OUR MISSION:
To pursue truth, healing, and reconciliation to address ongoing intergenerational trauma from the U.S. Indian Boarding School policy and to support community-led healing.


STAFF
Christine Diindiisi McCleave
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
(Turtle Mountain Ojibwe)

Chris Titus-Young Eagle
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
(Standing Rock Sioux)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS*
Jerilyn DeCoteau  PRESIDENT
(Turtle Mountain Chippewa)

Patricia Whitefoot  1ST VICE PRESIDENT
(Yakama Nation)

Marlene Helgemo  2ND VICE PRESIDENT
(Ho-Chunk Tribe)

Sandy White Hawk  SECRETARY
(Sicangu Lakota)

Sarah Eagle Heart  TREASURER
(Oglala Lakota)

Denise Lajimodiere
(Turtle Mountain Chippewa)

Jacob Davis
(Turtle Mountain Chippewa)

*for fiscal year 2016-2017

Message from the President of the Board

The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) has seen significant growth in the past year. As an organization created from the community outcry for boarding school healing, we take our mission to heart and pray for continued ability to reach everyone who has suffered from boarding school experience.

Our Executive Officer, Christine Diindiisi McCleave, has just completed a very successful year number two as the leader of our organization, which has included a move of headquarters to Minneapolis, hiring an Executive Assistant, and increased community outreach with Tribal Nations across the country. NABS staff and budget have both doubled this past year and programming is increasing at a steady pace.

With all signs pointed toward continued growth, NABS continues to deepen its work on Education, Advocacy, and Healing around the Indian Boarding School experience and legacy.

The Board of Directors held its annual elections at the membership meeting in October, adding three new members with great depth and breadth of expertise to support NABS’ work. We thank retired board member Patsy Whitefoot (Yakama) for her dedication and service and look forward to her continued participation in committee work (all members and affiliate members are encouraged to engage in committee work).

Visit our website to read about new board members, James LaBelle, Sr. (Inupiaq), Henry Cagey (Lummi), and Vance Blackfox (Cherokee). Each comes with experience and skills that are much needed, including an understanding of and commitment to NABS’ mission to promote healing from intergenerational trauma from the boarding school experience.

NABS enjoys the support of many wonderful organizations and individuals from all over Indian Country and we appreciate everyone who gives or speaks about NABS’ important healing work. Please review the rest of our annual report to learn more about our activities, and use one of the many communications options to connect with NABS and give us your input.

NABS is looking forward to another year of growth and productivity in 2017-2018. Help us spread hope and healing, and as always weweni, ezhi chi geyan (take care in what you are doing.)

Chi Miigwech,
Jerilyn DeCoteau
President of the Board, 2016-2017

Photo of board, staff, and coalition members from Annual Membership Meeting, October 2017, Milwaukee, WI.

Programs and Accomplishments

Education

NABS is dedicated to telling the truth about Indian boarding schools in this country. This past year we have continued to present about boarding schools at various gatherings and conferences as we seek to raise awareness about boarding school history and legacy.

We began work on a Professional Development Curriculum: “Recognition of Historical Trauma of Boarding Schools” with the National Indian Education Association. This curriculum will help teachers, counselors, and administrators create a trauma-informed classroom around intergenerational trauma from boarding school impacts. Curriculum for students will be the next phase of this joint project.

We have formed a team of researchers to find and analyze boarding school records so that we can learn and share more about the truth and impacts of boarding schools in the U.S. We launched an updated website which includes a resources database of multi-media boarding school research and information. The database is free to access with the creation of a user ID and password.

Advocacy

NABS continues to support and advocate for justice from boarding school impacts in Native communities and works with national and international partners to do so.

This past year, we continued working with the Native American Rights Fund and the International Indian Treaty Council to bring cases to the United Nations for children who went missing at boarding schools and whose whereabouts are still unknown. The National Congress of American Indians passed a resolution in June 2017 calling for Tribal testimony for the UN filing. We also presented to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) about ongoing impacts of the U.S. boarding schools in our Tribal communities today.

We continued our support of the Tribal Nations who want to repatriate their children from Carlisle Indian School in Carlisle, PA. We walked with Northern Arapaho this past summer when they repatriated two of their children. When the third was not found, we held a Tribal Round Table to inform representatives from the other 58 tribes with children buried there about the process as well as their rights and options.

Healing

We remain committed to our mission to support community-led healing from boarding school harms. Healing is part of everything we do. When we speak the truth about boarding school history, it is healing. When we advocate for justice from boarding school harms, it is healing.

This past year we launched the Healing Voices story collection: “Break the Silence, Begin the Healing” to highlight stories of hope and resiliency in boarding school survivors—watch for more of these stories in the coming year.

We have conducted outreach, listening sessions, and talking circles to support tribal communities in their healing journey and have begun planning regional healing summits for 2018. The time for healing is now. Contact us if you want us to visit your community.
Financials as of September 30

2016

Source of Funds
- $75,000 NoVo/Tides Foundation Grant
- $50,000 Bay and Paul Foundations Grant
- $18,500 Other Grants
- $2,773 Individual Contributions
- $975 Merchandise Sales & Interest

Total Funds: $136,748

Use of Funds
- 83% Programs
- 15% Administrative
- 2% Fundraising

2017

Source of Funds
- $125,000 NoVo Foundation Grant
- $67,500 Tzó-Nah Fund Grant
- $50,000 Bay and Paul Foundations Grant
- $13,350 Other Grants
- $6,487 Individual Contributions
- $6,869 Earned Revenue

Total Funds: $269,206

Use of Funds
- 85% Programs
- 13% Administrative
- 2% Fundraising

2016-2017 Growth by the Numbers

- 9 Board of Directors
- 2 Staff
- 96 Members
- $465,000 Budget

- 4,700 Facebook Fans
- 243 Twitter Followers
- 98 Instagram Followers
- 61 Individual Donors

2017 Partner & Donor Recognition
Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums
Bay and Paul Foundations
Boulder Meeting Society of Friends
Christ Church Cathedral
First Alaskans Institute
First Congregational Church of Boulder
First Nations Repatriation Institute
Independent Indigenous Film and Media
International Indian Treaty Council
National Congress of American Indians
National Indian Child Welfare Association
National Indian Education Association
Native American Rights Fund
Native Americans in Philanthropy
NoVo Foundation
San Manuel Tribe
Tzó-Nah Fund

Individual Donors gave $6,487

THANK YOU!

National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition
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The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization incorporated in June 2012 under the laws of the Navajo Nation.