THE CHRISTENSEN FUND’S PROGRAM RELATED INVESTMENTS (PRI) PILOT

Christensen’s recently launched a 3-year, $2 million PRI Pilot Program, is focused on investments with a strong fit to our US Southwest Program strategy to complement over a decade of grantmaking in the region. As with our grantmaking, we seek investments towards transformative outcomes.

PRI Pilot Priorities
An overall goal for Christensen’s PRIs is to support the advancement of Indigenous-led biocultural and place-based economies.

For this Pilot program we are focusing on PRIs which are located in and/or serve communities in our priority landscape of the Colorado Plateau, within one of the priority categories of:
- Traditional Foodways
- Sustainable Native Biocultural Livelihoods
- Regenerative Energy

Organizational Profile
We have a preference towards organizations and projects run for and by Native communities and local stewards of biocultural diversity and supportive of youth, elders and intergenerational endeavors. We appreciate Native leadership at all levels of management, innovative business models, prior history of similar enterprise, gender parity and community accountability measures.

PRI Parameters
The PRIs will be in the form of loans for which the Fund is reasonably confident of repayment of its full principal amount with some limited returns to maintain a pool of capital which can remain intact for re-lending to future PRIs.

We envision investments:
- Sized between $50K and $500K
- Have the ability to support a 3-10-year repayment schedule (based on type of loan) at the appropriate PRI rate.

Evaluation
PRI Proposals will go through several levels of evaluation and due diligence for both programmatic and financial fit, including assessment of community benefits and free, prior informed consent, prior to being recommended for funding.