FROM THE DIRECTOR

This Lenten season marks a year since our lives and ways of interacting took on a new look. We have remained faithful and optimistic, grateful for all that we have learned, not only about each other but, most importantly, about ourselves.

Our year is off to a good start. Congratulations to our 2021 Grantees! CNAMF embraces these partnerships that will provide positive change in our tribal communities across the country.

We are excited to announce a grant from the Arizona Humanities Council for “Weaving Language, Tradition and Spirituality Through Poetry.” CNAMF will work with a Master Poet to conduct workshops in the Gila River Indian Community and the Tohono O’odham Nation, where participants will create poems and spiritual prose in the O’odham language.

In alignment with our Strategic Plan, we are currently working on a Marketing and Branding package. Watch our website and social media platforms, as we continue to update these sites with current events, prayers, and words of thought and wisdom.

We are pleased to be participating in Arizona Gives Day, Tuesday, April 6, 2021. This annual giving event connects people with causes they believe in and build a lasting stronger spirit of philanthropy in our state. Please take a moment to view our profile at AZGives.org. This is an easy way to give to the worthwhile and much needed work we do with tribal communities. Thank you in advance for your continued support of CNAMF, always in the spirit of Christ’s love.

Wishing you and your families a blessed Lenten season as we await the celebration of His resurrection for our salvation.

Wendy Weston
Executive Director/CEO
Cook Native American Ministries Foundation

BULLETIN

APRIL 6TH, 2021

24 HOURS OF ONLINE GIVING TO BENEFIT ARIZONA LOCAL NONPROFITS

Arizona Gives Day is an annual giving movement uniting nonprofits, big and small, new and established, to celebrate and increase philanthropy in Arizona through online giving.

Support CNAMF in developing long lasting programs and services that positively impact and advance Native communities and churches. To donate visit:

www.azgives.org/cooknativeamericanministriesfoundation
Continuing the legacy and vision of Cook Native American Ministries founder, Reverend Charles H. Cook, CNAMF provides grants nationwide to churches and non-profit organizations who actively work in Native communities to provide programs and services.

CNAMF will begin accepting Letters of Intent for the grant program beginning May 20, 2021 through July 31, 2021. For more detailed information visit the website at www.cooknam.org.

HISTORY CORNER

DELLA (SNEED) PENNA

Cook Native American Ministries Foundation (CNAMF) and I go back to the time when I was a young child, when it was called Cook Christian Training School, aka “Cook School”, located off 2nd Street and Indian School Road in Phoenix, Arizona. My grandmother, the late Nellie Sneed (Akimel O’otham “Pima”), lived on campus in a room near the school kitchen and worked as the “Cook” for students and staff. My father, the late Rev. Kenneth A. Sneed (Akimel O’otham “Pima”), worked as the groundskeeper, attended classes, and met and married my mother, the late Emily E. Adams Sneed (Hopi), who was a student at the school. My father was ordained and served at Sells Presbyterian Church and Sacaton First Presbyterian Church. My parents and grandparents were devoted Christians who served the Lord graciously and wholeheartedly. My parents instilled their spirituality and faith in our family of nine children.

In May of 1982, while attending business college, one of my best friends, Ruth Corbett Muñoz, who was the school secretary, informed me of an open position at Cook School. I interviewed with Dr. Corbett, was hired as the Receptionist, and became a part of the Cook School family. I have also served in other positions at the school and am currently the Administrative Manager for CNAMF.

Working at Cook School was very fulfilling. I attended graduations, holiday functions, chapel services and served on the student yearbook committee. At the end of each academic year students and staff gathered for games, volleyball and picnics. In the fall the staff would take a retreat to Prescott to prepare for the upcoming school year.

As I grew stronger, not only in my work experience, I also grew stronger in my faith and spirituality. My two children, Mayo, and Cassandra have also grown along with me in this journey. I have been associated with CNAMF for close to 35 years and have developed many connections and heartfelt bonds. Today, our team continues the legacy of Charles H. Cook in the work we do with tribal churches and communities. My family roots lie here and CNAMF will always be close to my heart as I honor the leadership of my parents and grandparents, whose service helped shape the character of Cook Native American Ministries Foundation. Our Lord God continues to keep CNAMF in strength, blessings and guidance.
Cook Native American Ministries Foundation’s grant program has a national reach, eight tribal communities in 6 states were awarded grants amounting to $50,000.

CNAMF is pleased to announce the recipients of grant funding that will be used for programs that positively impact and empower Native churches and communities.

**APACHE YOUTH MINISTRIES, LAKESIDE, ARIZONA**

Native Youth Leadership Development Program - An internship training program for young adults from the White Mountain Apache Nation to develop leadership and outreach skills to reach the younger Apache generation.

**BLACKFEET UNITED METHODIST PARISH, BROWNING, MONTANA**

Native Hooves Horsemanship - A ministry outreach program designed to instill compassion, confidence, and inspire healthy growth and leadership development for Native youth of the Blackfeet Nation.

**HIPEEXNU’ KII ‘U NU’ UN WISIIIX, LAPWAI, IDAHO**

Forever is in the Future – A training program for youth to observe and learn Nimíipuúti’mt (Nez Perce dialect) and cultural traditions. Youth Learn Mentees will in turn present and teach cultural practices and language to toddlers and preschoolers guided by a lead language instructor.

**LIVING WATERS LUTHERAN CHURCH, CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA**

Food Pantry and Resource Center - A Community Outreach ministry of Living Waters Lutheran Church, will continue to offer food, clothing, household items, emergency relief and other resources to the Cherokee communities that have been deeply impacted by COVID.

**MENDING WINGS, WAPATO, WASHINGTON**

Dancing Our Prayers - Engages Native youth and Elders from the Yakama Nation in integrated activities that increase access to and sharing of cultural knowledge, traditions, and spiritual beliefs. Fifteen youth travel throughout the year to share Yakama culture, spirituality, ways of life and with people throughout the country.

**NABI FOUNDATION, PHOENIX, ARIZONA**

Youth Leadership Initiative - a leadership program for 100 youth from 5 Arizona Native communities that will build leadership skills, increase optimism and reduce high risk behaviors. The program will provide ongoing leadership training, workshops and implement community service projects that will be delivered on local reservations.

**PENINSULA DELAWARE CONFERENCE-UMC, DOVER, DELAWARE**

Peg Leg Flamingos Youth Leadership Ministry- The program will train a group of 15-20 Native youth from the Northeast to maintain and perpetuate Peg Leg Flamingos as a vital youth leadership ministry. Peg Leg Flamingos gives voice to Native youth to address social and environmental issues affecting their communities and provides the support to take action.

**THREE PRECIOUS MIRACLES, SACATON, ARIZONA**

Miracles for Families - incorporates culture, heritage, stories and equine therapy into the lives of 50 Native foster care and adoptive families throughout Arizona.

*These projects and programs collectively uphold the mission of CNAMF- To equip leaders to better serve their churches and communities.*

*To learn more about Cook Native American Ministries Foundation: www.cooknam.org.*
Did You Know That You Can Donate To Cook Native American Ministries Foundation through an IRA Charitable Rollover?

Using an IRA to make a charitable donation can help lower a tax bill and help a worthy cause. If you are 70½ or older, an IRA charitable rollover is a way you can help continue the work and vision of CNAMF.

**BENEFITS OF AN IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER**

- Avoid taxes on transfers of up to $100,000 from your IRA to CNAMF
- Satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year
- Reduce your taxable income
- Make a gift that is not subject to the deduction limits on charitable gifts
- Help further the work and mission of CNAMF

Contact your IRA plan administrator to make a gift from your IRA to CNAMF.