

CDFI INNOVATION PRIZE APPLICATION

Making Collateralized Lending Possible in Indian Country

FOUR DIRECTIONS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



WHO WE ARE

Four Directions is a Native American CDFI (Community Development Financial Institution) and CDC that has been serving tribal members and tribal communities for 15 years. Formed by the Wabanaki Tribes of Maine, Four Directions (FDDC) has developed innovative loan products and technical assistance services both at the individual and tribal/community level. For tribal members living in Maine, FDDC serves as a U.S. Treasury-certified lender primarily for on/off-reservation home loans. Four Directions has piloted and begun to formalize two different unique lending models allowing for significantly increased homeownership possibilities and financing on tribal lands. Collateralized lending on tribal lands is considered impossible by most lenders. Four Directions has found ways to create legal arrangements with tribes that allow for secure, collateralized lending to take place on tribal lands, while still maintaining and supporting tribal sovereignty.
