



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

**2017  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**



## 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.

*Restated in July 2017.*

### 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.



NABS presents to the MN Army and Air National Guard about boarding school history and Carlisle repatriation for Native American Heritage month.



NABS reads a boarding school statement at UNPFII, May 2017.

## 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.



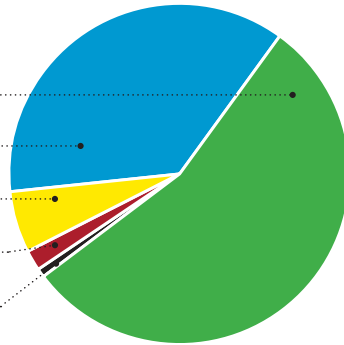
Participants, board and staff at Tribal Round Table for Carlisle repatriation, Mystic Lake, MN, November 2017.

# Financials as of September 30

2016

## Source of Funds

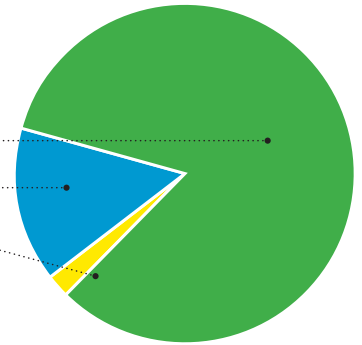
- \$75,000 *Novo/Tides Foundation Grant*
- 50,000 *Bay and Paul Foundations Grant*
- 8,000 *Other Grants*
- 2,773 *Individual Contributions*
- 975 *Merchandise Sales & Interest*



**\$136,748 Total Funds**

## Use of Funds

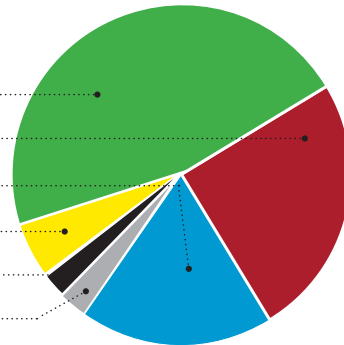
- 83% *Programs*
- 15% *Administrative*
- 2% *Fundraising*



2017

## Source of Funds

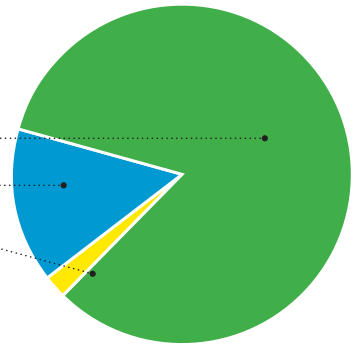
- \$125,000 *NoVo Foundation Grant*
- 67,500 *Tzó-Nah Fund Grant*
- 50,000 *Bay and Paul Foundations Grant*
- 13,350 *Other Grants*
- 6,487 *Individual Contributions*
- 6,869 *Earned Revenue*



**\$269,206 Total Funds**

## Use of Funds

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



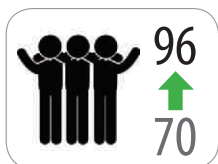
## 2016-2017 Growth by the Numbers



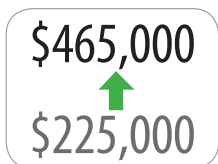
**Board of Directors**



**Staff**



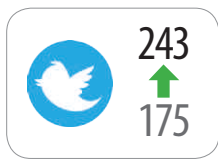
**Members**



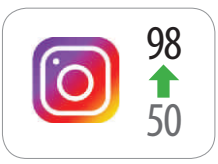
**Budget**



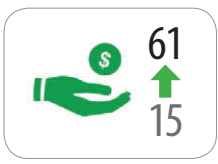
**Facebook Fans**



**Twitter Followers**



**Instagram Followers**



**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.