



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

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



STAFF

Deborah Parker (*Tulalip Tribes*)
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Samuel Torres, Ed.D. (*Mexica/Nahua*)
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Jennifer Blevins, Ph.D.
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Theresa Sheldon (*Tulalip Tribes*)
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DIRECTOR OF DIGITAL ARCHIVES

Deidre Whiteman
(*Meskaki, Dakota, Ojibwe, Hidatsa*)
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Iko'tsimiskimaki "Ekoo" Beck
(*Blackfeet/Red River Métis*)
COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Lacey Kinnart
(*Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Ojibwe*)
PROGRAM AND OPERATIONS COORDINATOR

Fallon Carey (*Cherokee Nation*)
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(*Mandan Hidatsa Arikara Nation*)

Cover photos: 215+ Spirit Dolls were created in ceremony in St. Paul, MN, to honor the children found at Kamloops Indian Residential School in British Columbia, Canada. As part of a collaborative effort with Indigenous Roots Cultural Arts Center, NABS assisted and supported the collective in holding space with Twin Cities community members.

Letter from the CEO

Ha?ł sləx̄il NABS Family,

Sending each of you warm greetings and deep gratitude in light of what has been a remarkable year together. With your engagement and support, we have witnessed exceptional achievements in the boarding school healing movement – many of which have been long time goals of the healing coalition. NABS was incorporated in 2012 with a fundamental mission of creating a Truth and Healing Commission in the United States. As we conclude our 10th year, we have seen tremendous movement toward that goal.

For the first time in history, the United States Congress, in both the Senate and House of Representatives, held hearings to consider the Truth and Healing Commission on the Indian Boarding School Policies Act. Together, we reached thousands of individuals who directly contacted elected officials advocating for a commission, as well as guided and supported hundreds of boarding school survivors who submitted testimony for the Congressional hearings. Due to the unwavering support of our members, partners, funders, Tribal Nations, and communities everywhere, we are encouraged by this momentum and remain confident that this is the year that the bill will pass – Let's keep up the momentum!

This past year, NABS was focused on building and strengthening partnerships. An MOU with the Department of Interior allowed us to share resources in support of our individual efforts. We worked with the National Congress of American Indians in passing resolutions calling on President Biden and the Pope to take action and acknowledge their roles in the genocide of Native peoples. Our partnership with the Shawnee Tribe and the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma led to a day-long summit to educate partners and advocates about the work ahead to provide justice and healing for survivors.

In 2022, we were more connected to boarding school survivors and descendants than ever before. From DOI's Road to Healing events, to healing webinars, to powwows, to our orange shirt day candle light vigil, "A Night of Remembrance," and countless visits to conferences, universities, businesses, classrooms, and special events, we were honored to share space. We sang with you, prayed with you, and grieved with you, and hopefully created new, positive memories with you.

We know that 2023 will be our best year yet, because we will continue to do it together. We are eager to build off of the many lessons of the past year, reaffirming that justice and healing are not only possible for our people, but inevitable.

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Deborah Parker (Tulalip)
Chief Executive Officer



NABS CEO, Deborah Parker (Tulalip), testifies to the House Natural Resource Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples on May 12, 2022, in support of the Truth and Healing Commission Bill alongside, Chief Ben Barnes (Shawnee), Dr. Ramona Klein (Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians), and NABS President, James LaBelle (Inupiaq).

Year In Review



Jingle Dress Dancers and singers gather to honor survivors of boarding schools for our Night of Remembrance event on September 29, 2022, outside the State Capitol in St. Paul, Minnesota.

TRUTH. JUSTICE. HEALING.

2022 was the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition's (NABS) most impactful year to date. As the spotlight on Indian boarding schools grew, so too did the demand for NABS programming and advocacy efforts, which led to the mending and strengthening of old partnerships, as well as the formation of new ones. This momentum also opened up new funding opportunities, which helped us expand our staff and programs. We were honored to be invited to participate in a high volume of requests for NABS's presence at local and national events, where we had the privilege of contributing to and co-creating numerous educational and community healing spaces.

Building on the establishment of the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative in 2021 by Secretary Deb Haaland (Laguna Pueblo), NABS entered the year with a new collaboration with the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), authorized by a signed

Memorandum of Understanding. We shared resources with the DOI to support their research efforts and showed our support during an event to release volume one of their investigative report.

THE TIME IS NOW

This year, NABS will publicly launch the National Indian Boarding School Digital Archive (NIBSDA), an industry standard and first-of-its-kind Digital Asset Management System capable of organizing and displaying historical boarding school records and materials for every boarding school institution that we have identified. Though NIBSDA is a multi-year project, significant progress was made in 2022, laying a firm foundation for its release in 2023.

Our team also worked diligently to offer healing spaces through seven virtual events and three in-person gatherings, inviting boarding school survivors and descendants and offering them an opportunity to hear from their peers and traditional healing experts.

Building on stronger social and political momentum for a Truth and Healing Commission Bill in the U.S. Congress, NABS's advocacy and policy expertise generated a groundswell of support from coalition members, Tribal Nations, partners, and funders. Though it wasn't passed in 2022, we made tremendous progress by building our support base and launching an educational campaign. We remain inspired and eager for the reintroduction of the bill in this new legislative session with the 118th Congress.

The research team at NABS, consisting of staff members Samuel Torres, Stephen Curley, and Deidre Whiteman aided

by summer interns as well as a team of seven contract researchers, have been diligently advancing the ongoing research efforts into U.S. Indian boarding schools. The development of these research projects will culminate in the release of the forthcoming Digital Map of Indian Boarding Schools in the U.S. and Canada with our partners at the National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation, as well as the release of NIBSDA.



NABS staff, Lacey Kinnart, joins relatives for a dance special honoring boarding school survivors, descendants, and those who didn't make it home at the 29th Annual Odawa Homecoming Pow Wow in Harbor Springs, MI on August 14, 2022.

Education

NABS capacity grew immensely this year to support of our partners, elected officials, Tribal Nations, teachers, and allies throughout the country with educational resources (curricula, webinars, videos, and reading lists).

Approximately 5,500 people received education in-person, while an additional 4,000 people were reached via virtual educational presentations. Since its completion in 2020, NABS's "Truth and Healing" Indian boarding school education curriculum for K-12 students continues to be sought after at a high rate, with more than 9,000 total downloads in 2022 from our website. NABS also expanded our commitment to supporting Native undergraduate and graduate students with the Boarding School Healing Scholarship, raising enough funding to award 27 scholarships. Our national presence through media interviews and congressional testimony empowered NABS to not only educate elected officials, but engage the larger public like never before.

JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING ISAAC

2022 BOARDING SCHOOL HEALING SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

"My great-grandmother attended boarding school in Stephan, South Dakota in the 1950's. She was fluent in her language, though she wasn't allowed to speak it at school. My education is essential to me in the sense that it will give me more opportunities that can benefit not only myself but my home, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Reservation. Receiving my education at Turtle Mountain Community College means that I learn the language and culture of my ancestral Ojibwe people. With this education, I can assist in the preservation of our teachings that I can share with my community."

ISSAC DREES-HAJICEK
(TURTLE MOUNTAIN BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS, SMALL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT/ENTREPRENEURSHIP, TURTLE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE)

The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition



"This Congress must confront our stories and the painful history of boarding schools."

– James LaBelle (Inupiaq), NABS President, Educator, Boarding School Survivor

9k+

Downloads of NABS's Indian boarding school education curriculum

60

In-person and virtual presentations

50

Media interviews

Community Impact and Accomplishments (continued)

THE CHILD REMOVAL STUDY MOVES INTO ANALYSIS

Our “Child Removal Study”, in partnership with the First Nations Repatriation Institute and the University of Minnesota, continues its work to further examine the impacts and connections between boarding school survivors, descendants, and Natives who have experienced the adoption and foster care system. Guided by our decolonizing Indigenous methodology, we ended 2022 with nearly 1,000 study participants and began to analyze testimonies after holding a Wopila ceremony in November.

NABS DIGITAL ARCHIVE SET TO RELEASE IN 2023

NABS made exceptional progress on the National Indian Boarding School Digital Archive (NIBSDA) this past year, given that access to records for digital archives have slowly begun to open after COVID pandemic restrictions. This allowed NABS to scan and catalog 4,088 pages of boarding school records in 2022. We are eager to release NIBSDA in 2023 where a total of 27,344 pages will be accessible. NABS expanded the documenting of experiences by engaging boarding school survivors and descendants in an oral history project. The first oral history recording of seven boarding school survivors and descendants from the Upper Sioux Community in Minnesota will serve as a model for future projects.



Team members of the Child Removal Study gather to prepare for the Wopila ceremony held on November 13, 2022. From left to right: Samuel Torres (Mexico/Nahua), Sandy White Hawk (Sicangu Lakota), Sara Axtell, Carolyn Liebler, Maggie Greenleaf (Red Lake Ojibwe), Chris Mann.

Advocacy

Making great strides in advocating for the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act, NABS strengthened relationships with key partners, conducted extensive outreach at community events, and implemented a robust educational campaign.

Following the DOI's creation of the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative, NABS has been able to strengthen its collaboration with the DOI as the agency released volume one of its investigative report and began its "Road to Healing" listening session tour.

NABS continued strengthening our relationships with Tribes and organizations, such as the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), who passed two resolutions brought forward by NABS. The first resolution called for an apology from the Biden-Harris Administration for the genocide of Native children and families and the second called for the Pope to rescind the Doctrine of Discovery and support a truth and healing commission for the United States.

We worked alongside the Shawnee Tribe and the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma to facilitate a day-long summit on June 22, 2022, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, called "Breaking the Silence", where over 250 individuals gathered to learn about the research, education, and advocacy work of NABS.



NABS Staff wrap Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland (Laguna Pueblo), in a blanket during a visit she made to our home office in Minneapolis, MN on May 7, 2022. From left to right: Sandy White Hawk (Sicangu Lakota), Deb Parker (Tulalip), Sec. Deb Haaland, Theresa Sheldon (Tulalip).



Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan (White Earth Band of Ojibwe) visits NABS staff and board members at our home office in Minneapolis to present a Minnesota State Proclamation designating September 30th, "Day of Remembrance for U.S. Indian Boarding Schools".

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AND GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION IN MINNESOTA

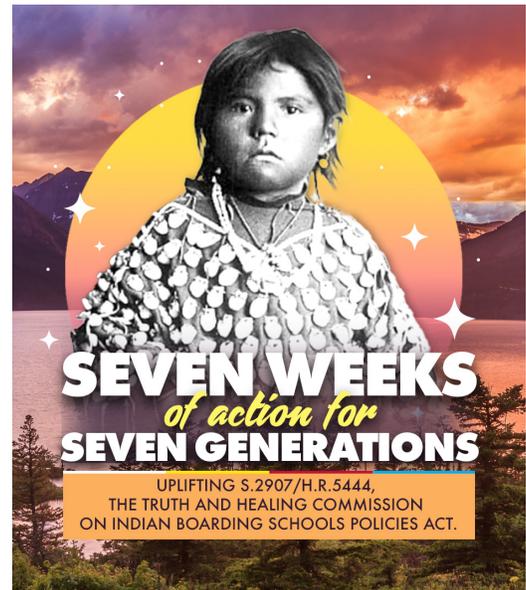
Working with the office of Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota, Peggy Flanagan (White Earth Band of Ojibwe), our team supported the drafting and submission of a state proclamation commemorating September 30th as a "Day of Remembrance for U.S. Indian Boarding Schools" in Minnesota. We remain grateful to her office for continuing to offer their support and for visiting our office to present this proclamation to us personally.

Community Impact and Accomplishments (continued)

7 WEEKS OF ACTION FOR 7 GENERATIONS

In the fall, we launched our “7 Weeks of Action for 7 Generations” campaign, NABS distributed online resources, videos, and a streamlined advocacy toolkit designed to guide outreach to Congressional members and partners over seven weeks in September and October.

Endorsements for the Truth and Healing Commission bill continue to be received, demonstrating the impact of NABS advocacy efforts alongside the strength of boarding school survivors courageously sharing their stories. This has been especially true after the swing of momentum seen in 2022. May of 2022 was particularly historic for Indian Country, as the Truth and Healing bill was heard in Congress for the first time in the House Natural Resource Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples. The following month, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs held a hearing for the bill, as Senate leadership emphasized the need for the Commission.



Iko 'Tsimiskimiki' "Ekoo" Beck (Blackfeet/Red River Métis) and Joel Moffett (Nez Perce)



Deborah Parker (Tulalip Tribes) and Nedra Darling (Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation)



Frank Ettawageshik (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians)



Julie Johnson (Lummi Nation) and Tribal Chairwoman Frances Charles (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe)



Juana Majel-Dixon (Pauma-Yuima Band of Luiseño Indians)

50

Resolutions passed in support by Tribes and partners

26

Senate co-sponsors of the Truth and Healing bill

86

House co-sponsors of the Truth and Healing bill

Healing

NABS has been actively developing our capacity in and supporting healing spaces for Indigenous communities, grounded in traditional practices and values, and prioritizing survivors of boarding schools.

In 2022, we worked to expand both our healing webinar series and in-person gatherings, offering a diverse means of engagement throughout the year.

We hosted one event in June, two events in September which included NABS's Board President James LaBelle leading a full day agenda on boarding school healing at the "Sharing Our Knowledge" conference in Wrangell Alaska, and one event in November.

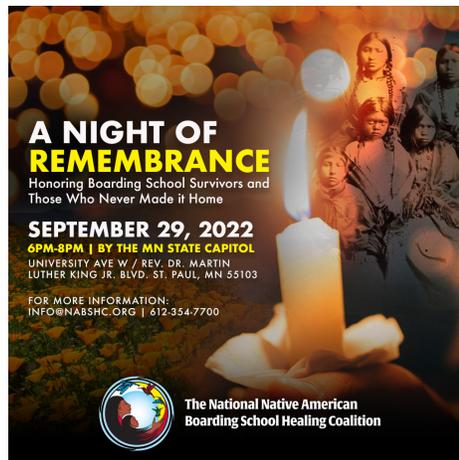


Honoring Our Relatives

2022 In-person Events



June: NABS partnered with the Shawnee Tribe and the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma for "Breaking the Silence," a summit on the Indian boarding school era.



September: A candlelight vigil in St. Paul, Minnesota, called, "A Night of Remembrance: Honoring Boarding School Survivors and Those Who Never Made it Home."



November: "Wopila for the People: Thanking Our Relatives for Participating in the Child Removal Study" in partnership with the First Nations Repatriation Institute and the University of Minnesota.

4+7

4 In-person healing gatherings.
7 virtual events.

9k+

Registrations for virtual healing events

450

People attended NABS hosted in-person events

Community Impact and Accomplishments (continued)

2022 Virtual Healing Events



February: “Medicine for Self-Love Healing” with Dr. Rosalyn LaPier (Blackfeet/Métis), who shared methods of intergenerational healing through plant medicines, traditional ecological knowledge, and self-care.



April: “Healing from Child Removal: Boarding Schools, Adoption, and Foster Care” included a panel discussion on healing from the impacts of child removal moderated by Sandy White Hawk (Sicangu Lakota) and featured boarding school survivor Jim LaBelle Sr. (Inupiaq) and Oglala Lakota Nation Adoptee Dakota Hoska.



May: “Self-Care in a Time of Truth and Healing: Healing Our Spirit, Creating Safety Within” was presented by Serene Thin Elk (Yankton Sioux Tribe), MH, LAC, QMHP, and moderated by Deidre Whiteman (Meskwaki/Dakota/Ojibwe/Hidatsa). The session focused on managing trauma reactions in light of the release of the DOI’s investigative report, using evidence-based methods for addressing intergenerational trauma.



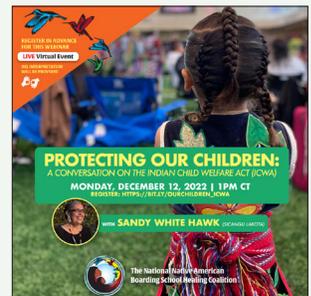
June: “Two Spirit and LGBTQ+ Resilience: The Legacy and Impacts of Indian Boarding Schools” included a panel moderated by Candi Brings Plenty (Oglala Lakota) and featured boarding school survivor Lenny Hayes (Sisseton Wahpeton-Oyate), Landa Lakes (Chickisaw), and Sade Hearth of the Hawk (Mi’kmaq).



September: “Voices from Pezihutazizi Oyate: Boarding School Histories” film screening included a panel discussion on NABS’s digitization and oral history project in partnership with the Upper Sioux Community. The featured Upper Sioux community members Dr. Chris Mato Nunpa (Wahpeton Dakota) and Adam Savariego (Dakota), as well as Videographer, Falcon Gott (Sapotaweyak Cree Nation).



October: “Exploring the Impacts of Childhood Trauma through an Indigenous Lens and Supporting the Paths Toward Healing” featured Dr. Meagan Rides at the Door (Fort Peck Assiniboine), LCPC, Director of the National Native Children’s Trauma Center. The session explored various impacts of childhood trauma including cultural, holistic, immediate, delayed, and developmental impacts of trauma, as well as how we can support our families on a healing path.



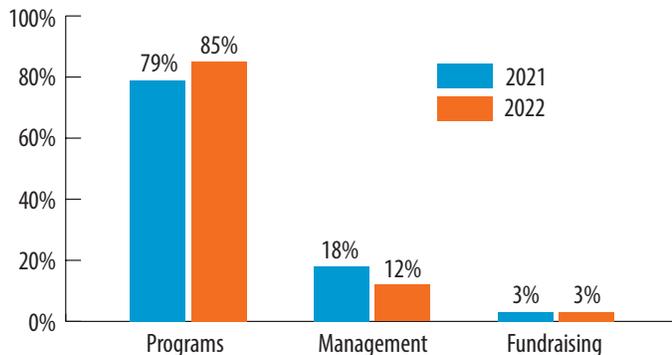
December: “Protecting Our Children: A Conversation on the Indian Child Welfare Act” included a conversation on the current state of child welfare in Indian Country, and caring for ourselves when heavy emotions are heightened during this time. The panel discussion included NABS staff, Sandy White Hawk (Sicangu Lakota), Theresa Sheldon (Tulalip), Samuel Torres (Mexica/Nahua), and Deidre Whiteman (Meskwaki/Dakota/Ojibwe/Hidatsa).

Financial Summary Fiscal Year-End September 30, 2022

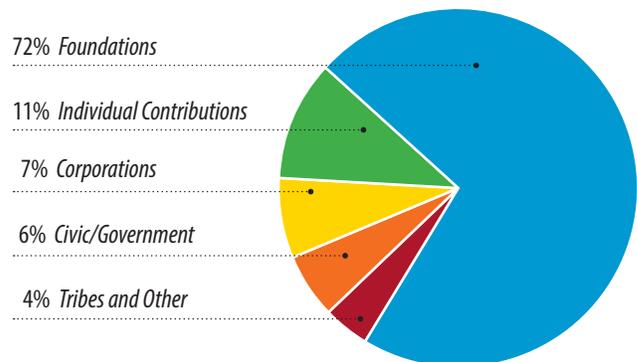
Source: NABS FY21-22 Audited Financial Statements, Statement of Activities and Statement of Financial Position.

Percentage of Expenses

Expenses for FY21-22 totaled \$1,810,816, compared to a total of \$1,348,507 in FY20-21, showing a growth of 34%.



FY21-22 Source of Funds



Statement of Financial Position, September 30, 2022

ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,711,909
Contributions Receivable, net	6,316,927
Investments	105
Prepaid Expenses	115,356
Total current assets	8,144,297
Contributions receivable, long-term, net	200,000
Equipment, net	38,536
Total assets	\$8,382,833
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Accounts Payable	\$ 28,765
Accrued Expenses	42,201
Total current liabilities	70,966
Net assets:	
Net assets without donor restriction	1,655,303
Net assets with donor restrictions	6,656,564
Total net assets	8,311,867
Total liabilities and net assets	\$8,382,833

FY21-22 Funders and Contributors

FOUNDATIONS AND CHARITABLE FUNDS

American Endowment Foundation (Two Cranes Donor Advised Fund)
American Indian Empowerment Fund
Annenberg Foundation
Better Way Foundation
Blackbaud Giving Fund (Boeing)
Charities Aid Foundation America recommended by Nike Fund
Common Counsel Foundation
Fidelity Charitable (Lesko Family Fund, Mortenson Giving Fund,
Tolkien-Hawley Giving Fund, Johnson-Lundblad Gift Fund, HalfMyDaf)
Gener8tor Fund of Central Indiana Community Foundation
Give Lively Foundation
Herbert T. Weston Jr. and Marian S. Weston Foundation
Morgan Stanley GIFT
NoVo Foundation
Oregon Community Foundation
Paypal Giving Fund
Rasmuson Foundation
Rosenzweig Family Foundation
Satterberg Foundation
Schwab Charitable (Skufica Fund, Ufford-Chase Giving Fund, Lucille
Echohawk, Nicholas Glass Donor Advised Fund, Ways of Peace Fund,
Judy and Doug Weinstock, Joseph and Jane Snyder Donor Advised Fund)
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
The Googasian Family Foundation
The Kendeda Fund
Vanguard Charitable (The R&D Fund)
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

CORPORATIONS

Adpro Sports
Benevity
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota
Bizaanide'ewin
Bottomline Technologies
Cherokee Strip Credit Union
Chroma Technology Corp.
Graber Mercantile
I Got It, Inc.
Kowalski's Markets
LaxStraps
Network for Good
Rivendell Bicycle Works
The Book Artist: Feather Project
The Standard
Van Ness Feldman LLP

CIVIC/GOVERNMENT/NONPROFIT

City of Minneapolis, Great Streets Program
Council on Library and Information Resources
Frontier Public School
Minnesota Humanities Center
Native Women Running
Tribal Law and Policy Institute

TRIBES

Bay Mills Indian Community
Elk Valley Rancheria
Sac and Fox Nation
San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians
Shawnee Tribe

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Boulder Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Christ Church Cathedral
Jesuit Conference Office of Justice and Ecology
Missoula Friends Meeting
NY Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Open Table Friends Church
OSF Sisters of St. Francis Mission Activities
Port Townsend Friends Meeting
Rochester Friends Meeting
Seven Circles Heritage Center
Sisters of St. Dominic
Sisters of the Divine Savior
South Starksboro Friends Meeting
Spirit of Peace
United Parish in Brookline
Woodland Park United Methodist Church

**1,931 Individual Donors
gave \$153,358**

THANK YOU!

Support our care package campaign for Boarding School Survivors



To support our "We Love You" Care Package Campaign for boarding school survivors, use the QR code with your phone's camera to visit our donate page:

boardingschoolhealing.org/about-us/donate



National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition

2525 E. Franklin Ave., Suite 120, Minneapolis, MN 55406 | info@nabshc.org | 612.354.7700 | boardingschoolhealing.org



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.