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Speaker Pelosi invests in Urban Indian services in FY23 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Funding will provide housing, healthcare, and services at new SF development

San Francisco, CA – Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) has secured \$750,000 for an urban Indian development as part of the Fiscal Year 2023. Known as The Village SF, the development will provide housing, healthcare, community gathering space, and social services for the more than 9,000 Native Americans and Alaska Natives living in San Francisco.

"In California, the majority of Native peoples live in cities," said Friendship House Executive Director, Gabriel Pimentel (Chiricahua Apache), "yet the much needed services that help our people heal and thrive have always been underfunded."

Friendship House is the oldest urban Indian services organization in the U.S. Slated to open in 2025, The Village SF will be a six-story building in the heart of the Mission District, located alongside the existing Friendship House building. The two buildings will share a courtyard, and create a space of gathering and services for San Francisco's Native peoples.

"The Village SF is a vision by and for Indian people," said Pimentel. "So many of our community members have been displaced by centuries of harmful policy. This is our answer to providing a community for the thousands of Native peoples who call San Francisco home."

"Speaker Pelosi has been a longtime champion of Friendship House," said Pimentel. "Our founder, Helen Waukazoo, and the Speaker forged a powerful collaboration, and we are deeply grateful for her dedication to our vision and work."

The Village SF is a holistic response to the needs of San Francisco's urban Indians. It will include: workforce development; nutrition services; transitional housing; traditional and western medicine; community space; substance use recovery, including the Women's Lodge dedicated to keeping mothers and children together during treatment; youth center; elders gathering place; and a rooftop farm.

"The Village SF is more than just a building, it's a place for community connection, tradition and culture," said Pimentel. "Through the help of our partners like Speaker Pelosi, we are building a strong and supportive environment for San Francisco's Native peoples."

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Contact:
Ruby Stacey
rstacey@pyramidcommunications.com
360.565.6956 cell

Additional info:
About the Village: <https://www.thevillagesf.org/project>