

CULTURE FORWARD



IX. HOW WE KEEP MOVING: CULTURE FORWARD

CULTURE FORWARD FIVE CORE THEMES



In order to protect our Native young people, we need a unified movement with support from youth, parents, teachers, grassroots leaders, tribal leaders, traditional healers, Elders, two-spirit leaders, health and human service providers and more.

1. **OUR NETWORKS HARNESS BELONGING AND HELP KEEP US SAFE.**
2. **CONNECTIONS TO OUR LANDS AND ELDERS ALLOW US TO THRIVE.**
3. **TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE HOLDS THE KEYS TO HEALTH AND HEALING.**
4. **NATIVE YOUTH LEAD US TO RECLAIM OUR AUTONOMY AND WELL-BEING.**
5. **SELF-DETERMINATION EMPOWERS US TO FIGHT.**

CULTURE FORWARD provides a starting place, where our Native youth thrive, pave the way for future generations of our tribal communities and continue to lead us in impactful global movements. We are committed to weaving together our collective knowledge, existing resources and diverse voices. Our goal is not just to prevent Native youth suicide, but to hold up the strengths of our communities and cultures. Please join us in this movement for a positive future for all of our communities.

We respectfully acknowledge and express our deepest gratitude for all who participated in the listening sessions and our National Advisory Editorial Board members for sharing their wisdom and guiding this project.

This report was made possible in collaboration with Casey Family Programs, whose mission is to provide, improve – and ultimately prevent the need for – foster care.

The findings and conclusions presented in this report are those of the authors alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Casey Family Programs.