Meeting the basic needs of our families, communities, and tribes is of paramount importance in Indian Country. We also want our kids to experience opportunities for growth, happiness and joy just like other children. The Native Children’s Holiday Program, administered by ILTF through the Spirit of Sovereignty, offers supporters a unique opportunity to help make the holidays special for Indian children who live in some of our most challenged communities.

Thanks to the generosity of individual and corporate contributors, the toys, clothing and food many people take for granted during the holidays can become reality for hundreds of thankful children and families. We need your help to meet this year’s goal of providing one toy and one article of clothing each to 2,500 children.

Please give at spiritofsov.org/donate

To learn more, visit www.iltf.org or call (651) 766-8999
Samantha Skendnandore (Ho-Chunk) is an attorney with Quarles & Brady LLP in Madison, Wisc., and an Associate Justice of the Ho-Chunk Nation’s Supreme Court. She began her career in Indian land in the 1990s with the Ho-Chunk Nation’s Department of Heritage Preservation. Since 2005, Skendnandore has represented Native nations, entities and tribal organizations in legal practice involving real estate, cultural resources preservation, government affairs, tribal code development, economic development, corporate transactions and litigation. She holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Wisconsin and a J.D. from the University of Denver School of Law. Skendnandore joined the ILTF Board of Directors in 2017 and in 2018 was elected chair. “My involvement in ILTF exists because it is necessary to do my part in preserving, conserving and providing a means to perpetuate tribal existence throughout Indian Country,” she said. “I started out volunteering by presenting at ILTF-related conferences on topics involving reacquisition and long-term preservation of ancestral tribal lands. It was through this experience that I learned about ILTF’s impact on Indian Country through various programs supporting the return of land to tribes.”

“Restoring land stewardship and ownership to tribal nations breathes life into the old ways of practices, learning and teaching.”

Tribal Land Office Professionals Certification Program

The National Tribal Land Association is committed to helping tribal land professionals enhance their skills and knowledge through professional development. The first of 12 online modules in the new Tribal Land Office Professionals Certification Program is now available and more are on the way. The program uses a sovereignty-centered approach to prepare professionals for, and further, land-related careers across Indian Country. ‘Land Acquisition’ serves as an introduction to tribal land acquisitions, exploring such topics as land appraisals, record keeping, fee- to- trust, negotiations and the environment. Students also receive a brief history of Native land issues.

Learn more the certification program at www.ntla.info.