

# Annual Report 2019

Amplifying  
Indigenous  
Voices

*María Magdalena Hors attending radio journalism training in El Estor, Izabal, Guatemala.*





*Cultural Survival staff visiting  
Community Media grant partners,  
Radio La Voz de Atitlan, Santiago  
Atitlan, Guatemala.*

## A letter from our new executive director: Galina Angarova



Dear Cultural Survival Community,

***Sain Baina, Hundete Nuheduut!*** In my native language, this means, “Greetings, be well dear friends.” My name is Galina Angarova, and I come from the Buryat Peoples of Russia. We are an Indigenous Peoples who have lived in Siberia for millennia on both sides of Lake Baikal. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Suzanne Benally (Santa Clara Tewa and Navajo), who led Cultural Survival for the past eight years and who stepped down on June 1, 2019, to attend to her family.

I am deeply humbled and grateful to the Cultural Survival board and staff for appointing me as executive director, a position I stepped into on October 1, 2019. I fully understand the amount of work it takes to further raise the visibility of Indigenous Peoples and to elevate their voices and their solutions to climate change, resource management, nutrition, health, education, and other critical issues on the global scale. While I have taken the wheel, I will rely on support both within the organization and our allies in the field: Indigenous-led organizations, NGOs, foundations, donors, and like-minded individuals. It is people like you, and your support, who make our work possible.

We live in a time of crisis. The Amazon rainforest is burning, the Taiga in Siberia is burning, and ice caps in the Arctic are melting. Indigenous Peoples are at the forefront of climate change and hold the knowledge that can address and mitigate some of today’s greatest challenges. Cultural Survival is in a unique position to address these urgent issues, having 48 years of experience in the field amplifying Indigenous voices by supporting community media efforts, grassroots advocacy, and development projects that are led by Indigenous people and rooted in Indigenous knowledge.

Together, we can build a future where Indigenous Peoples lead the way towards a sustainable and prosperous existence by supporting humanity through applying Indigenous traditional knowledge in many areas of human life: forest management, land management, agricultural practices, sustainable water use, traditional architecture and design, traditional medicine, and creation of networks within and among communities, to name a few. Indigenous Peoples live in some of the most fragile ecosystems on the planet and have developed unique strategies to cope with extreme and changing environments. These are proven methods that have worked for millennia and hold the answers to our most looming threat—climate change.

We have launched the new Leadership Transition Fund to fuel our momentum, build on our successes, and guide the organization to new work to address the realities of an ever changing world. I invite you to join me as I start this journey as Cultural Survival’s new executive director by supporting our work. Together, let’s ensure the success and longevity of Cultural Survival in supporting our Indigenous partners around the globe. I look forward to our partnership in implementing the rights of Indigenous Peoples enshrined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Galina Angarova', with a stylized, flowing script.

In Solidarity and Gratitude,  
Galina Angarova (Buryat)



## Our Mission:

Cultural Survival advocates for Indigenous Peoples' rights and has been supporting Indigenous communities' self-determination, cultures, and political resilience since 1972.

## Our Vision:

Cultural Survival envisions a future that respects and honors Indigenous Peoples' inherent rights and dynamic cultures, which are deeply and richly interwoven in lands, languages, spiritual traditions, and artistic expression, and rooted in self-determination and self-governance.

## Our Programs:

Advocacy  
Community Media  
Indigenous Rights Radio  
Grantmaking  
Cultural Survival Bazaars





*Indigenous Community Media  
Youth Fellow Ñusta Sánchez with  
Elder Carmen (Kichwa Nation),  
Cotacachi, Ecuador.*

# Advocacy

*Supporting grassroots Indigenous partners as they work to implement the rights of their communities.*

## THE PROBLEM:

Indigenous communities have the right to participate in decision making that affects their communities. Many are striving for meaningful participation when development projects threaten their communities and damage their territories, cultures, and ways of life. Indigenous communities whose right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent is being violated by governments, agribusiness, and extractive industries have recourse through raising public awareness, reporting to international bodies, and challenging actions in courts of law.

Cultural Survival supports grassroots Indigenous partners as they work to implement the rights of their communities.

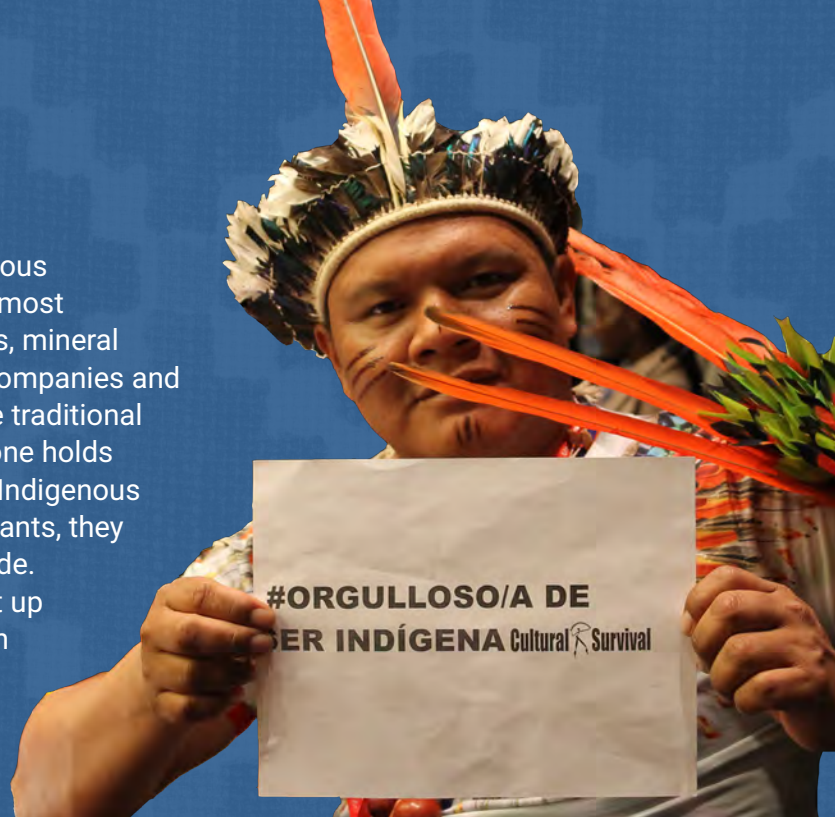
Our Advocacy Program brings international attention to places where governments and corporations have violated Indigenous rights. Cultural Survival supports Indigenous Peoples around the globe by amplifying grassroots movements to bring awareness and international pressure to their struggles while enhancing Indigenous communities' capacity, always at the invitation of community leaders, to demand and assert their rights as outlined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We provide expert testimony on Indigenous, human, and environmental rights violations and coordinate Indigenous participation at international bodies like the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP). Our Advocacy team coordinates reports to the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review and other human rights mechanisms.

Our Advocacy Program also makes small grants via our Keepers of the Earth Fund to grassroots Indigenous community organizations and traditional governments to support community development, implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous values, and Indigenous rights advocacy. We work to increase the use of UN mechanisms by Indigenous Peoples by offering training and partnership opportunities to our grant partners. We support community media programmatic advocacy work to protect Indigenous community radio stations, and we work to ensure the visibility of Indigenous human rights and environmental defenders by responding to urgent requests for assistance from Indigenous Peoples as they arise, when possible.



## PROGRAM IMPORTANCE:

About 80 percent of the world's remaining biodiversity hotspots are found on Indigenous territories. Indigenous lands also contain most of the world's remaining old growth forests, mineral stores, and undammed rivers. Extractive companies and governments frequently encroach onto the traditional lands of Indigenous Peoples because no one holds them accountable for their actions. When Indigenous communities face off against corporate giants, they need allies like Cultural Survival on their side. Cultural Survival uses the mechanisms set up by the United Nations and the Organization of American States to pressure governments to respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples.



### IN 2019:

- We submitted eight stakeholder reports to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and UN Treaty Bodies on human rights issues affecting Indigenous communities in El Salvador, Honduras, Panama, Mexico, Chile, Colombia, and the United States.
- We provided advocacy accompaniment to our three grantee partners from Mexico, Colombia, and Belize, who were participating in the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples Issues in New York.
- Our staff and grantee partners held five meetings with UN Country Missions to advocate on issues of importance, including Freedom of Expression in Latin America, Land Rights in Belize, and the murder of Indigenous land defender Sergio Rojas in Costa Rica.
- We documented and demanded justice for the murders of 29 Indigenous human rights defenders across Latin America in 2019.

# Community Media

*Partnering with Indigenous media producers to amplify Indigenous voices on issues that matter.*

**THE PROBLEM:** Indigenous communities worldwide often do not have alternatives to state and corporate controlled media. They face resource challenges, including lack of access to existing national communications infrastructure, exclusionary national telecommunication laws, and in some cases, government repression of their efforts to build and sustain community-based radio stations. In today's internet age, small, community-based radio stations may seem an outmoded means of communication, but for many rural Indigenous people, the low cost of community radio makes it the ideal tool for defending their cultures, lands and natural resources, and their rights in their native languages. Radio is a critical means of dissemination for news, information, and entertainment in remote areas where options for communication and media are limited.

Cultural Survival partners with Indigenous media producers who are amplifying Indigenous voices on issues that matter to their communities. Our Community Media Program provides important grants and support to a network of Indigenous community radio stations around the globe and develops critically needed programming to assure freedom of expression. Radio's universal and free nature and its ability to reach many remote communities makes it a key medium to reach Indigenous audiences. Indigenous-produced programming strengthens Indigenous Peoples' capacity to claim their rights. It enables access to essential information and broadcasting in Indigenous languages that ensures widespread understanding and cultural continuity.

Our Community Media Program works on drafting and reforming Indigenous media policies and promotes freedom of expression. Our Community Media Grants Project, launched in 2016, provides opportunities for international Indigenous community radio stations to strengthen their broadcast infrastructure and systems while providing training opportunities to their community journalists through a participatory and dynamic grants program. The initiative enhances community efforts to establish and ensure sustainability of Indigenous community-controlled media, with a strong focus on supporting women in community radio. We achieve this by organizing training to improve radio operations through a series of workshops and exchanges, where local volunteers are trained in journalism, broadcasting, interviewing, recording, audio editing, and technical skills. Our women's empowerment workshops focus on deepening the dialogue on intercultural gender issues, improving locution, script writing with inclusive language, and audio mastering to improve production quality.

More than 15 years of experience in Central America has enabled Cultural Survival to learn the immediate needs and constraints of Indigenous media and has positioned us to respond in meaningful ways. The Community Media Program expanded its reach to all seven countries in Central America by supporting the founding of the first Central American Network of Indigenous Community Radio Stations, which works toward increased social, cultural, and political justice in the region. We also provide fellowships for Indigenous youth who work in community media.



## PROGRAM IMPORTANCE:

Community radio is an essential medium for information sharing, language revitalization, and cultural survival in Indigenous communities. For many Indigenous Peoples, the low cost of community radio makes it the ideal tool for defending their cultures, their lands and natural resources, and their rights. Even in very poor communities lacking electricity, many can afford a small battery-powered radio, making radio the medium of choice for remote areas with few other forms of communication or access to news, information, and entertainment.



*Youth on air at Radio Bue Xhidza, Oaxaca, Mexico.*



*Women from over a dozen Zapatista radio stations in Mexico learning about repairing radio equipment thanks to a Community Media Grants Project grant.*

## IN 2019:

- We funded 35 community media projects in 9 countries totaling \$210,000.
- We trained more than 80 Indigenous women in radio production, journalism, and advocacy.
- Our Indigenous Community Media Youth Fellowships supported six groups of youth in building capacity in media, journalism, and radio production.

# Indigenous Rights Radio

*Because Knowledge is Power*

**Indigenous Rights Radio**

**Radio de Derechos Indígenas**



## THE PROBLEM:

Indigenous communities often lack access to critical information on universal rights and other key international policies that directly impact their cultures, their families, their territories, and their futures. As Indigenous people around the world are asserting their rights, there is a clear need for advocacy-related content that helps inform communities about topics such as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, international level policies, and reports. Radio dissemination remains a critical way for Indigenous communities to access information in their languages. As international policy work affecting Indigenous people increases, there is greater need for articulation between the global and the local arenas.

Indigenous Rights Radio uses the power of community radio to inform Indigenous communities of their rights.

Our Indigenous Rights Radio Program shares the latest information on Indigenous Peoples' rights and how they are being implemented around the world in English, Spanish, and many Indigenous languages. Our programming is designed for broadcast on community radio stations and includes Public Service Announcements, interviews, and documentaries about internationally recognized rights and the strategies communities are using to make those rights a reality.

Our Indigenous Rights Radio Program produces and distributes radio programming that supports local dialogue and action in Indigenous communities globally; increases Indigenous Peoples' understanding of international human rights mechanisms and how they can become involved in policies impacting them; and empowers listeners in the areas of Free, Prior and Informed Consent, climate change, women's rights, education, cultures, land rights, self-determination, and youth development.



## PROGRAM IMPORTANCE:

Community radio is the best tool to reach people who may not read or speak the dominant language; these radio programs carry on the Indigenous tradition of oral transmission from generation to generation. Indigenous Rights Radio programs bring the voices of the Indigenous Peoples of Australia, Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas into dynamic dialogue about the meaning of Indigenous Peoples' rights, their common struggles, and innovative solutions to the problems they face. Our programs are broadcast in 35 languages and distributed to more than 1,600 Indigenous-run, community radio stations in more than 80 countries. Indigenous radio programs cover topics such as climate change, women's rights, freedom of expression, cultural preservation, bilingual education, and strategies to combat rights violations and achieve self-determination.

*Dev Kumar Sunuwar (Kumar/Sunuwar)  
interviewing Tuhi Martukaw (Pinuyumayan) for  
an Indigenous Rights Radio program.*



## IN 2019:

Our Indigenous Rights Radio Program distributed more than 160 programs to some 1,600 stations in 69 countries on Indigenous rights topics such as the right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent, Indigenous women's rights, food sovereignty, and traditional knowledge protection.

# Grantmaking

**THE PROBLEM:** Much of the field of philanthropy reinforces an unsustainable model of economy like capitalism. Only 20 percent of global funding goes to human rights issues, and of that, only 3 percent goes to Indigenous Peoples. There is a gap in taking a cross-sectional approach in funding and involving Indigenous people in decision making about grantmaking.

Cultural Survival is one of only a handful of foundations, philanthropists, and regranteeing intermediaries who are going against the current and changing the status quo of “charitable giving.” Our grantmaking programs are managed by Indigenous staff and fund Indigenous-led projects at the grassroots level that are based on Indigenous values.

***The Keepers of the Earth Fund*** is a small grants fund designed to support Indigenous Peoples’ advocacy and community development projects. The Keepers of the Earth Fund provides grants that go directly to grassroots Indigenous-led organizations and groups to support their self-designed development projects based on Indigenous values. Of particular interest are projects focused on Free, Prior and Informed Consent, self-governance, the rights of leadership of Indigenous women, economic sovereignty, land rights, environmental and biodiversity protection, Indigenous language and knowledge retention, movement building, equitable distribution of resources, and Indigenous participation in international, national, regional, and local spaces.

***The Community Media Grants Project*** provides opportunities for international Indigenous community radio stations to strengthen their broadcast infrastructure and systems while providing training opportunities to their community journalists through a participatory and dynamic grants program. This initiative enhances community efforts to establish and ensure sustainability of Indigenous community-controlled media, with the aim of strengthening the impact and influence of community radio stations at the local and regional levels in their work towards the revitalization of Indigenous cultures, languages, histories, philosophies, rights, the protection of ancestral territories and natural resources, and the promotion of women’s leadership.



## PROGRAM IMPORTANCE:

Through our Indigenous-led grant-making programs, Cultural Survival provides opportunities for Indigenous radio stations to strengthen their broadcast infrastructure, trains community radio journalists, and supports Indigenous Peoples' community advocacy and development projects.

## IN 2019:

- Keepers of the Earth Fund funded 30 projects in 13 countries totaling \$136,549 to support Indigenous Peoples' community advocacy and development projects.
- The Community Media Grants Project funded 35 community media projects in 9 countries totaling \$210,000.



*Workshop organized by Cultural Survival, Amazon Watch, and International Funders for Indigenous Peoples on accessing grants, hosted at the Ford Foundation in New York.*



# Cultural Survival Bazaars

*Celebrating Indigenous arts, music, and cultures from around the world.*

## THE PROBLEM:

For Indigenous artists and artisans, creating traditional art is an important continuation of their cultural and family heritage, as well as a vital source of income. Sales opportunities and access to markets is often a challenge for many artists.

Cultural Survival Bazaars are annual celebrations of Indigenous arts, music, and cultures from around the world.

Our Bazaar Program aims to strengthen Indigenous cultures by providing a venue for the sale of art and crafts made by Indigenous artisans from around the world. The sale of these crafts upholds the artistic traditions that are culturally significant to many Indigenous communities; provides critical capital to Indigenous communities; and provides sustainable income to individual artisans and their families. Our Bazaar Program supports Indigenous Peoples in their participation in economic development strategies as outlined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Through the Bazaars, we support Indigenous Peoples in sharing and maintaining tradition and culture through craft, while ensuring they preserve control of their intellectual property. We recruit Indigenous vendors and artists, as well as non-Indigenous vendors whose business models respect and prioritize the well being and sustainable livelihoods of the Indigenous artists from whom they source.



*Celebrating Cultural Survival Bazaar artists at our annual Bazaar in Tiverton, RI in July.*





## PROGRAM IMPORTANCE:

Since 1975, Cultural Survival Bazaars have provided a market for thousands of Indigenous artists and cooperatives spanning more than 60 countries and 6 continents. The Bazaars are a series of cultural festivals that provide Indigenous artists, cooperatives, and their representatives from around the world the chance to sell their work directly to the public. Each event features traditional and contemporary crafts, artwork, clothing, jewelry, home goods, and accessories from dozens of countries. In addition, the Bazaars offer cultural performances and presentations, including live music, storytelling, craft-making demonstrations, and the unique chance to talk directly with makers and community advocates.

*Martha Patricia García Aguilar (Nahua) of  
Yolopopotli painting with straw.*

## IN 2019:

- The Cultural Survival Bazaars hosted 68 artists and vendors representing more than 4,500 Indigenous artists from more than 30 countries, and generated \$493,358 for Indigenous artists and communities.



*Amalia Palomino Jimenez  
(Quechua) from Peru.*

# Cultural Survival Quarterly

*Publishing and promoting  
Indigenous voices in print  
since 1975.*

**THE PROBLEM:** Representation Matters. Mainstream media is silent on topics related to Indigenous Peoples, and when it does cover Indigenous issues, Indigenous Peoples are often presented in stereotypical and sensationalistic ways. Indigenous voices need to be heard and heeded.

Since 1975, Cultural Survival has published the award-winning *Cultural Survival Quarterly* magazine to amplify the voices of Indigenous Peoples, shed a light on human rights violations of Indigenous communities, and share Indigenous solutions and wisdom about solving today's greatest challenges. Cultural Survival promotes Indigenous voices to amplify their messages to the world. Nearly all authors and contributors to the magazine are Indigenous, and we place a special emphasis on featuring Indigenous women's voices. We share stories of current events about Indigenous arts, women's and youth leadership, food sovereignty, traditional knowledge, language revitalization, climate change mitigation, land management, biodiversity conservation, and best practices about how Indigenous communities are claiming their rights using international human rights mechanisms. We regularly feature Indigenous Arts, Women the World Must Hear, Two-Spirits the World Must Hear, Indigenous Knowledge, Indigenous Food, Indigenous Languages, Climate Change, Rights in Action, Grant Partner Spotlights, Board and Staff Spotlights, Bazaar Artists.

**IMPORTANCE:** Cultural Survival provides a platform for the amplification of Indigenous voices, stories, and current events. We offer timely coverage of important events happening in the global Indigenous rights movement.

**IN 2019:** We published issues focusing on Indigenous languages, Indigenous women's leadership, the importance of traditional knowledge, and diversity within Indigenous LGBTQIA+ communities.

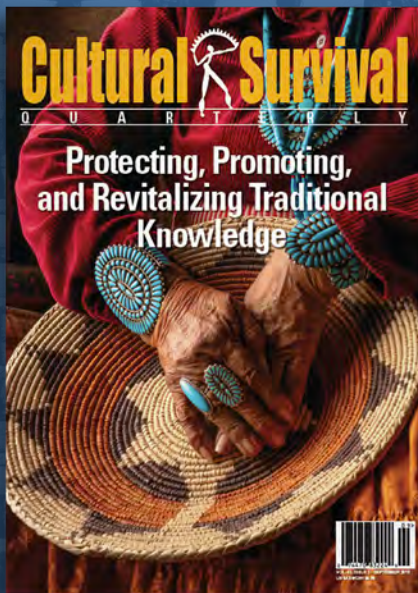




43-1 Hear Our Languages - International Year of Indigenous Languages 2019



43-2 Indigenous Women Leading the Way Toward the Future



43-3 Protecting, Promoting and Revitalizing Traditional Knowledge



43-4 Indigenous Love



# From Our Partners:

“

*Radio came to me, like corn to this world, to fill me with life. Cultural Survival gave me the gift of a beautiful opportunity to recognize the power of my voice, my words. It helped me understand that my dream for a community and a country where women do not need to cry in silence is possible; that my words, my voice, are a tool for hope and strength for many other women. I also learned that not only is my work important, but also, I am important! This process has planted in me many seeds: a desire to learn technical skills, admiration for other women and their stories, the fight for our shared pain, and a desire to work on radio production, interviews, and the radio content that is lacking, [as well as] a love of myself, my people, the radio station, and my dreams. Thank you to Cultural Survival for this process and this opportunity.”* – Mariana Cecilia García Sánchez (Nahua), a community doctor from San Miguel Tzincapan, Mexico, and women’s workshop participant.

“

*Cultural Survival arrived at Radio Tsinaka to revive and maintain the passion for [community] radio. Thanks to Cultural Survival’s support, the Tsinaka radio team has grown. We have rethought our objectives, such as raising our reach, improving the quality of the programs, and strengthening the organization of the collective.”* – Radio Tsinaka, Puebla, Mexico





“

*It is difficult to get funding to make our own productions in our Indigenous languages. With grants from Keepers of the Earth Fund and Community Media, we are recovering our traditional knowledge in our own languages, which promotes development in our communities. We have increased the quality and content of our radio productions, and with solar panels we reduced use of electricity by half, allowing us to broadcast longer.”* – Oswaldo Martínez, Radio Bue Xhidza, Oaxaca, Mexico

“

*With the support of Cultural Survival, we significantly strengthened the communication dynamics in the Indigenous communities, motivated the participation of young people, men and women of the territory, and contributed to reaffirming ancestral knowledge and spiritual communication through the formation in the Tulpas with the orientation of the spiritually savvy and knowledgeable and participation in the rituals. The importance of communication as a political and strategic tool for visibility, reporting, training, and raising awareness for mobilization was reaffirmed.”* – Tejido We’jxia Kaa’senxi del cabildo de Corinto en el Cauca, Colombia

“

*With the support provided, Radio Ak’ Kutan continues to carry our vision to build empowered and unified Indigenous communities with strong cultural heritage and identity. We are very thankful and appreciative for this support granted to us. We hope to see more of this help provided to others who are very much in need of this support.”* – Ak’ Kutan 96.1 FM “The Voice of the Indigenous People.”



*Cultural Survival staff visiting grant partner Radio Chiquixji in San Pedro Carchá, Guatemala.*

# Our Grant Partners

## COMMUNITY MEDIA GRANTS PROJECT

**Association of Women Weavers. Cantón Batz, Nebaj, Guatemala. (*Maya Ixil Nation*)**

Launching a new community radio station

**Bwabwata Khwe People. Namibia. (*Bwabwata Khwe Nation*)**

Launching an online radio station

**Newa FM Radio. Nepal. (*Newar Nation*)**

Highlighting Newar culture and heritage on the air waves

**Kalinchowk Radio. Charikot, Dolakha, Nepal. (*Tamang Nation*)**

Making the hydropower industry respect Indigenous rights

**Gurubaba Radio. Bansgadhi, Bardia, Nepal. (*Tharu Nation*)**

Training new Tharu radio journalists

**Radio Ak Kutan. Punta Gorda, Belize. (*Maya Q'eqchi Nation*)**

Involving Indigenous youth in radio

**Eden FM Radio. Eden, Southern Cape Town, South Africa. (*Khoisan Nation*)**

Promoting Khoisan traditional knowledge through archeology and radio

**Bush FM Radio. South Africa. (*Khoi Nation*)**

Promoting Indigenous cultures and languages

**Radio Kipa. Saraguro, Ecuador. (*Kichwa Nation*)**

Starting a new community radio station

**Radio Chiquixji. Alta Verapaz, Guatemala. (*Maya Q'eqchi' Nation*)**

Strengthening capacity in radio of Indigenous youth and women.

**Radio Jolom Konob. Santa Eulalia, Huehuetenango, Guatemala. (*Maya Mam Nation*)**

Building capacity of Indigenous radio journalists

**B'alam Stereo. Cabricán, Guatemala. (*Maya Mam Nation*)**

Building capacity of radio staff, radio exchanges, and producing programs on the importance of voting.

**Radio Emisora Tuntui. Peru. (*Wampis Nation*)**

Promoting Wampi culture on air

**Community Radio Project. El Pueblo Kichwa de Sarayaku, Ecuador. (*Kichwa Nation*)**

Promoting youth and women's leadership in radio.



**Radio Experimental. Pueblo Guna Yala, Panamá. (*Guna Nation*)**

Training youth and planning to secure a radio frequency

**Radio San Pedro. Ignacio Muiba Trinidad, Beni, Bolivia. (*Mojeños Trinitarios, Canichana, Cayubaba Nations*)**

Improving radio operations

**Radio Comunitaria ODECO. Honduras. (*Garífuna Nation*)**

Promoting the rights of Garifuna communities

**Radio Ñomndaa. Guerrero, México. (*Ñomdaa Nation*)**

Evaluating 14 years of work of the station.

**Radio Cultural GI NE GÄ BUHE T'HO. Hidalgo, México. (*Ñhañus Nation*)**

Building capacity in radio production and updating equipment

**Radio Zapata. Ejido of Buena Vista, San Luis Acatlán, Guerrero, México. (*Nahuatl Nation*)**

Improving radio facilities and building capacity in radio production

**Radio Naxme. San Miguel del Progreso, Maninaltepec, Guerrero, México. (*Me'pha & Nahuatl Nations*)**

Promoting women's rights to defend Indigenous lands

**Radio Sensunat and La Voz de mi Pueblo Ahuachapan, El Salvador. (*Nahuatl Pipil Nation*)**

Strengthening the Nahuatl Pipil language through radio production

**Valley FM, Eldos FM, X-F FM, Gauteg, Northern Cape and Western Cape, South Africa. (*Khoi & San Nations*)**

Revitalizing traditional knowledge, storytelling, and art

**Red Intercultural de Comunicación de los Pueblos Indígenas, RIMCOPI, Colombia. (*Inga, Awa, Pasto y Quillasinga Nations*)**

Building technical capacity in radio production with a focus on local histories and traditional medicine

**Centro de Investigación en Comunicación Comunitaria, Oaxaca, Guerrero y Edo. Mexico, Mexico. (*Na Savi/ Mixtecos; Me'pháá/Tlapanecos, Nahua y Ñamnkúé/Amuzgos Nations*)**

Building radio transmitters and radio antennas at a low cost

**Inga Stereo, Nariño, Colombia. (*Ina Nation*)**

Holding dialogues with elders and building capacity in radio administration and programming

**Instituto Intercultural ÑhoÑho, Querétaro, Mexico. (*Ñhno Ñhno Nation*)**

Involving Indigenous women in radio; promoting Indigenous languages; purchasing a radio transmitter.

**Radio Tsinaka, Puebla, Mexico. (*Nahua Nation*)**

Involving Indigenous women in radio; promoting Indigenous languages; purchasing a radio transmitter.

**Radio Tuklik, Yucatán, Mexico. (*Maya Yucatec Nation*)**

Promoting Indigenous women's voices on the radio by establishing a station and organizing technical trainings

**Ximai, Hidalgo, Mexico. (*Ñāñhu Nation*)**

Building capacity in Indigenous rights, women's rights, radio production, and strategic planning

**Nepal Indigenous Network. (*Tharu, Gurung, Tamang, Magar, Sherpa, Sunuwar, Awadhi, Urdu et al Nations*)**

Training member stations in investigative journalism and accessing radio frequencies.

**Indigenous Media and Communications Caucus, United Nations.**

Conducting a global study on the State of Indigenous Community Radio in 19 countries in collaboration with Radio Jenpoj

**Red Centroamericana de Radios Indígenas, Central America. (*Maya, Lenca, Garífuna, Bri Bri, Boruca, Kuna, Miskito, Rama*)**

Strategic planning for the annual gathering of Central American Indigenous radios and sustainability plans

## KEEPERS OF THE EARTH —

**Hogares Caldonio CEFIC, Colombia. (*Nasa*)**

Teaching about Places of Cultural and Spiritual Importance on Nasa Lands

**Unión de Médicos Yageceros de la Amazonía Colombiana (UMIYAC), Colombia. (*Siona, Coreguaje, Inga, Kamentsá, Cofán*)**

Revitalizing of Ancestral Knowledge and Promoting Community, Women's and Environmental Health

**Asentamiento Ancestral Cofani Sinangoe, Ecuador. (*Al'Cofan*)**

Protecting Traditional Lands through the Sinangoe Community Guard Project

**La Nacion Sapara de Ecuador (NASE), Ecuador. (*Sapara*)**

Protecting the Lands and Cultures of Sapara Communities

**Asociación de Mujeres Yamaram Nua, Ecuador. (*Shuar*)**

Building a Ceremonial Center for Shuar Women to Share Knowledge and Gain Spiritual, Cultural and Economic Empowerment

**Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador (CONAIE), Ecuador. (*Tsáchila, Chachi, Epera, Awa, Quichua, Shuar, Achuar, Shiwiar, Cofán, Siona, Secoya, Zápara, Andoa y Waorani, Afro-Ecuadorians*)**

Mobilizing Our Leaders

**Fundacion Indigena Comunitaria, Honduras. (*Lenca*)**

Training Indigenous Attorneys in Indigenous Law at the Indigenous and Peoples' University

**ARHI's Folk Culture Research Centre of North East India, India. (*Karbi*)**

Revitalization of Natural Dyeing Tradition of the Karbi Tribe



**Área de Mujeres y Parteras de la Organización de Médicos Indígenas del Estado de Chiapas (OMIECH), Mexico. (*Tsotsil, Tseltal*)**

Strengthening Traditional Indigenous Midwifery

**Makxtum Kgalhaw Chuchutsipi, Mexico. (*Tutunakú*)**

Defending the Ajajalpan River

**Comité Istepecano en Defensa de la Vida y el Territorio, Mexico. (*Binizá/Zapotec*)**

Implementation of the Guidxi Layú Agroecological Campesino School

**Consejo Regional Wixárika por la Defensa de Wirikuta (CRW) Mexico. (*Wirárika*)**

Defending Wirikuta

**Center for Indigenist Development in the Philippines (CDev-Phil), Philippines. (*Teduray, Lambangian*)**

Documenting Teduray Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices on Birthing in Relation to the Environment

**The Mulokot Foundation, Suriname. (*Wayana*)**

Developing an Engagement Strategy with Wayana Peoples

**Eastern Woodlands Rematriation Collective (EWRC), USA. (*Maliseet, Mi'kmaq, Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Nipmuc, Wampanoag, Narragansett*)**

Wabanaki Apothecary Expansion Project

**Ekvn-Yefolecv, USA. (*Maskoke*)**

Ekvn-Yefolecv Maskoke Ecovillage – Aquaculture Project

**Central Campesina Ch'orti' Nuevo Día, Guatemala and Honduras. (*Maya Cho'rti'* and Coordinadora Nacional Ancestral de Derechos Indígenas Maya Ch'orti' - *Maya Cho'rti'*)**

Strengthening Traditional Knowledge about Water

**El Frente Nacional de Pueblos Indígenas (FRENAPI), Costa Rica. (*Huetar, Maleku, Bribri, Cabécar, Brunca, Ngöbe, Teribe, Chorotega*)**

Organizing the First National Indigenous Congress (Primer Congreso Nacional Indígena)

**Asamblea de Pueblos Indígenas por la Soberanía Alimentaria en México (APISA), México.**

4th International Indigenous Corn Conference and 22nd Corn and Native Seeds Fair

**Red Nacional en Defensa del Agua, Panamá. (*Ngäbe, Buglé, Naso, Teribe*)**

Exchanging Experiences of Communities Affected by Dams

**Mountain Indigenous Knowledge Center (MIKC), India. (*Tangkhul Naga*)**

Transmitting Indigenous Knowledge Along the Indian-Burmese Border

**Ki'kotemal TV, Guatemala. (*Maya Mam, K'iche*)**

Creating Videos to Promote K'iche' Language Learning Online

**Yuku Savi, Mexico. (*Mixteco*)**

Strengthening Indigenous Culture and Capital Through Expo Fair

**Asociación Jardín Botánico Las Delicias, Colombia. (*Pueblo Misak*)**

Rescuing Indigenous Heritage through Environmental Preservation

**Asociación de Cabildos Indígenas Norte del Cauca (ACIN), Colombia. (*Nasa*)**

Implementing a Local Economy System

**Nepal Tamang Women Ghedung, Nepal. (*Tamang*)**

Protecting Indigenous Women from Trafficking Through Educational Programs

**Munanai, South Africa. (*Khoekhoe*)**

Strengthening the Khoekhoe Language

**Agrupación de Derechos Humanos Xochitépetl, Mexico. (*Nahua y Otomí*)**

Empowering Women Politically Through Leadership Training

**El Centro Profesional Indígena de Asesoría, Defensa y Traducción (CEPIADET), Mexico. (*Mixteco*)**

Creating Economic Solidarity in Oaxaca

## Where Are Our Grant Partners?







*Fellow Ronald Epieyuu (Wayuu) interviewing an elder.*



*Fellows from the Kankuamo Youth Commission making media magic.*

## 2019 Indigenous Community Media Youth Fellows

**Liza Francis Henríquez and Jeyson Adonis Miranda** (*Miskitu*) from Radio Yapti Tasba in Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua

**Ronald José Fernández Epieyuu** (*Wayuu*) from Utay Stereo in Guajira, Colombia

**Manuel David Loja Pugo, Jessica Tatiana Sarango Rumipulla, Cristofer Arévalo Rumipulla,** (*Kichwa*) from Radio Kimsakocha in Cuenca, Ecuador

**Martha Ortiz Gómez** (*Maya Mam*) from Radio Nan Pix, in San Ildelfonso Ixtahuacan, Guatemala

**José Samuel López Pérez, Feliciano Carolina Raymundo Laynez, Diego Cobo Bernal, Petrona Raymundo Cobo** (*Ixil*), from Q'Ajsab' Yol Tenam in Nebaj, Guatemala

**Kankuamo Youth Commission** (*Kankuamo*) from Atanquez, Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta, Colombia

# Community Media Youth Fellows



*Cultural Survival has given me wings to think about advocacy for my people. Participating in the UN Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues showed me how far I can go with my dreams. Thanks to the fellowship for giving me the opportunity to work with our elders, and with youth and children. It has been rewarding to share our work with Wayuu people. It is very gratifying to see youth making a significant change that is very helpful to our culture to strengthen our identity.*

*During the development of the project, the most special thing was to be in the field as part of the investigation process, listening to the elders, sitting for hours to hear their stories and hopeful hearts who continue to cling and not forget our customs. I have [also] developed skills in editing and learned many things that I could apply.” -- Ronald Epieyu (Wayuu), 2019 Fellow from Utay Stereo, Colombia*



*In journalism, one always learns. My experience with the fellowship is that it helped me become more fluent in my language. It was an impactful experience to produce radio content in Miskitu. The program will not end with the end of the project but will continue forward.” -- Jeyson Adonis Miranda (Miskito), 2019 Fellow from Radio Yapti Tasba, Nicaragua*

*Youth fellows from Kankuamo Youth Commission (Kankuamo) in Atanquez, Sierra Nevada, Santa Marta, Colombia, learning new skills.*



“ We want to thank Cultural Survival because we learned about journalism and community media. Twelve youth received training in tools management in computers, which we greatly appreciate. We Kankuamos are in the process of recovering our mother tongue. In our language we only know phrases and short words; we are not fluent. Our goal is to continue creating more programs to reach more people and do more for our people to recover our Kankuamo language and culture.” -- Kankuamo Youth Commission from Radio Stereo Tayrona, Colombia

“ Since I was a child, I wanted to make movies and videos because when my father migrated to the United States he sent me a camera. With that, I started recording documentaries. That continues to be my dream, but now I want to show the struggles of my village and show our culture. Through audiovisual tools, we can give and learn who we are, how our people have formed, our territory, our language. That is the idea for which I want to be known. The support we have received from Cultural Survival has opened doors for us, where we’ve learned to speak through audiovisual media. It is a collective achievement of our dreams.” -- José Samuel López Pérez (Ixil) from Q’Ajsab’ Yol Tenam organization, Guatemala

“ There are not many women who decide to participate in communication or join an organization strictly for being a woman, perhaps because they feel weak or unsafe, and do not have the incentive to say to themselves that they can. I was able to participate in two diploma workshops for Indigenous women and learned the individual and collective rights of Indigenous women. I was able to be a voice on the community radio ACODIM Nan Pix and replicate my experience on individual and collective rights of Indigenous women. I developed a radio program on this topic so that listeners will know more about Indigenous women’s rights and to honor the women who have lost their way, in honor of the women who have lost their lives for change”. -- Martha Gomez Ortiz (Maya Mam) ACODIM Nan Pix, Guatemala

“ From this project we managed to understand elders of the community and get them to express their needs and feelings that sometimes out of fear they cannot do. It helped us to become aware that as Indigenous youth we are both losing and adopting new cultures without realizing that our culture is unique. We must recover it and be proud of where we come from.” --Jessica Sarango Rumipulla (Kichwa), Radio Kimsakochoa, Ecuador

# This Year in Numbers



## PROGRAMMATIC FOCUS AREAS (8):

freedom of expression;  
community media;  
Indigenous languages;  
Indigenous youth;  
Indigenous women;  
traditional knowledge;  
climate change;  
human rights



## OUR TEAM:

**24** staff    **17 (71%)** women

**14** Indigenous staff

**9** Indigenous women



**47 YEARS**

of work



**4 OUT OF 4 STARS**

Charity Navigator



## INDIGENOUS RIGHTS RADIO:

Released more than **160** radio  
programs on Indigenous rights  
to **1,000+** stations  
in **69** countries

## ADVOCACY:

Submitted **8** reports to the Universal  
Periodic Review (UPR) and UN Treaty  
Bodies on human rights issues in El  
Salvador, Honduras, Panama, Mexico,  
Chile, Colombia, and the U.S.



# REACH:

## *Community Media Program:*

- **34** projects in **13** countries, and a global project. Total radio partners: **71**
- Supported **6** youth fellowships in **4** countries (Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua)
- Trained **80+** Indigenous women in radio production and journalism
- Funded **35** community media projects in **9** countries totaling **\$210,000**

## *Keepers of the Earth Fund:*

- Funded **30** projects in **13** countries totaling **\$136,549** to support Indigenous Peoples' community advocacy and development projects

## *Cultural Survival Bazaars:*

- **68** artist partners representing **4,356** artists from **99** cultures and **33** countries
- Generated **\$493,358** for Indigenous artists and communities



Grant partner ARHI Social & Educational Institution (Karbi Nation) in India used Keepers of the Earth funds to revitalize natural dyeing traditions.

# Our Team

## STAFF

**Galina Angarova** (*Buryat*), Executive Director

**Suzanne Benally** (*Navajo and Santa Clara Tewa*), Executive Director (through June 2019)

**Mark Camp**, Deputy Executive Director

**Yesmi Ajanel** (*Maya K'iche'*), Program Assistant

**Maru Chávez Fonseca**, Indigenous Rights Radio Program Manager (through July 2019)

**Jessie Cherofsky**, Bazaar Program Manager

**Avexnim Cojti** (*Maya K'iche'*), Community Media Program Manager

**Danielle DeLuca**, Advocacy and Development Manager

**Shaldon Ferris** (*KhoiSan*), Indigenous Rights Radio Coordinator

**Sofia Flynn**, Accounting and Office Manager

**Nati Garcia** (*Maya Mam*), Indigenous Youth Community Media Fellowship Coordinator

**Cesar Gomez** (*Maya Pocomam*), Community Media Program Coordinator

**Adriana Hernández**, (*Maya K'iche'*), Executive Assistant

**Dev Kumar Sunuwar** (*Koĩts-Sunuwar*), Community Media Grants Project Assistant

**Danae Laura**, Bazaar Program Manager

**Bia'ni Madsa' Juárez López** (*Mixe/Ayuuk ja'ay and Zapotec/Binnizá*), Keepers of the Earth Fund Project Manager

**Jamie Malcolm-Brown**, Communications and Information Technology Manager

**Teresita Orozco Mendoza**, Community Media Training Coordinator

**Cat Monzón** (*Maya K'iche'*), Executive Assistant

**Diana Pastor**, (*Maya K'iche'*), Central América Media Coordinator

**Agnes Portalewska**, Communications Manager

**Angelica Rao**, Human Resources Coordinator

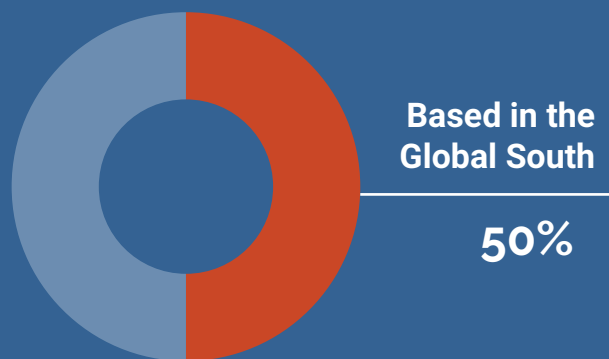
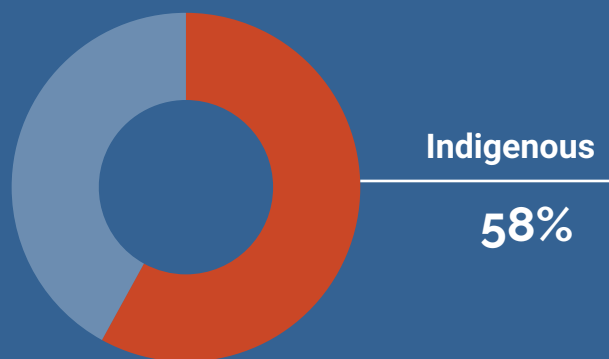
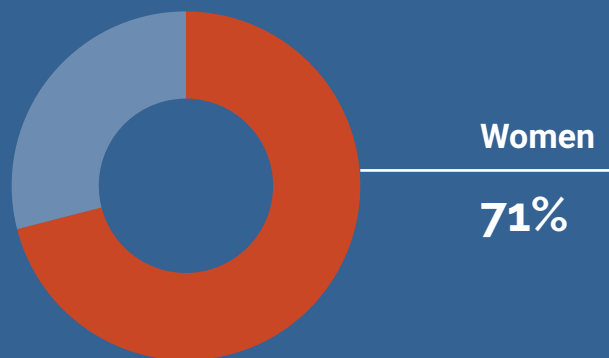
**Melissa Stevens**, Director of Philanthropic Partnerships (through August 2019)

**María del Rosario "Rosy" Sul González** (*Kaqchiquel Maya*), Indigenous Rights Radio Coordinator

**Sócrates Vásquez García** (*Ayuujk Jääy, Pueblo Ayuujk*), Community Media Grants Coordinator

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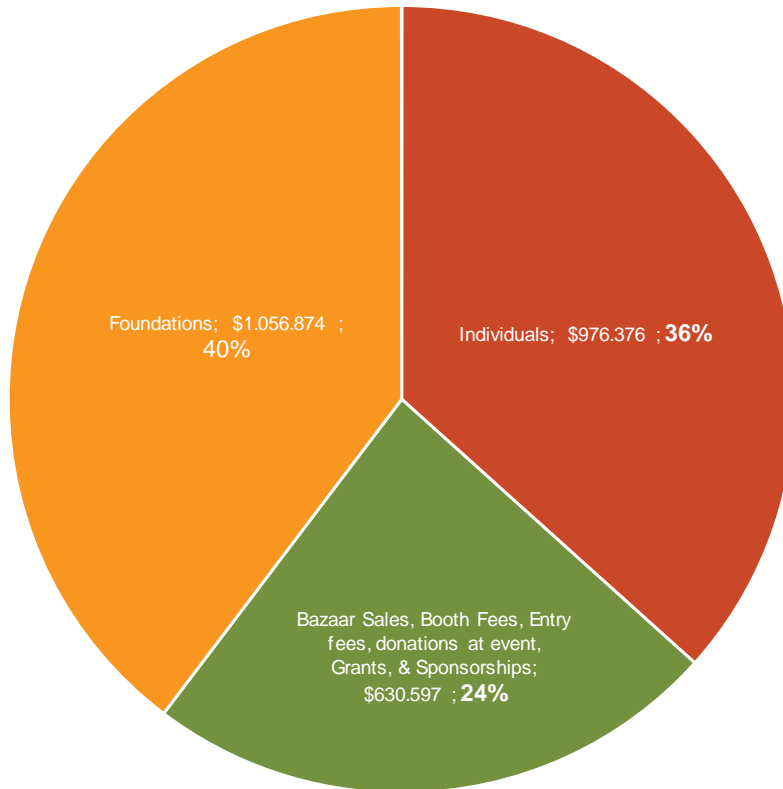


*L-R: Cultural Survival Staff Bia'ni Madsa' Juárez Lopez (Mixe/Ayuuk ja'ay and Zapotec/Binnizà), Jessie Cherofsky, Bazaar artist host Martine Gougau, and Bazaar artists Alexandrine (Madagascar) and Timoteo Carita (Peru)*



# FY 2019 Financials

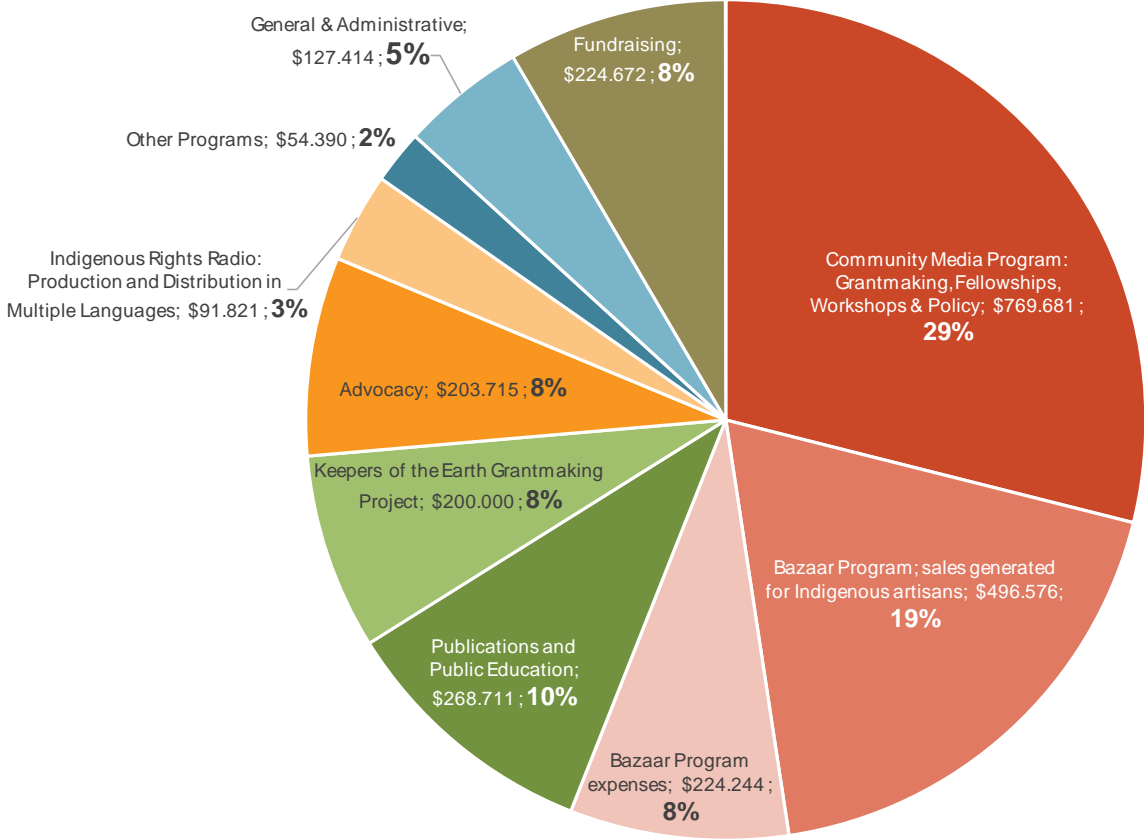
## REVENUES



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**TOTAL REVENUES \$2,666,338**

# EXPENSES



TOTAL EXPENSES **\$2,661,224**



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