

NAYA GENERATIONS INTERGENERATIONAL HOUSING AND REGIONAL EARLY LEARNING ACADEMY

NAYA Generations is a **comprehensive community development project** designed around an early learning center, community longhouse, and intergenerational housing community in the Native American tradition, bringing foster children, permanent families and elders together into a mutually supportive and service-intensive community. The obsolete Foster Elementary School, a 3.5 acre site in the Lents neighborhood in SE Portland, was secured through a long term lease agreement between Portland Public Schools (PPS), the City of Portland and the Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA).

Past disruptions of the Native American community continue to shape the urban Native experience in the Metro Region, and in particular in Multnomah County, as Native families suffer from poverty and unemployment at greater rates than all other groups.

There is a vital need to reconnect the social and cultural fabric to prepare the next generation of Native children of this growing urban population for cultural, social, educational and economic success. This starts with permanent, community-supportive homes for our most vulnerable children in the foster care system. The *Communities of Color in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile* report produced by the Coalition of Communities of Color and PSU, indicates that **one in five Native American children in Multnomah County is placed in foster care.**

In addition to barriers related to poverty levels and affordable housing, Native children are less likely to have access to early childhood education, leading to educational disparities that ultimately lead to average high school graduation rates well below the average levels for Portland Public Schools. The overall graduation rate for students in Portland Public Schools is 74%, while it is 51% for Native American students.

The NAYA Generations site will include an Intergenerational Community, including 40 units of affordable housing for seniors and families looking to adopt (or permanently place) children out of the foster system, and a Regional Early Learning Academy/Longhouse community center, a facility jointly operated by PPS and NAYA offering early childhood learning and wrap-around family services to underserved outer SE Portland. The project will be culturally specific, open to all, and will serve some of the Native community's most vulnerable and valuable members – early learners, elders, working families, and children in foster care/child welfare.

The current development schedule anticipates that the Intergenerational Community (IGC) will be constructed starting in fall 2015, completed in 2016, and that the Regional Early Learning Academy and Longhouse will be constructed starting fall 2018, completed in summer 2019.



The collaboration between the Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA), Portland Public Schools (PPS) and the City of Portland led NAYA Generations to be designated a 2014 Oregon Solutions project by the Governor of the State of Oregon, and allowed for an innovative and inclusive planning process.

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Early Learning Academy Project Estimated Funding Sources:

NAYA/PPS SHARED FUNDING

PPS CAPITAL	\$ 2,594,830
PPS LAND	\$ 780,000
NAYA CAPITAL	<u>\$ 2,249,887</u>
	\$ 5,624,717

LEVERAGED FUNDING

NMTC BENEFIT	\$ 3,182,542
PDC GRANT	\$ 195,000
LOCAL PUBLIC	\$ 500,000
GAP	<u>\$ 5,000,000</u>

TOTAL \$14,502,259

****State Funding request \$5 million for construction**

Portland Public Schools and NAYA are seeking state support to help leverage other funding opportunities, including federal New Market Tax Credits. For more information, please contact:

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