



HOW CAN I HELP?

To prepare for 2016, individuals and communities can help in a variety of ways.

- As native advisors with a knowledge of regional matters
- As native medicinal people
- As western medicine people skilled for example in podiatry, chiropractics, and massage therapy for runners.
- As local organizers of layover accommodations in the path of the run
- As highly qualified mechanics for vehicles
- As support personnel at layover locations
- As local or over the road runners
- As contributors of funds and vehicles
- Communities may fundraise to host the runners.
- Fundraise to donate to the general fund



HOW CAN MY COMMUNITY GET INVOLVED?

Peace & Dignity Journeys is a run dedicated to healing our nations. The Journey strives to bring the sacred staffs to as many communities as possible. Communities, be they on reservations or in cities, have many opportunities to participate in the run. The hosting community will be responsible for arranging meals, housing and funding in the time the runners pass through. The participation of the hosting community is also intergrated into the run.

Many communities organize tributary routes that join up with one of the main Peace & Dignity Routes. In this manner, prayers of those communities join their prayers and energies within the run. If your community would like to host the sacred staffs and the runners, or if you would like to organize a tributary run, please contact a regional organizer.



CONTACTS

Region:
 Organizer Name:
 Phone:
 Email:



VISIT US ONLINE

Continental website
www.peaceanddignityjourneys.com

Texas Website:
www.txpeaceanddianity.com

PEACE AND DIGNITY JOURNEYS 2016

JORNADAS DE PAZ Y DIGNIDAD



“Food sovereignty is an affirmation of who we are as indigenous peoples and a way, one of the most surefooted ways, to restore our relationship with the world around us.”

-Winona LaDuke, Anishinaabe



North America
Alaska to Guatemala

THE PROPHECY OF THE EAGLE AND THE CONDOR



In 1990, over 200 representatives of Indigenous nations from throughout the western hemisphere met for the first time in Quito, Ecuador. There they witnessed the unfolding prophecy of the Eagle and the Condor. The inspiration of spiritual running to re-unite the nations of Turtle Island surfaced from the elders. Elders from North, Central and South America remember and talked about a prophecy that foretold how we will come together and reunite as one... "We are like a body that was broken up into pieces and this body will come back together to be whole again." Peace & Dignity Journeys became part of that realization. Through Peace & Dignity Journeys, numerous and diverse indigenous nations from throughout this continent can reunite and reclaim dignity for themselves through their traditions.



Tohono O'odham Runners – Arizona



PEACE & DIGNITY JOURNEYS

Each Journey that passes is focused on a particular theme. In 1992, the first journey was dedicated to the elders for the wisdom they have preserved. In 1996, the children, In 2000 the run was dedicated to the family and the importance of keeping communities together. 2004 was based on Women, mothers and grandmothers whom give life to our very existence. In 2008 the run was dedicated to sacred sites throughout the Americas where Indigenous people face threat to their culture and existence. In 2012 the run was dedicated to the sacred element of water as access to clean water has become difficult, expensive or limited due to erratic rain patterns.



The 2016 Peace and Dignity Journey theme will be dedicated to our seeds. The sacred medicines and foods of our ancestors are under threat now more than ever with genetic modification; ownership and climate change all effecting how we sustain our communities and ourselves. Currently, many communities are struggling with diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure and other preventable illnesses that can be attributed to a loss of our traditional diets and medicines. Many native communities are already fighting battles to keep traditional harvest sites healthy and accessible to elders and other wisdom keepers who strive to maintain our lifeways.

It is now our responsibility, the Eagle nations of the North, to manifest the prophecy, which our ancestors left for us to keep alive. We must meet our Condor relatives of the South halfway and re-establish the connection to our seeds and the sacredness of our food ways. We must invest in community health by reconnecting with the soil and the food that have nourished our grandmothers and grandfathers before us.

Many indigenous communities are now returning to decolonial diets, with many starting farming co-ops reengaging communities through workshops, seed shares, community gardens and farmers markets. Many communities are also currently reconnecting with historical and academic institutions such as museums and universities to recollect seed specimens and information on traditional plants such as indigenous names, growing season and native agricultural practices. We hope this run will contribute to intergenerational dialogues through sacred stories, medicine songs about foods and plants and a desire to see communities reestablish healthy community through a reconnection with our seeds.



**HOW CAN I
BECOME A
RUNNER?**



With each passing, Peace & Dignity Journeys makes an open invitation to runners from across the continent. Youth, elders, men, women are all invited to participate as runners. Both native and non-native people who are committed to the preservation of Native American culture are encouraged to participate. Runners may commit to run for as little as one day or the entire duration of the journey. Runners represent their nations and communities and are expected to carry themselves in a proper manner. Since the run is a sacred ceremony, runners abstain from drugs, alcohol, and sexual activity while on the journey. If you are interested in participating as a runner, contact the appropriate regional coordinator as soon as possible.