Greetings,

As we review another great year with American Indian Services (AIS) we continue the journey started in 1981, "to provide preparatory programs for Native American youth and financial assistance for those in pursuit of a college degree."

The organization has gone through some changes in leadership and location, within the past couple of years. If this is new to you, please look to our website: www.americanindianservices.org regarding our new employees and location. The new office in Lehi, Utah is a wonderful place for our staff to collaborate and continue the great work they do.

Chauma Kee-Jansen, AIS Executive Director and her team are determined to operate with transparency and integrity according to good non-profit governance principles. As a result, AIS has received a “Platinum, Four-Star” GuideStar rating for the second year in a row. Congratulations to her and her team for this outstanding achievement.

Finally, on behalf of the board of directors, we would like to express our gratitude to our donors, volunteers, and partners who have always given your trust and support. Let’s continue to support our Native American students in achieving their education goals.

Ahe’hee’ (Thank You)

Austin Tsosie, MBA
Dine’ (Navajo)
AIS Board President
Dear Friends and Supporters:

How would I describe 2022? Was it what we expected? Yes, I would say it was that and more. February 2022, we moved to our new location in Lehi, and have a staff of 9 employees with 5 being past American Indian Services (AIS) scholarship recipients.

Our Native American students pursuing their educational goals work extremely hard for their families and communities. However, one unexpected hardship can push them to consider dropping out of school. With support from AIS they are more financially able to handle the stresses and unforeseeable obstacles while gaining their education.

As I gathered the data for the 2022 Annual Report, I am struck by what has been achieved in the past year. We have made small changes to financial policies, procedures and continue to look for ways to be more efficient. Our new systems will allow us to operate differently and better than we do today, but the heart of what we do will remain the same.

I am proud to serve as your Executive Director, and I, along with my team, are honored to serve the mission of AIS: "to provide preparatory programs for Native American youth and financial assistance for those in pursuit of a college degree."

We are so very thankful for your contributions to AIS and our mission. Please join us for our remaining fundraising events for 2023.

October 14, 2023 - MoccWalk 2023 - Steps for Scholarships @ Wardle Field Regional Park, Bluffdale, Utah. Please visit our website for more information.

With Sincere Gratitude and Thanks,

Chauma Kee-Jansen, MPA
Assiniboine-Sioux/Navajo (she/her)
AIS Executive Director
FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2022
$5,112,032.00
TOTAL REVENUE & PUBLIC SUPPORT

In kind (non-cash donations) 6%
Government 2.9%
Corporate 18%
Foundation 34.8%
Individual Donations 38%

Prep Program 16.4%
Admin 27%
Fundraising 5.2%
Scholarship Programs (Trade Included) 51.4%
AIS TRADE SCHOLARSHIP

The demand for trade school scholarships and admissions have been on the rise in the past 3 years. With an ever-growing competitive workforce, it is apparent that supporting vocational education is more important than ever. It’s clear that education and training in the trades will help workers stay gainfully employed well into the future. AIS sees the benefit of supporting Native American trade students achieve their educational and professional goals, so they can be productive contributing members of their community.

IN 2022, AIS WAS ABLE TO FUND 5 TRADE STUDENTS

TESTIMONIAL

“Ya’at’eeh (Hello),
My name is Kylie Nizhonibah R. I am Todichi’iinii (Bitter Water) born for the Naakai (Mexican people) & my maternal grandfather is Tl’izi lani (Many Goats) and my paternal grandfather is Naakai (Mexican). I am from Monument Valley, Utah but I currently reside in Taylorsville, Utah with my partner & two fur babies. I graduated with my high school diploma from Monument Valley High school. In my past, I have been a direct support professional at multiple facilities. With my background it has all led me to a dream and passion in health care as a Medical Assistant.

Thank you AIS for supporting me.

Kylie R.,
Navajo

Tribal Representation

Female 80%
Male 20%

Navajo
Northern Arapahoe
AIS TRADE SCHOLARSHIP

TESTIMONIAL

“I was born and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. I have always had good grades throughout school. I wanted to make a good career choice from my education. I do not want to struggle the way I’ve seen my parents struggle financially. So, I decided long ago that I wanted to be a nurse. When I was 13 years old my mother got sick and was hospitalized, I stayed in the hospital with her, for months while she was recovering from brain surgery. This made me realize that I loved the hospital environment. I love working with and helping people in need. My decision for the nursing field was easy to make because of the job stability, flexibility, financial security, and the ability to grow professionally.

Thank you, AIS for your support”

Annalee C., Navajo
AIS STEM-PREP

For students who struggle in specific academic areas, or for students who demonstrate exceptional academic abilities in core areas, our STEM-PREP Summer focuses on academic instruction that allow students to enhance their cognitive skills and abilities. Our STEM-PREP Summer is an interdisciplinary approach that helps students succeed in high school, college and in their future careers.

Demographics

Total STEM-PREP students
63% Female
37% Male

Tribal Representation

STEM-PREP Site Locations

1. Blanding, UT
2. Gallup, NM
3. Hopi & Tuba City, AZ
4. Pocatello, ID
5. Rapid City, SD
AIS STEM PREP

Thank you to all the people that helped with the AIS STEM-PREP program and the events that were planned. This will help me because I will have a good choice of college I want to go to and an open mind of what I want to do with my life.

J.P,
Gallup, NM
Navajo

AIS STEM-PREP

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<tr>
<td>Field Trips</td>
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Post-Test Scores
Average a 30% Increase Overall
A national study on higher education affordability for Native American students found that financial hurdles often dictate where Native Americans apply for college and whether they graduate, once they enroll. The study found that 72% of students reported running out of money at least once in the last six months, while more than a quarter experienced food insecurity and 16% experienced homelessness as they pursued a college degree.

American Indian Services is dedicated to assisting these students achieve their goal & completing their college education. Here’s a glimpse of the students we were able to fund in 2022.

2,113
Total Scholarships Awarded in 2022 by AIS

Top 5 Schools
1. Arizona State University
2. University of New Mexico - ABQ
3. Northern Arizona University
4. Utah State University - Logan
5. Northwest Indian College

Top 5 Majors
1. Nursing
2. Business
3. Biology
4. Psychology
5. Education
Dear AIS Donor,

I want to personally thank all of the scholarship donors to the American Indian Services Scholarship. Without your generous support, Native scholars such as me would not have the vital financial support that is necessary to pursue our dreams of achieving a college degree. I want you to know that your generosity is truly making an incredible difference in my life. I am truly grateful and appreciative for you believing in me and expressing the confidence that you have that I will succeed in earning my Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Since I was born, my family has strongly influenced and supported my academic and career goals. I am a Blackfeet Nation, Comanche Nation, First Nations Canadian, Squamish and Filipino filmmaker and artist.

I strongly believe that the powerful stories and voices of our Native elders need to be recorded and preserved with documentary film productions. If it was not for your generous donation to the American Indian Services Scholarship, Native scholars such as me would not have the critical financial support that is necessary to fund our higher educational journey. I am truly humbled and grateful for your expression of encouragement, support and love to all of us and it means everything to me that you sincerely believe in all of us!

Thank you very much for your generous support!

Jordan M.
Blackfeet-Comanche-Squamish
Dear AIS Donor,

My name is Shawna M. I am an Osage, 36-year-old mother of two beautiful girls attempting to reach my goals and live my dream. I grew up in Tulsa, OK but have lived most of my adult life in Texas. I have had many struggles (being homeless, drug use, and unemployed) to get where I am but always manage to pull through.

I had to quit pursuing my dreams of nursing for many years so that I could work and help provide for my family. However, I realized that I want my girls to see their mother succeed. I believe that people can make a way to their success even if they must create a new path. Thus, I quit my job and went back to school. I am now attending Galen College of Nursing – San Antonio and am doing very well. I am on track to graduate December 2023 with my Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

This scholarship money means so much to me and my family. It isn’t just ensuring that our bills remain paid, tuition paid, and that I get all my books, it is a stepping stone on my newly laid path to success. It is the “you can do it too” story I will tell my kids as they grow while I encourage them to reach for their dreams like mommy did. I will be forever grateful to you and everyone who has and will help me along the way since there is no way I could do it without your help. So, thank you very much for all you do, for your help, and for your time.

Have a wonderful day.
Deepest regards,

Shawna M.
Osage
Dear AIS Donor,

My name is Claire M., and I am a member of the Navajo Nation/ Diné. I am originally from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. I attend Colorado State University as an Environmental Engineering major who is extremely passionate about water resources and sustainable communities. After graduation, I will remain motivated to engage with Indigenous communities and improve their quality of life by securing water rights and land sovereignty in any way I can. I see myself utilizing my degree and unique position to honor my ancestors and uplift future generations of Indigenous youth as so many people have done for me.

Like many students, the pandemic presented many challenges for me, and at the time I was lost and confused. Looking back on that time, I now see that I needed it to grow and rest. Since the beginning of 2020, I have become more clear, direct, and motivated in the ways in which I can change small parts of the world. I think we tend to get lost in the problems of today, and it can become discouraging. The quiet of the pandemic has allowed me to say, “I have faith that other people have the same ideas as me—and together we can do this.”

No matter what, I have invisible partners who are collaborating nobly and with humility so that we can one day see the changes we are hoping to manifest.

Thank you for supporting the dreams of me and so many others. The notion that I have invisible collaborators also includes you, as we are now working together on our shared dreams for the future. Your expression of faith is not forgotten.

Sincerely,

Claire M.
Navajo
Dear AIS Donor,

My name is Kameron G. I am a member of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation. I am currently in my final year at the University of Utah for my Bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering.

Upon receiving word that I had been accepted to the University of Utah my initial reaction was excitement followed shortly by worry. Coming from a family of 4 children, my parents are not able to help any of my siblings in paying for school. While recognizing the importance of a higher education, I knew I was going to be burdened with the cost of school. As such, I entered school having applied to countless scholarships and constantly searching for places where money could be saved. Maybe I didn’t need 3 or even 2 meals a day; living in a single room with two other roommates can’t be that bad. But once I realized my potential to receive scholarships like the American Indian Services award, I realized that college tuition is surmountable.

Through hard work and dedication, and with the aid of tremendously generous donors, I am nearing the end of my college degree with many new experiences and friends, while studying the field that I love. From studying Civil Engineering, I hope one day to be able to use my future degree to help impoverished Reservations. In specific, I hope one day to be able to return to the Duck Valley Indian Reservation with the tools and knowledge to improve the poor infrastructure. As of current, many homes have no electricity, and some lack even running water. Virtually every section of infrastructure is grossly inferior to the rest of the United States. Being able to one day help build reservations into shining, safe, and successful communities is what motivates me to strive for the sky.

Thank you for allowing me to pursue my dream.

Aisen Tsaa (Thank You),

Kameron G.
Shoshone-Paiute
Dear Generous Donor,

As a young native girl (Tlingit Tribe, Southeast Alaska) from a working-class family in the suburbs of the greater Seattle area, it’s easy for me to think I will only get it as good as my parents had it. My mother is a mail carrier for USPS and my dad is a truck driver.

In March 2020, I got my acceptance letter to Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. I am studying Earth & Atmospheric Sciences with a concentration in Geology at Cornell University. I have always been fascinated by the earth and its seismic activity. I do not know many other teenagers that listened to geographic information sensing podcasts (and even have sock merch from it) and ask for national geographic books for Christmas. There was scarce earth science content (STEM) in my k-12 curriculum, so I am beyond ecstatic to make it the center of my study for the next few years (and hopefully beyond). I do not have a specific dream job, but hopefully something in seismology. It is also important for me to find a job that not only makes me happy but also progresses the world in a positive direction. An important figure in my life and an avid Rotarian lives by the quote “do what you love, love what you do”, and it has been crucial in deciding what major is best for me.

Now back to the purpose of this letter, to the donors of the AIS scholarship, thank you. I hope you realize your contribution to making my dreams become a reality. Little Tlingit Taylor H. from the public school system is attending the Ivy League. As cliché as it might sound, it is only possible by people like you. I want you to know how important this scholarship is to me. Thank you for helping me achieve goals I never would have thought could be obtainable.

Sincerely,

Taylor H.
Tlingit
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Kevin Sekaquaptewa (Hopi)

Trade Scholarship Director
Meredith Lam (Navajo)

Scholarship Assistant
Shayla Manitowabi-Huebner
(Wiikwemkoong First Nation)

Administrative Assistant
Tishna Campbell (Iroquois)
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING AIS

SAVE THE DATES:

LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP GALA
MARCH 16, 2024,

ST. GEORGE GOLF TOURNAMENT
APRIL 30, 2024,

JOHNNY MILLER RIVERSIDE
GOLF SHOOTOUT
JUNE 24, 2024,

YOU CAN MAKE A DONATION USING THIS QR CODE