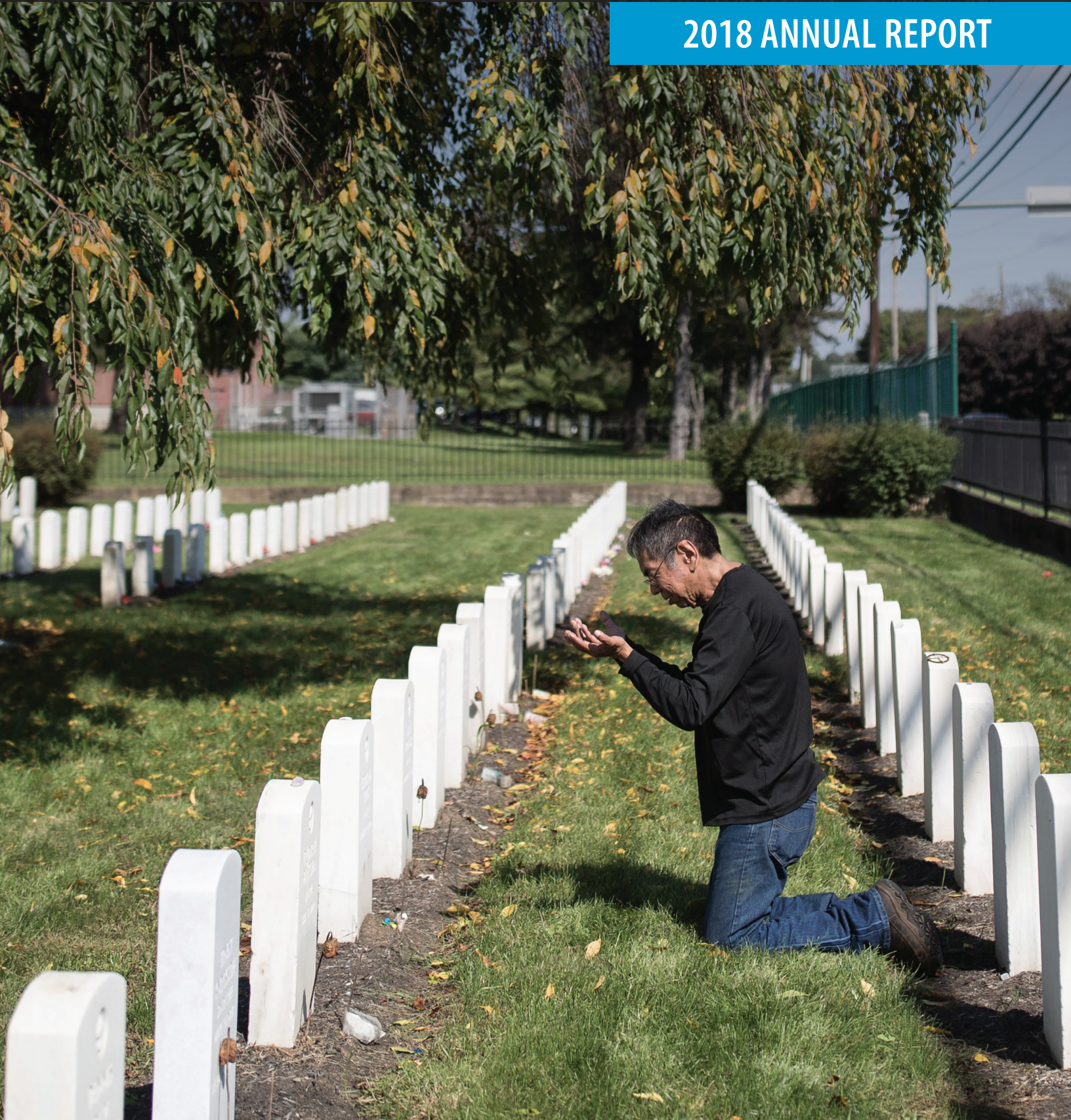




**The National Native American
Boarding School Healing Coalition**

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



STAFF

Christine Diindiisi McCleave, M.A.
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
(Turtle Mountain Ojibwe)

Rose Miron, Ph.D.
PROGRAM MANAGER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(for fiscal year 2017-2018)

Marlene Helgemo
PRESIDENT
(Ho-Chunk Tribe)

Sandy White Hawk
1ST VICE PRESIDENT
(Sicangu Lakota)

Sarah Eagle Heart
2ND VICE PRESIDENT
(Oglala Lakota)

Vance Blackfox
TREASURER & SECRETARY
(Cherokee Nation)

Henry Cagey
(Lummi Nation)

Jerilyn DeCoteau
(Turtle Mountain Chippewa)

James LaBelle
(Port Graham Tribe of Inupiaq)

Denise Lajimodiere
(Turtle Mountain Chippewa)

Cover Photo by Daniella Zalcman:

Alaskan Native elder, Bob Sam (Tlingit) kneels and prays at Carlisle Indian Industrial School cemetery during NABS' first annual conference.

Letter from the Board President and Executive Officer

This past year The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) has continued to make progress towards our historical mission for boarding school healing in the U.S.

In February 2018, our Board and Staff met in Phoenix, Arizona to participate in a strategic planning session facilitated by Native-owned Poston & Associates, LLC. The meeting served to develop a new three-year strategic plan since the last three-year plan was set in 2015.

The 2018-2021 strategic plan is made up of specific goals organized by three Key Priority Areas:

- **Tribal Engagement:** to support education and awareness in tribal communities concerning inter-generational trauma and potential paradigms for healing.
- **Sustainability:** to fund, staff, and structure our organization in a way that allows us to accomplish our mission work for years to come.
- **Advocacy:** to establish NABS as the premier data center and clearing house on boarding school information to inform policy and research in the U.S.

NABS has accomplished much in fiscal year 2017-2018. We hired our first Program Manager, held our first national conference, debuted part of our Healing Voices video story collection, and are on our way to creating our first digital archive.

As a part of the strategic plan, we also updated our Vision and Mission statements as follows:

Vision: Indigenous cultural sovereignty.

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

Please read the rest of our annual report for more detailed information on NABS' programmatic activities and financials this past year.

Thank you to our Coalition Members, Partners, and Funders for your support as we continue to bring education, advocacy, and healing to our communities across Turtle Island.

Sincerely,

Marlene Helgemo, *President of the Board 2017-2018*

Christine Diindiisi McCleave, *Executive Officer*

Photo of NABS Staff and New Board at Annual Meeting, October 1, 2018.



Programs and Accomplishments

Education

In September this past year, we introduced our first publication, *Healing Voices Volume 1: A Primer on American Indian and Alaska Native Boarding Schools in the U.S.* This newsletter style publication is meant to educate Natives and non-Natives alike on the history, impacts, and legacies of the U.S. Boarding School Era.

In the summer of 2018, we were privileged to have our first full-time intern Emily McDonnell (Navajo) upload an additional 300+ resources to our online database of boarding school information. Be sure to check it out and share this educational resource with others!

We have also established a Research Advisory Council made up of academic experts in boarding schools, archives, and digital projects as well as tribal archivists and researchers to advise NABS Staff on research projects and on the creation of our digital archive and data center.



Alaskan Native youth participating in Youth Media Training for Healing Voices digital story collection, Anchorage, Alaska.

Advocacy



Boarding School Survivors being honored at The Spirit Survives: A National Movement Toward Healing conference, Carlisle, PA.

The federal government still has not answered our request for information on the fate of children who attended boarding schools in the U.S.—their response: “we don’t do research.” We continue to search boarding school records with the help of independent researchers and are moving forward with our partners at the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC) and the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) to submit our filing for missing children to the United Nations next year. We have identified more than a dozen cases thus far. Please contact us at info@nabshc.org if you have information about children who went missing at boarding schools.

NABS also continued our support for tribal repatriation from Carlisle this past year and is working with the Association on American Indian Affairs (AAIA) to advocate for the expanded scope of NAGPRA to cover boarding school cemeteries. There is great healing when these children finally get to return home.

In the spring of 2018, NABS and NIEA launched our professional development curriculum for trauma-informed schools and classrooms. That curriculum is now being rolled out across the country in preparation for our next collaborative project for high school student curriculum in 2019. Everyone should be taught about boarding schools—**this is American history not just Native American history.**

Healing

NABS launched the *Healing Voices* movement a year ago and since then, over 30 Native youth have been empowered to use media to amplify their voice. We completed Youth Media Trainings and *Healing Voices Story Collection* filming in Turtle Mountain, Alaska, and Wind River. We premiered some of the completed videos at our conference in October 2018 and plan to share the videos online in 2019. It’s time to **#BreakTheSilence** and **#BeginTheHealing**.

We held our first national conference, *The Spirit Survives: A National Movement Toward Healing*, on October 2-3, 2018 in Carlisle, PA which coincided with the 100-year anniversary of the school’s closing. We had nearly 200 attendees who came from more than 70 different tribal nations across the country the majority of whom were boarding school survivors or descendants.

In the fall of 2018, NABS met with Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Commissioner, Dr. Marie Wilson, and she emphasized that records and truth are highly valuable to the process of healing itself, not just a means to an end. As we continue to search for missing federal and church-run boarding school records to aid in truth, healing, and reconciliation, we’ve begun ramping up our work with church denominations. As the 2018 article “A Shocking History” in *Living Church* magazine stated, “The churches were not just complicit. They were participatory [. . .] They received federal funding and helped carry out the [boarding school] policy.” We continue to seek the full truth of the boarding school era and count on the churches to bring forth their boarding school records, enter into voluntary forms of repentance and atonement, and support Native-led healing.



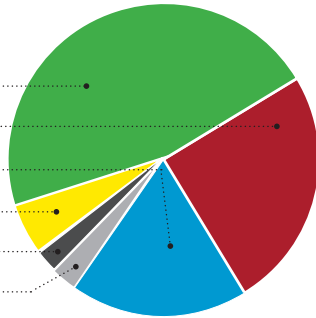
Lummi Nation and House of Tears carvers deliver healing Totem Poles to Chemawa Indian Boarding School, Salem, OR.

Financials as of September 30

2017

Source of Funds

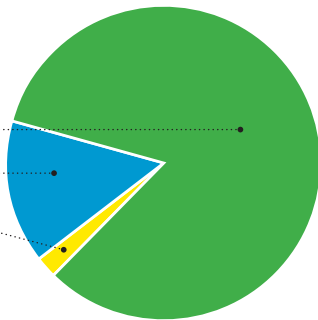
- \$125,000 NoVo Foundation Grant
- 67,500 Tz6-Nah Fund Grant
- 50,000 Bay and Paul Foundations Grant
- 13,350 Other Grants
- 6,487 Individual Contributions
- 6,869 Earned Revenue



\$269,206 Total Funds

Use of Funds

- 85% Programs
- 13% Administrative
- 2% Fundraising

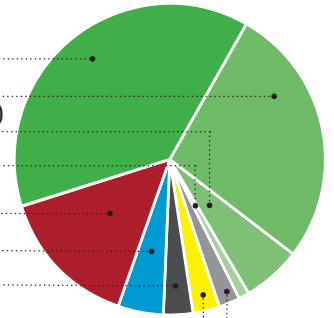


\$258,273 Total Spent

2018

Source of Funds

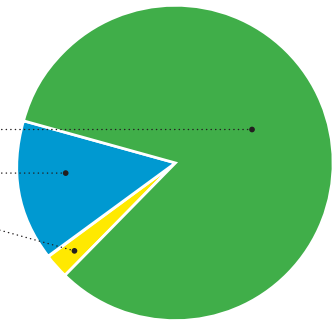
- \$238,674 Foundation Grants
 - NoVo Foundation Grant \$125,000
 - Tz6-Nah Fund Grant \$67,500
 - Bay and Paul Foundations Grant \$20,000
 - Other Grants \$13,350
- 48,755 Special Events
- 15,555 Church Giving
- 10,196 Individual Contributions
- 9,041 Earned Revenue
- 6,500 Tribal Giving



\$328,721 Total Funds

Use of Funds

- 85% Programs
- 12% Administrative
- 3% Fundraising



\$383,840 Total Spent



Chemawa students and staff receiving healing totem poles from Lummi Nation. The poles will sit at the entrance to the cemetery where nearly 300 children are buried.

2018 Funders

- Bay and Paul Foundations
- Better Way Foundation
- Boulder Meeting Society of Friends
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Christ Church Cathedral
- Forest County Potawatomi Tribe
- Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- Native American Rights Fund
- Native Americans in Philanthropy
- NoVo Foundation
- Prairie Island Tribal Council
- ReCast Minneapolis, Resilience 365 Fund
- Tz6-Nah Fund

Individual Donors
gave \$10,196

THANK YOU!

2018 Partners

- American Indian Catholic Schools Network
- Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums
- Association for American Indian Affairs
- Cante Sica Foundation
- Cumberland Historical Society
- Dickenson College Digital Archive
- First Alaskans Institute
- First Nations Repatriation Institute
- Genoa Indian School Digital Archive Project
- Independent Indigenous Film and Media
- Indigenous Digital Archive
- International Indian Treaty Council
- National Congress of American Indians
- National Indian Child Welfare Association
- National Indian Education Association
- School of Information at the University of Texas at Austin
- Seneca Media & Communications Center
- Smithsonian Institution
- University of Minnesota

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.