

# **The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition**

# **2020 ANNUAL REPORT**









#### **STAFF**\*

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Jennifer Blevins, Ph.D. OPERATIONS MANAGER \*for fiscal year 2019-2020

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS\***

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\*for fiscal year 2019-2020

# Letter from the Board President and CEO

2020 has been an unexpected and astonishing year in human history. From the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic to the death of George Floyd and the civil unrest that brought greater attention to the importance of the Black Lives Matter Movement to one of the most historic national elections in the history of this country, we have witnessed and experienced change like no other this year. We believe humanity is entering a new era as foretold by the Ojibwe prophecy of the 8<sup>th</sup> fire. Each of the eight fires included a prophecy for eight different eras. The first fire foretold of the settlers who would come to invade our lands. The 6<sup>th</sup> fire foretold of the separation of our children and the devastation to our languages and culture through government boarding schools. After seven generations of settler-colonial impacts to Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island and the 7<sup>th</sup> fire, the 8<sup>th</sup> generation will come to light the 8<sup>th</sup> fire and usher in a new era. Humanity will have to choose between continuing its current path of greed and destruction or choosing a new path of healing and balance. We continue to hold out hope for healing and unity.

Throughout 2020, the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) has remained committed to its mission despite the challenges our staff, partners, and coalition members have had to overcome. We remain steadfast in advocating for change and healing. While we could not visit you or your communities in person for the better part of the year, we did move to reach out virtually to you all and keep the Truth and Healing Movement going while we worked from home. Holding our first ever-virtual summit in lieu of our annual in-person conference was bittersweet. We send our best to you and your families and hope that we get to see each other face to face again soon.

We are grateful for our coalition members, partners, and funders' unwavering and loyal support that helped us stay strong in 2020. Together we will continue to create and hold space for boarding school healing for all and for the next seven generations.

Chi Miigwich and Pidamaya, Christine Diindiisi McCleave, *Chief Executive Officer* Sandy White Hawk, *President of the Board, FY 2019-2020* 

#### Vision: Indigenous cultural sovereignty.

**Mission:** To lead in the pursuit of understanding and addressing the ongoing trauma created by the U.S. Indian Boarding School policy.



# **Programs and Accomplishments**

### Education

While many of our resources for our national constituency are already available online, we did have to pivot much of our in-person programming this year due to COVID-19. As a response to requests from teachers and parents, we developed the Truth and Healing Curriculum to support distance learning goals during this time. The curriculum features four robust lessons about Indian boarding schools, appropriately sectioned into three age ranges (primary, middle, and upper grades).

During the summer, NABS conducted the "Truth in History" Webinar Series, a three-part remote event exploring the legacy of U.S. Indian Boarding Schools in California. With support from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, these virtual sessions incorporated collaborations with the Sherman Indian Museum and National Administration of Records and Archives (NARA).



The 2020 San Manuel "Truth in History" Webinar Series featured NABS Staff and partner collaborators from the Sherman Indian Museum and National Administration of Records and Archives (NARA). Pictured here: NABS Staff, Christine McCleave, Samuel Torres, and Stephen Curley; Amanda Wixon, of the Sherman Indian Museum; and Cody White from NARA. Not pictured: Lorene Sisquoc and Charlotte Dominguez, of the Sherman Indian Museum.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Healing Voices Vol. 1 was published in June 2020, featuring updates to our authoritative Indian boarding school list. In our ongoing research efforts, NABS identified ten additional schools adjusting our count from 357 to 367 identified institutions.



NABS CEO, Christine Diindiisi McCleave, talks to Congresswoman Debra Haaland (NM-1) at her office in Washington DC about Indian boarding school impacts and the need for a Truth and Healing Commission in the United States.

### Advocacy

In February, NABS met with Congresswoman Deb Haaland (Laguna Pueblo) to discuss how our research could inform a Truth and Reconciliation Commission/Process in the U.S. on Indian Boarding Schools. On September 29, 2020, Congresswoman Deb Haaland (NM-01) & U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren (Mass.) introduced the first-ever "Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policy in the U.S. Act" into congress.

As NABS continues to do independent research into boarding school records, impacts, and history, we have discovered that nearly 70% of boarding school records are in unknown locations. We are committed to continuing the search for boarding school records and to advocate for public access to private collections that we have located thus far.

## Healing

In August, as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, NABS launched the We Love You! Elder Care Package project, wherein NABS is sending 1,000 care packages to boarding school survivors and direct descendants of survivors over age 60. Each package is unique and is filled with items such as masks, hand sanitizer, soaps, coffee, traditional foods, prayer medicines, and so much more—all of which are created or produced by Native artists and enterprises. We are grateful for the volunteers from the Tulalip Tribes community who are packing and shipping the packages and helping us show our love and care to elders during this challenging time.



We Love You!

In November, while we could not gather in person for our annual conference, we did host our first-ever Virtual Healing Summit with the theme *Healing Narratives: Past, Present, and Future.* This virtual summit saw nearly 500 registrants, with keynotes from Clyde Bellecourt (White Earth Ojibwe) and Sandy White Hawk (Sicangu Lakota), panel presentations by elders and activists from across the country, entertainment from Supaman (Apsáalooke), and much more. We look forward to the opportunity to gather with survivors and others again in the future.

NABS's We Love You! Elder Care Packages are making their way to elders who are survivors of boarding school or direct descendants of survivors across the country. Thank you to all the elders who have sent pictures of themselves with their care packages. We Love You! Pictured here: Pearl and Debra. Pictured on cover: Ramona, Anna, Edward, Eleanor, Aletha, Leta, Buddy, Jeanette, Nelson, Darrel, Mary, and Lester.



# Financials as of September 30\*

#### 2019

#### Source of Funds

- \$314,200 Foundation Grants
- 26,532 Earned Revenue
- 21,349 Church Giving
- 16,768 Individual Contributions
- 15,882 Special Events
- 10,400 Tribal Giving

#### \$405,131 Total Funds

#### Use of Funds

82% Programs **14%** Administrative

**4%** Fundraising

#### \$383,417 Total Spent

\*Cash basis

#### Source of Funds \$1 720 109 Equindation Crant

\$1,230,198	Foundation Grants		
514,643	8 Nonprofit Giving		
84,700	Tribal Giving		
37,981	Special Events		
34,996	Religious/Civic		
14,313	Individual Contributions		
10,808	<i>B Earned Revenue</i>		
2,638	Interest Income		
1,798	Merchandise Sales	//	
275	Corporations	]	
••••••			

2020

\$1,932,320 Total Funds

#### **Use of Funds**

87% Programs **12%** Administrative

**1%** Fundraising



## **2020 Funders**

**Ann Arbor Friends Meeting** Better Way Foundation Boulder Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Chroma Technology Group Church of the Reformation (Lutheran) **Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians Council on Library and Information Resources** Fairmount Avenue United Methodist Church **Faith Action Network** Forest County Potawatomi Galanda Broadman PLLC Kendeda Fund **Minnesota Humanities Center** Na'ah Illahee Fund National Indigenous Women's Resource Center Native American Ministry Council of **Christ Church Cathedral** 

Native Voices Rising **NoVo Foundation** Prairie Island Tribal Council Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Sinsinawa Dominican Leadership Council Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious **Society of Friends** The Blackbaud Giving Fund - Boston Scientific The Oregon Community Foundation The Tzo'-Nah Fund **Tulalip** Tribes W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Individual Donors gave \$14,313! THANK YOU!

## 2020 Collaborato

American Indian Catholic Schools Network **Carleton College Dickenson College Digital Archive Haverford College Indigenous Digital Archive First Nations Repatriation Institute Genoa Indian School Digital Archive Project** National Congress of American Indians **National Indian Child Welfare Association** National Indian Education Association Saginaw Chippewa Tribe Ziibiwing Center Swarthmore College **Tulalip** Tribes **University of Minnesota** University of Arizona Tribal Justice Clinic

#### **National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition**

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NATION FOOD



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.