



2012 ONAC Round Table Discussion Closing the Gap Series: Race, Wealth, And Homeownership in Oklahoma

Mayo Hotel, Tulsa

March 15, 2012



Introduction and Thanks

Acknowledge:

- ONAC Leadership Team (Kristi, Dawn, and Anna)
- Sarah and Catherine of First Nations Development Institute (FNDI) who manage the OK Asset Building Policy and Practice Initiative
- Kilolo Kijakazi, a Program Officer with the Ford Foundation, and the Ford Foundation for supporting ONAC
- OK Assets Board and OK Policy Institute
- Eddy for conducting the traditional welcome
- Kate and Angela for your research and presentations
- All of the participants for sharing your expertise as well



Introductions

We'd like to give you all the opportunity to introduce yourselves.

If you could please tell us your name and which housing department, non-profit, organization, financial institution, federal department etc. you are representing.



Native Asset Building- Setting Stage for Discussion

Asset Building in Native Communities:

- Assets can be thought of as what we value in our communities.
- Assets can include spirituality, natural resources (such as land), education, community, sovereignty, and youth, as well as financial assets such as savings, bonds, investments, or equipment.
- Asset building is not new to Native communities.
- We can design our current comprehensive asset building programs to fit with our worldviews about kinship, community, sovereignty, etc.



Given this Understanding of Assets...

ONAC constituents might be engaged in the following asset building initiatives:

- Communal land buy-back, land trusts, small loan programs, entrepreneurial activities to support our local communities, credit and debt repair programs, homeownership assistance programs, and offering Individual Development Account programs, Children's Savings Accounts, and financial education programs with a cultural fit.



Brief Info About ONAC

- ONAC profile (2001 interest in coalition, 2007 organized)
- We invite you to become members of ONAC (we'll share membership info later today).
- Currently, we are building infrastructure for the Coalition (soon launch website).
- Collaborating with OK Assets and the OK Policy Institute.



Regarding Today's Round Table...

- We know that there are a number of your colleagues who could also speak to Native homeownership issues in OK.
- If there are others you think we should reach out to, or invite to future homeownership conversations, please let us know.
- We kept the invitation list smaller so we could have a participatory round table discussion.
- In many ways, this is the starting point for ONAC work on OK tribal homeownership issues.



Framework for Today's Round Table

- Presentations from Kate Richey about recent research on the racial wealth gap and from Dr. Angela Gobar about the housing crisis in OK.
- Time for discussion after each of their presentations.
- Talk about future OK tribal homeownership research needs you see in your work.



Framework for Today's Round Table

- Dr. Gobar has expressed interest in conducting future homeownership related research that is more focused on Native communities in OK (funding dependent). We can talk about what that research might look like.
- Depending on the research needs, ONAC or other institutions might be in a position to conduct some research.
- We've invited you hear today to make sure that your voices/expertise are influencing future research.



We'd Like to Hear from You...

- About how the research that will be presented today connects with your work in the field as well as what data sources you'd recommend researchers might utilize in the future.
- Also, we'd like to hear from you about tribal, Native non-profit, financial institution, federal department, etc. contacts you'd recommend for researchers to follow-up with, and any suggestions you have for how to talk with specific tribal leaders about homeownership issues in this state.



Introducing the Research Today

- Some Native data included.
- Kate will share thoughts on possibilities for future research given populations in OK.
- Longer presentation tonight at 7 p.m. (all welcome).



The Widening Racial Wealth Gap

Presentation by Kate Richey, Policy Analyst, Oklahoma Policy Institute

- Data and analysis on the racial wealth gap in Oklahoma - from home and business ownership to savings, investments, and other assets vital to long-term financial security.



Discussion

- Given the research findings we've heard today about the racial wealth gap, do these findings connect with the realities you are seeing in your work?
- What closing the wealth gap efforts would you like to see happen in OK?
- Other discussion?



The Housing Crisis in OK: How Bad Was It?

Presentation by Dr. Angela Gobar,
Director of Human Capital Development,
Jackson State University

- An analysis of subprime lending and foreclosures with an emphasis on communities of color.



Discussion

- Given the research findings we've heard today, do these findings connect with the realities you are seeing in your work
- Other discussion?



Break

Please join us for light refreshments.



Discussion Questions

- What research needs do you see related to American Indians and homeownership in OK?
- Kate and Angela, what data sources did you use for your research?
- Everyone, are there other data sources you would recommend be used for future research related to Native communities and homeownership in this state? Any data you wish to share today?
- Who else would you suggest that future researchers speak to about Native homeownership issues?
- Given your knowledge of those resource people/thought leaders, what suggestions do you have for reaching them and talking about about these issues (for example, if you suggest researchers speak with our tribal leaders, do you want to help make introductions, or work with researchers to understand research protocol, data sharing and usage)?
- Other topics we should discuss?



What ONAC Provides Constituents

We invite you to participate in the Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition!

There are various ways to interface with ONAC.

What ONAC provides constituents...



ONAC Membership Categories

- Associate Membership
- Individual Membership
- Tribal Government Membership
- Non-profit Membership
- Financial Institution Regulatory Bodies and Financial Institution Membership
- Corporation Membership



Discussion

- How might ONAC partner/learn from/assist you in your work?
- Are there particular ways in which you would like to be a part of this coalition?
- Suggestions for break out sessions or topics we should offer at the upcoming annual ONAC conference on June 11th (to be held in, or near, OKC)?



Recap and Next Steps

- Thank you for being here today. ONAC appreciates your input and participation.
- We look forward to working with you!