

Become an Ally and Support Indigenous Peoples

- **Do your homework.** Respectfully seek clarification and insights from indigenous people and organizations to determine what is or is not appropriate.
- **Interrupt and correct the myths, stereotypes or other false narratives.**
The most toxic myth is that Native Americans receive government benefits and get rich from casinos. This narrative has been played out over and over in popular TV shows, films and in the media, particularly over the last two decades. These portrayals have real consequences and negatively impact Native people on a daily basis.
- **Use language carefully.**
Pay attention to the language you use in conversations among your friends and co-workers. Help remove offensive phrases from your own conversations.
- **Make Native People Visible.**
When organizing meetings or events, do some research to find out what tribes traditionally occupied the land where you are meeting. At the opening of the event, acknowledge the original inhabitants.
- **Advocate for accurate Native history.**
Advocate for your state or local school board to adopt a policy to teach accurate Native American history and contemporary facts.
- **Seek a variety of Native voices.**
Recognize that one Native American voice does not speak for all Native Americans. Approach conversations with several entities for diverse opinions and input.
- **Say NO to mascots.**
Do not accept Native American-themed mascots or names in sports or commercial products. They are not honorific or respectful; they are derogatory and harmful.