

## Looking Ahead At What Is To Come For Us This Year



Winter is a time of reflection and renewal. As it flows into the new year, it is also a time of planning and preparation for us at REDCO and Sicangu CDC as we look ahead at 2022. We reached out to the teams within our ecosystem to learn about what they are most excited about this year and share with the community ways to get involved and keep up to date with those happenings.

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The **Marketing Team** is excited to continue to explore new ways to reach out to the community. They are looking forward to creating more content on TikTok (@sicangucdc) and continuing to build engagement on other social media pages. The teams within the ecosystem will have more capacity to be present at community events, on Channel 93, and in the newspaper. To ensure everyone in the community knows what is happening with REDCO, Sicangu CDC, and Tatanka Funds, they will continue to distribute this monthly newsletter as well as a weekly email newsletter! Sign up for our weekly email at [www.sicangucdc.org/blog](http://www.sicangucdc.org/blog) and continue to look out for this print newsletter each month at locations around the reservation.

**Tatanka Funds** plans to offer more financial and homeownership education. They will be working with Rosebud SWA, Lakota Funds, Lakota Federal Credit Union, and Mazaska to increase Rosebud homeownership and Wealth Building Initiative. The hope is to provide more accessible Financial Literacy, Homeownership, and Credit When Credit is Due classes. Tatanka Funds will also provide VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) and technical assistance for all of Rosebud tribal members.

Britney Hiseley, who develops curricula and leads trainings for Tatanka Funds' various course offerings, wanted the community to know that, *"As a Community Development Financial Institute (CDFI), we are here to support you on rebuilding your credit by financial classes, financial coaching, and best practices. Offering one-on-one assistance in creating a spending plan, business start-up information, and creating a business plan. Along with these services Tatanka Funds CDFI offers loan products; Small business Loans, Consumer Loans, and Agriculture Loans."*

For the 2022 season, **Rosebud Farm Company** will focus on improving soil stewardship, increasing farm revenue, completing crop production and processing feasibility studies, and forming strategic partnerships and planning. These goals will allow RFC to invest in innovative practices and food products that will feed our community as well as generate revenue for local food sovereignty efforts for years to come. RFC is most looking forward to building relationships with local farmers, growing some specialty crops, and building our farm infrastructure (i.e. grain storage) this season. Koby Hagen, a leader for RFC, says *“As we continue to expand our farming capacity in the future, we encourage community members with farming experience and passion to contact us. We look forward to meeting you and working with you.”*



**Rosebud Construction** is growing in size and capability. They have a lot of new and unique construction projects lined up for 2022. The hope is that this would provide meaningful job opportunities for members of the Oyate. They hope to get more people involved with growing the local economy through construction. Ken Anderson, Executive Project Manager, told us, *“People may not realize that there is not only job opportunities, but a chance to have an entire career path at Rosebud Construction. Some of our long-term goals include creating skilled workers, project managers, project superintendents, architects, engineers, and company leadership from tribal members.”* Something that the community might not be aware of is that Rosebud Construction also provides professional design services for many of the projects they do, which means that people going to school for architecture, engineering, or construction management can obtain summertime work experiences with Rosebud Construction that enhances that education. You can apply for construction positions available by going to: [www.sicangucorp.com/careers](http://www.sicangucorp.com/careers)



**Keya Wakpala Development** is working on getting as many Rosebud members as possible qualified to become a homebuyer. They are currently developing all the necessary infrastructure, including designing the Keya Wakpala Innovation Center. They hope to finish all necessary construction documents for the site so that they can have the first groundbreaking late spring 2022. The team at Keya Wakpala wanted to encourage anyone interested in the development to take all the necessary financial classes with our sister company Tatanka Funds to be eligible as a homebuyer or a business owner. To learn more about Keya Wakpala, go to: [www.sicangucorp.com/keya-wakpala](http://www.sicangucorp.com/keya-wakpala)



**Wolakota Buffalo Range** expects their herd of buffalo to approach 1,000 animals after the spring calving season. They plan to finish the perimeter fence around the range as well as installing approximately 35 miles of interior fencing and new wells to ensure access to fresh water. They also will be building a new pavilion at the headquarters to increase our capacity to host community events and visitors. Jimmy Doyle, Ranch Manager, is most excited about the buffalo herd growing to capacity, which means more meat available for community members. The Wolakota Buffalo Range team wants the community to learn more and get involved in the herd share program as well as let them know about educational or community events they can be involved in. You can contact WBR through their website: [www.rosebudbuffalo.org](http://www.rosebudbuffalo.org)



**Rosebud Facilities Management's** goal is to provide each business with janitorial services to assist the people to help against COVID-19. The RFM is most excited to expand their services to more facilities across the reservation. Natasha Eagle Star, General Manager, wanted you to know that they provide air filtration products designed to eliminate the COVID-19 virus as well as other airborne viruses that hinder our people. Email Natasha at [natasha.eaglestar@sicangucorp.com](mailto:natasha.eaglestar@sicangucorp.com) with any questions or to set up services.

The **Food Sovereignty Initiative** has many exciting events, internships, and projects coming in 2022. FSI is currently finalizing applicants for their Waicahya Icacapi Kte (They Will Grow into Producers) Beginning Farm Apprenticeship Program. Keep on the lookout for an inside look at the Internship Program throughout the year on Sicangu CDC's social pages. Another project that the FSI team is excited about is the Sicangu Local Food Directory (more information on the directory found on last page). Another project FSI hopes to grow capacity for this year is their TSA (Tribally Supported Agriculture) Box Program, in which the FSI team works with local food vendors to provide weekly boxes to community members who sign up for the program. Keep an eye out for more information on TSA Boxes in March's newsletter and on our socials.



The **Lakolya Waoniya Program**, a paid three-year holistic development experience centered on developing Lakota language fluency and strengthening Lakota lifeways, just closed its applications for the first wave of language learners and is now in the next phase of the application process. Applicants will have to pass an oral test and then those who pass will be chosen through a random lottery. The Lakolya Waoniya team also welcomed Henry Quick Bear, Sr. as the program's Educator. To learn more about the program, go to:

[www.sicangucorp.com/lakolya](http://www.sicangucorp.com/lakolya)



**Wakanyeja Tokeyahci** has seen great success in its second year. The school has purchased its own building, and will be moving its operations there when construction is done to make the space fit the school's needs. When one walks through the school, you get the joy of hearing children learning and speaking Lakota as well as learning Lakota culture in every aspect of the school day. To learn more about the school, go to:

[www.sicangucdc.org/wakanyeja-tokeyahci](http://www.sicangucdc.org/wakanyeja-tokeyahci)



Sicangu CDC's **Health Initiative** is excited for another year with the Woyute ki Pejuta Waste (Food is Good Medicine) Program. They will start accepting applications on February 25th (online and paper form available) and will close May 6th. The program will start May 17th and end in October. It is a 6-month program meant to help community members use food to manage and overcome any related health challenges they face. This year the program will also include physical activity and education to increase our knowledge together about our local food environment.

The Health Initiative Team will be hosting the Wotakuye Camps again this summer (dates TBD). To keep up to date with the upcoming programs and camps hosted by the Health Initiative, follow us on Instagram [@sicangucdc](https://www.instagram.com/sicangucdc) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/SicanguCDC](http://www.facebook.com/SicanguCDC)

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As you can see, we have a busy and full year ahead of us. We offer prayer and good medicine to all our teams, employees, participants in our programs, and all members of the Oyate for good health and success in 2022!

*Weekly  
Newsletter  
sign-up*



*Sicangu CDC*



*Tatanka Funds*



# WHAT IS THE SICANGU LOCAL FOODS DIRECTORY?

IT IS A COMMUNITY RESOURCE TOOL MEANT TO CONNECT COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO SICANGU FOOD ENTREPRENEURS, FOOD PRODUCERS, COOKS, CATERERS, HARVESTERS, AND KNOWLEDGE KEEPERS.



## WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE PROGRAM?

- 1) CONNECT THE OYATE WITH INFORMATION ON HOW TO ACCESS LOCAL FOODS.
- 2) SUPPORT AND AMPLIFY THE AMAZING WORK OF OUR RELATIVES WHO ARE DOING FOOD WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY
- 3) STRENGTHEN THE LOCAL FOOD ECONOMY.



## HOW CAN I SUBMIT A LISTING?

TO SUBMIT A LISTING, SCAN THE QR CODE



THE SICANGU LOCAL FOODS DIRECTORY CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCDC WEBSITE, [WWW.SICANGUCDC.ORG/LOCAL-FOOD-DIRECTORY](http://WWW.SICANGUCDC.ORG/LOCAL-FOOD-DIRECTORY)



## Spotlight: Carmelita Shouldis

Carm is the first grade teacher at Wakanyeja Tokeyahci. She is currently working on her masters in education at Sinte Gleska University while also working toward her masters in public health with a specialization in Indigenous health from the University of North Dakota. She previously taught at HeDog elementary and Todd County elementary school. Carm has a passion for learning the Lakota language and has invested numerous hours understanding Lakota conjugation and pronunciation. If you were to sit through one of Carm's classes while she's teaching, you would watch in amazement by the amount of Lakota words she uses to teach throughout the majority of her class. It is obvious that Carm has provided the Wakanyeja with the right tools to understand her teaching in our Lakota language. Talking about the importance of the school, Carm offered, *"There are other Indigenous tribes across the world that were effected by colonization and it was their immersion programs that revitalized their language. If we can do the same and bring back our language, we can reclaim our Lakota identity."*

