

AGNESE NELMS HAURY PROGRAM

INDIGENOUS RESILIENCE (IR) INITIATIVE 2020–2025

ABOUT

The Agnese Nelms Haury Program (the Haury Program) is a University of Arizona-embedded philanthropic program established in 2014 with what was at that time the largest bequest ever received by the University. The Haury Program is governed by an external Donor Advised Fund Board. Since 2020, the Haury Program has been focusing on advancing Indigenous resilience, especially environmental resilience and water work.

FACT: Though Native Americans represent nearly three percent of the US population, currently less than one percent of philanthropic dollars explicitly benefits Native Americans.

(Source: The Bridgespan Group in partnership with Native Americans in Philanthropy, May 2025)

By leveraging University of Arizona excellence and resources, the Haury Program invests in people and programs at the University of Arizona, as well as community partnerships and Native Nations directly, thus putting the University of Arizona land grant mission into action.




\$9 million
Invested


\$36+ million
Leveraged


40+
Current U of A and community partners

WATER IS LIFE.

“In 2025, the Haury Program further narrowed our work to center water work as it connects to Indigenous environmental resilience. Why water? Because the University of Arizona has extraordinary strengths in this area of its research, education, and outreach. Because we are in a region with a long history of water-related challenges. Because the tribal communities we serve have tremendous knowledge and wisdom about the challenges of water conservation, and how to develop better ways of living while facing these challenges.”

—Toni Massaro, Haury Program Executive Director

OUR FUNDING PHILOSOPHY

The Haury Program seeks to model and share best practices in “university-embedded” and respectful “trust-based” philanthropy with Indigenous peoples, programs and Native Nations. This includes valuing our grantees and partners as knowledge-holders, and listening to their priorities and values. We build long-term relationships and trust, and do not grant and go. In all our funding, we encourage, expect, and model respectful engagement with tribal communities in research and projects, prioritize community-up solutions and co-creation, and request practicing reciprocity with Indigenous peoples and communities. We reduce the application and reporting burden, and focus on funding gaps as identified by our awardees.

In addition to funding, the Haury Program assists grantees and potential grantees by brokering new connections, activating grantee projects, building capacity of awardees (especially in working with other funders and communications), creating spaces and facilitating collective problem solving, as well as enhancing awardee projects with expertise and resources.

Read about Haury’s approach to trust-based philanthropy with Native Nations:



“The Haury Program has shown to be committed to Indigenous Peoples. They offered comments and suggestions on how to build stronger relationships, continue to integrate and develop impactful STEM related programs/events/ activities, and work in ways that reflect the leadership and values within our community. I truly appreciate and enjoy working with a program that is dedicated to empowering our community of San Xavier District to create positive social change and cultural preservation.”

—Carmen Martines, San Xavier District
Education Department

THREE STRATEGIC AREAS OF INVESTMENTS

1 Advance IR Through Research, Education and Outreach: Indigenous Resilience Center (IRes), 2025 U of A Center of Excellence

- Recruitment of 3 New IR Faculty Members
- 4 Professional Staff
- 4 Visiting Fellows
- IndigiPOD – Dedicated IR Space in ENR2
- Endowed Professorship in IR
- 2025 IR Research Gap Funding



2 Advance IR Academic Pathways

- 28 Graduate Research Grants
- 3 Tribal College-University Partnership Grants
- “A Student’s Journey” Transition Program
- 5 Indigenous Sustainability Mini Grants
- Graduate College’s Faculty Learning Community
- Tribal Education Forums
- Indigenous Youth STEM Programs



3 Support Community Collaborations and Partnerships

- Navajo Safe Water
- Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources Library Preservation Project
- Arizona Native Code Writers
- Pascua Yaqui / U of A Micro-campus
- Midtown Farm
- Visiting UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Native American Language Sign Initiative



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
ARIZONA INSTITUTE FOR RESILIENCE
**Agnes Nelms Haury
Program**



CONNECT WITH US

General inquires: haury@arizona.edu