Emily is responsible for designing program evaluation tools, educating Tribal partners on evaluation tool design, implementing evaluation processes and writing progress and final reports.

**Destiny Smith**

Destiny joined USET on July 15 as an Administrative Assistant in Tribal Health Program Support. She is responsible for making travel arrangements, reconciling credit card statements, and providing administrative support to her team.

**Kasha Harris**

Kasha joined USET on September 3 as a Tribal Program Health Support (THPS) Evaluation Specialist. She has 2 years of evaluation experience. Kasha is responsible for designing program evaluation tools, educating Tribal partners on evaluation tool design, implementing evaluation processes and writing progress and final reports.

**Harry Brown**

Dr. Brown joined USET on September 3 as a Medical Epidemiologist in Tribal Health Program Support (THPS). As the Medical Epidemiologist, he will provide guidance on projects for USET member Tribal Nations. Dr. Brown has been a Doctor of Medicine for 38 years. During his career, he has worked closely with USET and has cultivated strong relationships throughout Indian Country.

**Aspen Weathers**

Aspen joined USET on December 16 as a Human Resources Assistant. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. Aspen is responsible for facilitating daily Human Resources functions such as maintaining employee records, assisting with recruitment and onboarding of new team members, and assisting with the coordination of staff activities and special events.



In August, USET SPF Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs Liz Malerba (Mohegan) was selected as one of the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development's 40 Under 40. The award "recognizes 40 emerging American Indian leaders from across Indian Country who have demonstrated leadership, initiative, and dedication and made significant contributions in business and/or in their community."



USET honored Vicki French for her 10 years of service to the organization.

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UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

ASSETS	2019
Current Assets	
Cash	\$1,549,845
Grants/Contracts Receivable	1,160,222
Prepays	62,207
Other Receivables	482,912
<i>Total Current Assets</i>	<u>3,255,186</u>
Non Current Assets	
Investment Account (Scholarship Fund)	266,783
Investments (Calumet Office Park)	297,681
<i>Total Non-Current Assets</i>	<u>564,464</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$3,819,650</u></u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$1,004,500
Deferred Revenue	985,188
<i>Total Current Liabilities</i>	<u>1,989,688</u>
Total Liabilities	<u><u>1,989,688</u></u>
Net Assets	
Unrestricted - General Fund*	1,041,117
Temporarily Restricted	788,845
<i>Total Net Assets</i>	<u>1,829,962</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u><u>\$3,819,650</u></u>

*Excludes unrestricted SPF amount of \$220,296



REVENUES

2019

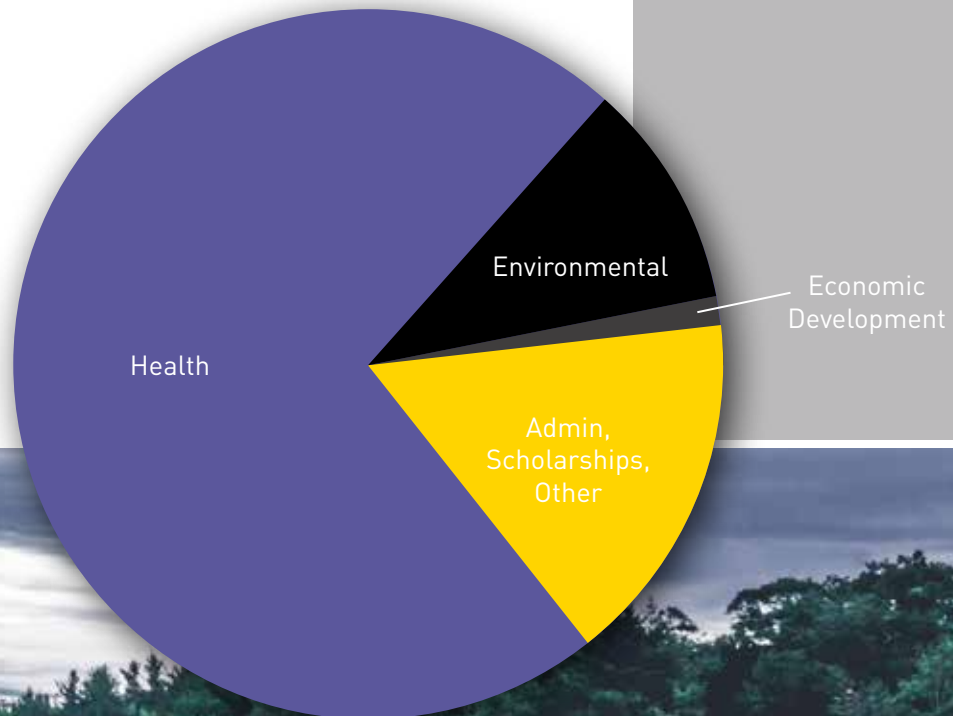
Grants and Contracts	\$11,813,045.00
Member Dues	13,000.00
Fee for Service (Various Pass through)	305,764.00
Pass through and Capital Maintenance	138,843.00
Other Revenue	1,263,964.00
Shared Services Revenue	195,823.00
<i>Total Revenue</i>	<u>13,730,439.00</u>

EXPENSES

Environmental, Health, Economic Development, Admin, Scholarships, Other	<u>13,756,019.00</u>
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<u>13,756,019.00</u>
<i>Change in Net Assets</i>	(25,580.00)

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

SEPTEMBER 30, 2019



NEW MEMBER

RAPPAHANNOCK TRIBE

On November 4, 2019, during the USET Annual Meeting and 50th anniversary celebration, the Rappahannock Tribe became the 28th USET member Tribal Nation.

The Rappahannock were federally recognized on January 29, 2018, through the Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act. The Commonwealth of Virginia had officially recognized the Tribal Nation in January 1983.

The Rappahannock are descendants of Algonquian-speaking Tribal Nations that merged in the 17th century—the Algonquian Rappahannock, Marattico, Portobacco, and Doeg. In the Algonquian language, Rappahannock means “place where the water rises and falls.” Today there are about 500 enrolled citizens.

The mission of the Rappahannock is to preserve Rappahannock culture, social structures, and political structures, while educating the public on the rich contributions that Rappahannocks continue to make in Virginia and the United States.

In the 1640s, the English began establishing illegal settlements in the Rappahannock River valley. The Rappahannocks sold their first piece of land to the English in 1651. However, Rappahannock chiefs and councilmen spent more than 10 years in county courts trying to get payment for this and other land sales. They never received full payment. By the late 1660s, encroaching settlers and frontier vigilantes forced the Rappahannocks to move, first inland on the north side of the Rappahannock River and later to their ancestral hunting grounds on the south side of the river.

During Bacon’s Rebellion, the Rappahannocks hid with other Tribal Nations in the Dragon Swamp to

avoid English vigilantes who sought to kill all Indians “for that they are all Enemies.” After the rebellion, the Rappahannocks consolidated at one village. In November 1682, the Virginia Council laid out 3,474 acres for the Rappahannock “about the town where they dwelt.”

One year later, the Virginia colony forcibly removed the Rappahannocks from their homes and relocated them to Portobago Indian Town. There, the colony used the Tribal Nation as a human shield to protect white Virginians from the New York Iroquois who continued to attack the Virginia frontier and threaten the expansion of English settlement.

In 1705, the Nanzatico Indians, who lived across the Rappahannock River from Portobago Indian Town, were sold into slavery in the Caribbean island of Antigua. Within a year, the Rappahannocks were once again driven from their homes. The Essex County militia removed the Rappahannocks from Portabago Indian town and the land there was patented by English settlers. The Rappahannocks returned to their ancestral homelands downriver, where they continue to live today.

An important event occurred in June 2019, when 252 acres along the Rappahannock River were preserved as part of the Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Known as Fones Cliffs, the land is a sacred site of the Rappahannock.

Chief Anne Richardson burned sage before the dedication ceremony and said it was truly a great day for the Rappahannock and for all Americans. She noted that when the Tribal Nation makes a decision, it uses a value system that requires consideration on how that decision will affect things seven generations out.

NEW MEMBER

CHICKAHOMINY INDIAN TRIBE

On November 4, 2019, during the USET/USET SPF Annual Meeting and 50th anniversary celebration, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe became the 29th USET member Tribal Nation.

The Chickahominy Indian Tribe was federally recognized on January 29, 2018, through the Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act. The Commonwealth of Virginia had officially recognized the Tribal Nation in January 1983.

More than 850 people are enrolled in the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the majority of whom still live within five miles of the Tribal center located near the site of a pre-contact village in New Kent County. The Chickahominy are an Algonquin people. Like other Algonquins in the area, the Chickahominy are often called Powhatan Indians. However, Chickahominy villages were always independent—never under the control of Chief Powhatan.

The Chickahominy originally lived in permanent villages along the Virginia river that still bears their name. The Treaty of 1646 displaced the Chickahominy from this area and set aside land for them in the Pamunkey Neck area of Virginia. As the settlers prospered, they crowded the Chickahominy Tribe out of this area as well.

Chickahominy families began a gradual migration to the area called the Chickahominy Ridge, where they now reside. This area between Richmond and Williamsburg is only a few miles from one of their 1607 village sites. In 1901, the Chickahominy Tribal Nation established Samaria Indian Baptist Church, which serves as an important focal point for the community to this day.

The 20th century was a time of change and turmoil for the Chickahominy people. Under the Racial Integrity Act, Virginia's policies of segregation were among the most severe in the nation. Officials

destroyed documents and records of Native people—including birth, marriage, census, and death records. According to state policy, Virginia's Native peoples no longer existed.

Higher education was not available for Indians in Virginia until the 1960s, so Tribal citizens built schools and raised funds to pay teachers' salaries. Even so, children were barred by state law from receiving a diploma in Virginia. Many Chickahominy children went to Oklahoma to complete high school and attend college.

Today, Tribal citizens contribute to surrounding communities by serving on boards and commissions and local government agencies. In addition, the Chickahominy contribute to local economies through private business ownership.

Before European contact, the Chickahominy were ruled by a council of elders called the *mungai* or "great men." Today, a Tribal Council of 12 men and women, including a Chief and two Assistant Chiefs, are elected by vote of the Tribal citizens.

Chief Stephen R. Adkins was elected in 2001. He has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Virginia Indian Tribal Nations to gain federal recognition and to assure that America's leadership includes a Native American voice.

The Chickahominy believe in sustainable lifestyle, responsible energy usage, and environmental stewardship. They see their lifeways gaining renewed respect. Their vision of life in harmony with creation offers hope for the Tribal Nation and the world. They believe their people can help lead the way into a better future.

NEW MEMBER

CHICKAHOMINY INDIAN TRIBE-EASTERN DIVISION

On November 4, 2019, during the USET Annual Meeting and 50th anniversary celebration, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division became the 30th USET member Tribal Nation.

The Tribal Nation was federally recognized on January 29, 2018, through the Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act. The Commonwealth of Virginia had officially recognized the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division in January 1983.

The Chickahominy are an Algonquin people. Tribal enrollment includes around 164 Tribal citizens. In April 2002, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division became one of the last state-recognized Tribal Nations to purchase land. The land occupies 41 acres and is located partially along Route 60 and Mount Pleasant Road.

When English settlers arrived at the Virginia coastline in 1607, the Chickahominy were one of about 30 Tribal Nations who received them. In 1614, the Chickahominy signed a treaty with Sir Thomas Dale, Governor of the Jamestown Colony, agreeing to provide two bushels of corn per man and send warriors to protect the English.

In 1646, a treaty was signed which forced the Chickahominy from their homeland to the area around the York River in present-day King William County, leading to the formation of a reservation. In 1702, the Chickahominy were pushed off their reservation, which caused the loss of a land base.

In 1750, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe began migrating from King William County back to the area around the Chickahominy River in New Kent and Charles City Counties. In 1831, the names of the ancestors of the modern-day Chickahominy Tribal Nations began to appear in Charles City County census records.

In 1870, a census showed an enclave of Indians in New Kent County, which is believed to be the beginning of the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division. Records were destroyed when the New Kent County courthouse was burned.

In 1910, a school was started in New Kent County for the Chickahominy Indians-Eastern Division. Grades 1-8 were taught in the one room school. In 1920-1921, the Chickahominy Indians-Eastern Division began forming their own Tribal government. E.P. Bradby was the first elected Chief.

In 1925, a certificate of incorporation was issued to the Chickahominy Indians-Eastern Division. In 1950, the Indian school was closed and students were bused to Samaria Indian School in Charles City County.

From 1982-1984 Tsena Commocko Baptist Church built a new sanctuary to accommodate church growth. In 1983, the Chickahominy Indians-Eastern Division, along with five other Tribal Nations, was granted recognition by the state of Virginia.

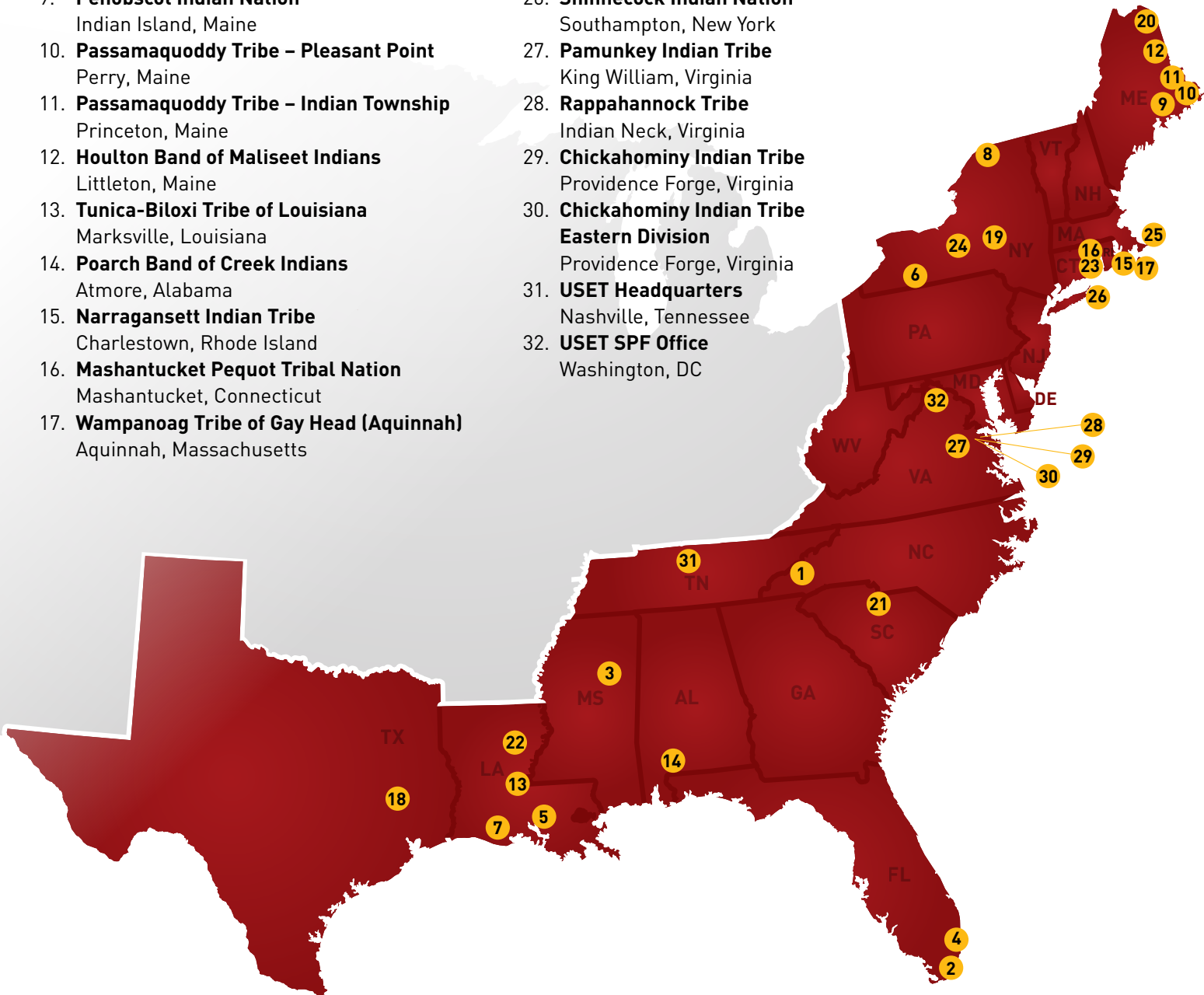
The Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division is governed by a Tribal council, which consists of a Chief, Assistant Chief, Secretary, Treasurer, and at least two Councilmen. Currently, Gerald A. Stewart is Chief, and Matthew Chippewa Adkins is Assistant Chief and Treasurer.

Future goals include a covered pavilion with log posts, Pow Wow grounds, and an authentic Algonquin village and garden. The village and garden will serve as teaching tools for the general public.

USET TRIBAL NATIONS & LOCATIONS

1. **Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians**
Cherokee, North Carolina
2. **Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida**
Miami, Florida
3. **Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians**
Choctaw, Mississippi
4. **Seminole Tribe of Florida**
Hollywood, Florida
5. **Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana**
Charenton, Louisiana
6. **Seneca Nation of Indians**
Salamanca, New York
7. **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana**
Elton, Louisiana
8. **Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe**
Akwesasne, New York
9. **Penobscot Indian Nation**
Indian Island, Maine
10. **Passamaquoddy Tribe – Pleasant Point**
Perry, Maine
11. **Passamaquoddy Tribe – Indian Township**
Princeton, Maine
12. **Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians**
Littleton, Maine
13. **Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana**
Marksville, Louisiana
14. **Poarch Band of Creek Indians**
Atmore, Alabama
15. **Narragansett Indian Tribe**
Charlestown, Rhode Island
16. **Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation**
Mashantucket, Connecticut
17. **Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)**
Aquinnah, Massachusetts

18. **Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas**
Livingston, Texas
19. **Oneida Indian Nation**
Verona, New York
20. **Aroostook Band of Micmacs**
Presque Isle, Maine
21. **Catawba Indian Nation**
Rock Hill, South Carolina
22. **Jena Band of Choctaw Indians**
Jena, Louisiana
23. **The Mohegan Tribe**
Uncasville, Connecticut
24. **Cayuga Nation**
Seneca Falls, New York
25. **Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe**
Mashpee, Massachusetts
26. **Shinnecock Indian Nation**
Southampton, New York
27. **Pamunkey Indian Tribe**
King William, Virginia
28. **Rappahannock Tribe**
Indian Neck, Virginia
29. **Chickahominy Indian Tribe**
Providence Forge, Virginia
30. **Chickahominy Indian Tribe Eastern Division**
Providence Forge, Virginia
31. **USET Headquarters**
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