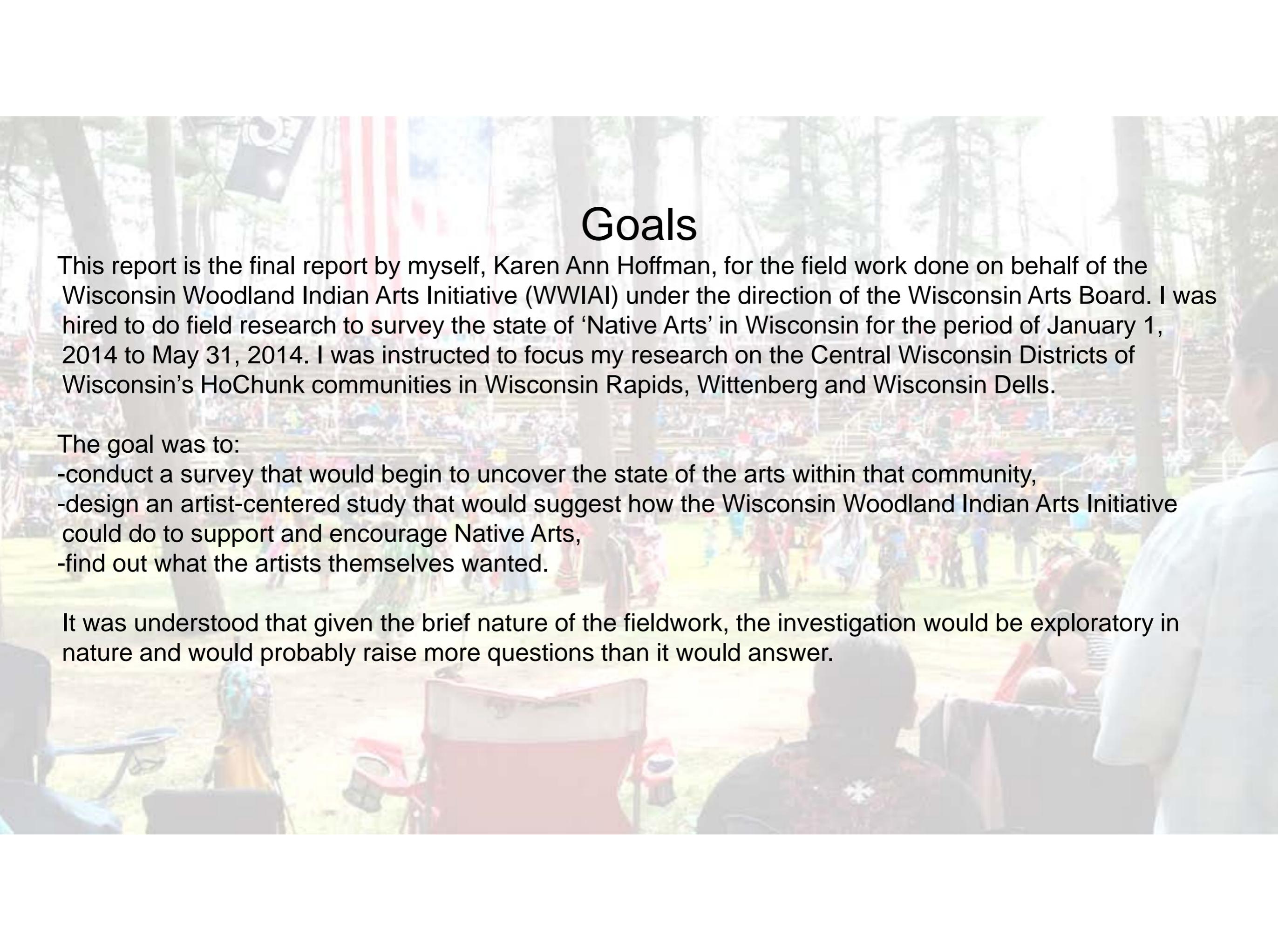


Wisconsin Woodland Indian Arts Initiative

Fieldwork in central Wisconsin completed by Karen Ann Hoffman



Goals

This report is the final report by myself, Karen Ann Hoffman, for the field work done on behalf of the Wisconsin Woodland Indian Arts Initiative (WWIAI) under the direction of the Wisconsin Arts Board. I was hired to do field research to survey the state of 'Native Arts' in Wisconsin for the period of January 1, 2014 to May 31, 2014. I was instructed to focus my research on the Central Wisconsin Districts of Wisconsin's HoChunk communities in Wisconsin Rapids, Wittenberg and Wisconsin Dells.

The goal was to:

- conduct a survey that would begin to uncover the state of the arts within that community,
- design an artist-centered study that would suggest how the Wisconsin Woodland Indian Arts Initiative could do to support and encourage Native Arts,
- find out what the artists themselves wanted.

It was understood that given the brief nature of the fieldwork, the investigation would be exploratory in nature and would probably raise more questions than it would answer.

Methods

Outreach Methods: phone, email, personal networking, internet searches, field visits, FaceBook

Cold called and interviewed area artists.

Posted a "Looking for HoChunk artists" call on my Facebook page.

Also posted this query on the HoChunk Nation's Facebook page.

Phoned the *Hocak Worak* (the nation's newspaper).

Explained our project to the editor and asked for a notice to be included in the paper.

Emailed the editor an article for possible inclusion.

Searched the internet for contacts.

Reached out, via email, to HoChunk listings found on the "Indian Arts and Crafts Board's" website.

"Google Searched" for HoChunk artists. Reached out to these individuals by phone and email.

Visited an ad hoc "art sale" in the hallway of the HoChunk Casino in Baraboo, WI

Spoke about the project at the Wisconsin Arts Board Winter Listening Session in Wausau and Arts Day hosted by Arts Wisconsin in Madison.

Responses

The Facebook posts led to two referrals for interviews. The interviews were accomplished by phone, Facebook messages and email.

Facebook also led to two direct responses from HoChunk artists (Jodi Webster and Jennifer Jones). Interviews with these artists were conducted through Facebook messages and follow up phone calls and personal interview.

The outreach to *Hocak Worak* has yielded no results.

Outreach to artists listed in the Indian Arts and Crafts Board website led me to the HoChunk nation's Business Department. The lead was not productive.

Outreach to individual artists gleaned from the internet have had varying results.

Emails and website contacts have gone largely unanswered with one exception-contact was established with photographer Tom Jones.

Field visit to the ad hoc art sale resulted in interviews with artist/vendors.



Top Line Results January-May 31, 2014

9 Communities Visited for Field Interviews

Westfield. Keshena. Wittenberg. Bowler. Madison. Wisconsin Dells. Oshkosh. Stevens Point. Milwaukee.

25 FORMAL Personal Interviews

Ron Anderson-Traditional Artist/Singer/Drummer. Linda Lou Metoxen-Silversmith. Juniper Anderson-Dancer/Painter. Cypress Anderson-Dancer/Pen & Ink. Sequoiah Anderson-Drawing. Lanette Walker-Educator. Larry Walker-Singer/Drummer. BreeAnna Walker-Beader. Kimberly Whitewater-Life Skills Coach. Edi Calduae-Jewelry. Angela Hindsley-Beadwork/Vendor. Charles Hindsley-Beadwork/Vendor. Jayne Crom for Dennis Lewis-Beadwork/Business Owner. Jo Ann Schendler-Writer. Bonnie Hartley-Writer. Betty Schiel-Writer. Misty Cook-Writer. Molly Miller-Writer/Poet. Alan Caldwell-Writer. Rodrick Elm-Iroquois Raised Beader. Robert Messner-musician. Mike Hoffman-artist. Brian Szabo-Bone and Silver artist. Jodi Webster-Painter.

8 Phone Interviews (* denotes extensive interview)

Tom Jones-Photography*. Melanie Talmadge Sainz-HoChunk traditional arts*. Dawn DarkMountain-Watercolorist*. Alan Cloud-Black-Ash Baskets/Singer/Drummer*. Sharon Cloud-HoChunk style Dresses, Beadwork/Business Owner*. Fletcher Collins-Quill Work. HoChunk Business Department (Ken Lewis). Jennifer Jones-Dream Catchers/Business Owner.

14 INFORMAL Personal Interviews

Christie Isom -Beader. Gina Washiniwatok- Beader/ Art Teacher. Mrs. Grignon-Painter. Jean Ann Day-Writer. Roxanne Talmadge-Traditional HoChunk arts. Bonnie Prescott-Beader. Brenda John-Traditional Iroquois Potter. Diana Petersen-Photographer. Susan Brandstetter-Painter. Alex 'Guaragua'ko' (Hawk Eye) Zacarias-videographer.

4 FaceBook Interviews/Research

Kyla Wallenfang-Oneida. Salisha Saiz Ninham-Beader/Business Owner. Barbara BlackDeer McKenzie-WIEA. Woodland Arts Alliance of Indianapolis, IN (Duane & Mary Prescott) Painter/Business Owners.

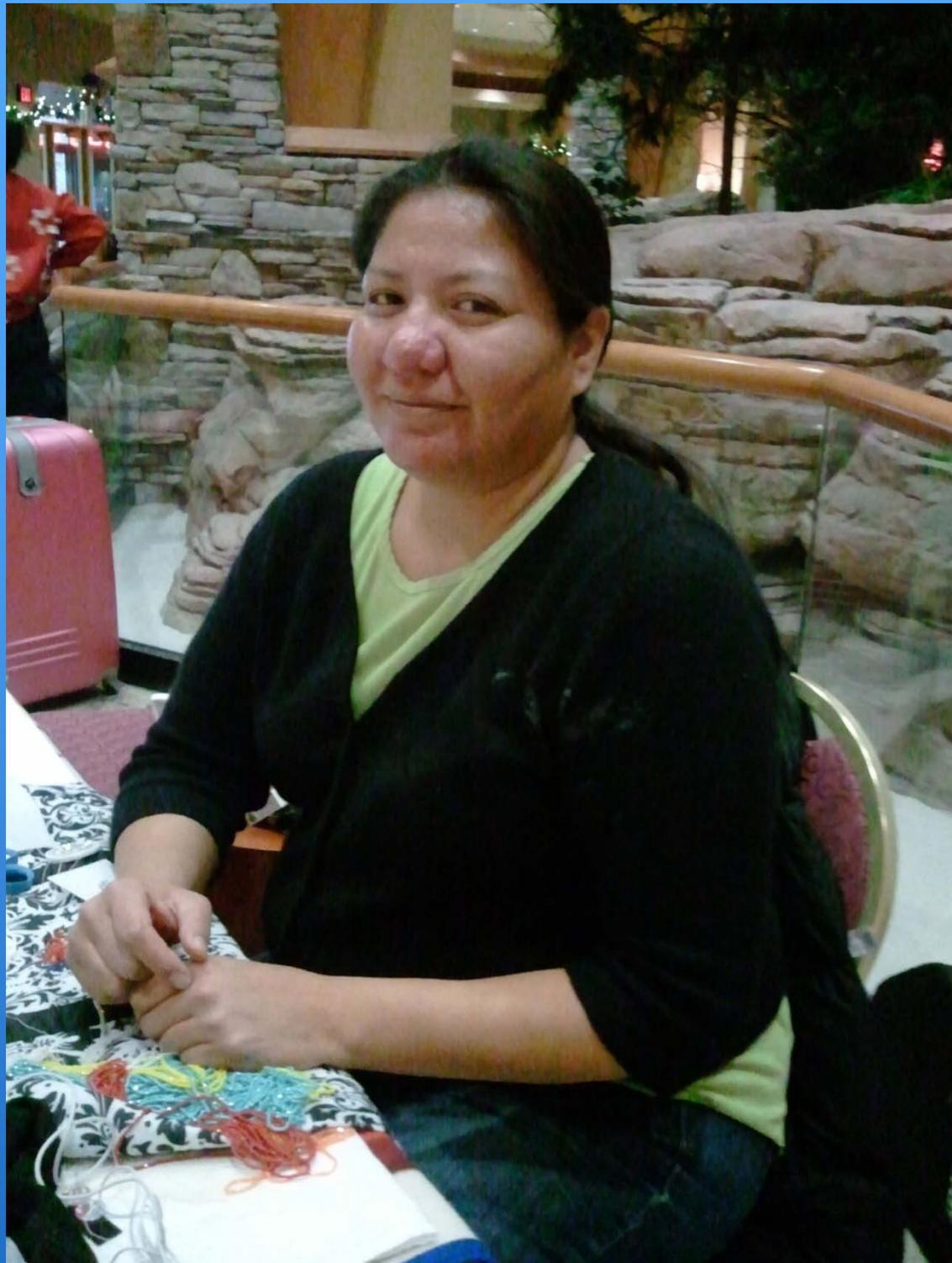
1 Presentation attended

Joy Harjo-Muskogee Poet

10 Organizational Connections

Wisconsin Indian Education Association (WIEA). HoChunk Nation-President's Office. HoChunk Nation-Business Department. HoChunk Nation-*HoCak Worak* (Newspaper). Arts Wisconsin. Wausau Festival of the Arts. Definitely DePere. BuyLocalArt.com. Cindy Freitag-NorthEast WI Tech College "Artisan Business Coach". Sarah Pischer-Regional Tourism Specialist/Wisconsin Department of Tourism.

Ho Chunk Artists



They sell their work at the HoChunk Casino in Wisconsin Dells as well as the Business Office building in Black River Falls.

**Angela Hindsley and Charles Hindsley
Beadwork Artists and Vendors**



2honestinjuns - business name
sell work primarily on eBay

**Jayne Crom for Dennis Lewis
Beadwork/Business Owner**



Anderson Family -

**Ron Anderson-Traditional Artist/Singer/Drummer. Linda Lou Metoxen-Silversmith
Juniper Anderson-Dancer/Painter. Cypress Anderson-Dancer/Pen & Ink.
Sequoia Anderson-Drawing**



Lawrence Walker, Jr.
Wittenberg, WI



BreeAnna Walker with beaded backpack
Wittenberg, WI



Anthony Gauthier

Walls of Wittenberg



Melanie Talmadge Sainz
Little Eagle Arts Foundation



Jodi Webster
Painting and Drawing

Mohican, Oneida,
Menominee and
Lakota artists

DID YOU EVER WANT TO RESEARCH YOUR FAMILY THROUGH PICTURES?



American Indians and the Civil War



Official National Park Service Handbook

- 1) W
- 2) R

Tribal History
The Arvid E. Miller Memorial Library photos Creating a book of tribal family gatherings. Please get the word out



(cont'd from other side) Jeanne tells the agonizing PTSD from the viewpoint of an American Indian autobiography follows Jeanne as she attempts to address and uncovers what lies inside her until late in life when she suffers a mini-stroke or what "God's Shock Treatment."

The author, Rennie Fellows, is an 81 year old great grandmother based in Wisconsin. Her book may be purchased @ <http://SBPRA.com/RennieFellows> or contact her at www.theonlygoodindian.net

Call (725) 793-1270
Misty Cook, Project

Mohican Writer's Circle
Stockbridge Munsee Reservation



Betty Putman Schiel reading her prose at the
Mohican Writers' Circle, Bowler, WI



“Never Alone”

watercolor by
Dawn Darkmountain

beadwork by
Karen Ann Hoffman



Karen Ann Hoffman, Oneida
Iroquois Raised Beadwork



Rodrick Elm, Oneida
Iroquois Raised Beader



Robert Messner, Oneida
Musician



Mike Hoffman, Menominee and Ottawa
Ceramics, spoons, cultural items



Brian Szabo, Sicangu Lakota (Wisconsin resident)
Bone and Silverwork

Respondent Generated Recommendations

Education

Education in two broad categories: Skills Enhancement and Enrichment Experiences. Skills Enhancement was for training in bookkeeping, marketing and business organizational skills. Enrichment Experience requests included funding for exposure to concerts, plays and dance performances.

Documentation and Preservation of Traditional Skills

Document and preserve traditional skills through an apprenticeship program, such as WAB's, and by reaching out to elders and capturing their traditional knowledge.

Sales support

Create ways to showcase and sell art. Requests for gallery space, gift shop or cooperative, and exhibition opportunities came most often from the group of artists desiring to 'make a living from our art'. Also, on line opportunities.

As an example, one artist is selling her home in Wisconsin and moving to Santa Fe, NM in pursuit of sales opportunities. The artist cites weak opportunities for exhibition and sales in Wisconsin contrasted with the strong Native American art market, gallery venues and attendant sales opportunities in other locations. Her financial reports show that, despite the high number of shows and markets in which she participates across our state, the vast majority of her sales come from activities outside of Wisconsin and in particular from localities with high end gallery opportunities.

Networking

Looking for artists whose work a marketer could sell. Looking to develop cooperative sales opportunities. Looking to connect with employment opportunities. Looking for ways to connect with other artists.

Personal Grants

Direct grants to artists for personal projects, to pay for lessons, pay for supplies or pay for travel expenses or jury fees.

ReGranting to Tribal Arts Communities

Funds could be given to existing tribal arts organizations for re-granting purposes or to hire a professional fundraiser. The goal would be to generate "significant funds" housed within a stand alone Native Arts Foundation.