WHAT IS THE NATIVE NATION REBUILDERS PROGRAM?

The Rebuilders program is a two-year, cohort-based leadership experience that equips participants with Tribal governance knowledge and advocacy skills. The program empowers Native leaders to carry out nation building projects to positively impact their communities. By nation building, we mean the processes by which a Native nation enhances its own capacity to exercise sovereignty.

Year one consists of four in-person sessions during which Rebuilders participate in leadership development exercises and learn the principles of nation building. In year two, Rebuilders implement an action plan, or a nation building-related project that benefits their home community.

The program was created in response to a need shared by many of the region’s Tribal leaders, who identified support for existing and emerging Native leaders as critical to the long-term success of their nations.

HOW DO I APPLY TO BECOME A REBUILDER?

Applications for the Native Nation Rebuilders program open each summer. For more information on applying and eligibility requirements, please visit nativegov.org or email hello@nativegov.org.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER GRADUATION?

After completing the program, graduates gain access to the Rebuilders alumni network. Native Governance Center provides alumni with a variety of opportunities to stay connected with their cohort members, in addition to chances to engage with Rebuilders from other cohorts. Rebuilders program alumni receive priority access to Native Governance Center professional development events and networking experiences.

“The Rebuilders program is life changing. My perspective on the world of Tribal politics has been broadened and empowered.”

—Sunshine Carlow, Cohort 7 Native Nation Rebuilder
“The Native Nation Rebuilders program empowered me to reclaim Indigenous values and practices by learning about the successes of other Tribal nations.”

—Cante Heart, Cohort 9 Native Nation Rebuilder