The Impact Of Your Generosity
At American Indian Services
An Annual Report and Letters of Gratitude
June 2020

Erika James, Navajo
San Juan College
Elementary/Special Education

Shandin Kate White, Navajo
BYU-Hawaii
Business Management

Leah Deering Wilson, Navajo
University of Arizona
Veterinary Sciences

Kianna Holian, Cochiti Pueblo
University of New Mexico
Population Health

Crystal Miller
Walker River Paiute
Humboldt State, Social Work

TeMerae Blackwater, Navajo
University of Utah
Health Promotion and Ed.

Francine Clark, Navajo
Arizona State University
Community Health

Philip Lokahi Conte, Oneida
Brigham Young University
Visual Arts - Pre Dental

Levi Kohl, Navajo
University of Iowa
Accounting

Chelsea Heenan
San Carlos Apache
Presentation College, Psych

Jayne Sandoval, Navajo
Northern Arizona University
Mechanical Engineering

Jonald Semalie, Navajo
Arizona State University
Engineering

Melvina Lake, Navajo
Idaho State University
Doctor of Pharmacy

Meeya Apelu, Navajo
Brigham University
Civil Engineering

Shelby Begody, Navajo
Arizona State University
Elementary Education

Kyrii Duncan, Ute Indian
University of Utah
Strategic Communication

Sayde Sago, Mescalero Apache
University of Colorado Boulder
Biological Sciences

Shelby Begody, Navajo
Arizona State University
Elementary Education

Audriana Lovitt, Te-Moak
University of Nevada
Communications

Victoria Meza, Navajo
Brigham Young University
Psychology

Melvina Lake, Navajo
Idaho State University
Doctor of Pharmacy

Sayde Sago, Mescalero Apache
University of Colorado Boulder
Biological Sciences

TeMerae Blackwater, Navajo
University of Utah
Health Promotion and Ed.

Brenton Begay
Tohono O’odham Nation
ASU, Mechanical Engineering

Kianna Holian, Cochiti Pueblo
University of New Mexico
Population Health

Crystal Miller
Walker River Paiute
Humboldt State, Social Work

TeMerae Blackwater, Navajo
University of Utah
Health Promotion and Ed.

Brenton Begay
Tohono O’odham Nation
ASU, Mechanical Engineering
Dear AIS Donor,

My name is Kameron Gonzales. I am a member of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, though I grew up in Boise, Idaho. I am currently in my first year at the University of Utah for Civil Engineering. I came here in part because I love the outdoors, mainly skiing, and also because I feel the University of Utah recognizes the true history of Native Americans and respects every culture. I first decided to pursue Civil Engineering from working for my Dad in his small commercial interior finish business.

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 6, 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 able to attend college and eventually obtain a degree in 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,

- Kameron Gonzales
Dear AIS Donor,

My name is Haley Begay and I am a senior at Indiana University where I am majoring in Journalism and Spanish. I am from the small town of Pittsboro, Indiana where I have lived my whole life with my mother, father, and brother. My father is a full-blooded Native American from the Navajo and Cherokee tribes. I am extremely proud of my heritage and thank you for this scholarship. It truly is an honor.

I aspire to be a famous sports reporter someday for ESPN or wherever I can land myself a job. The job of Miss Indiana 2017 helped me polish up my public speaking skills as well as being able to talk off the cuff without feeling unprepared or nervous. I traveled all over the whole state of Indiana for a year speaking to everyone from children to celebrities like Sage Steele and Thomas Rhett.

While I had a wonderful year serving my state and pursuing my dreams, my mother was diagnosed with glioblastoma brain cancer two weeks after I was crowned Miss Indiana. She told me that she wanted me to keep serving my state and that she would be just fine. Mommas never lie; she is now healthy and cancer free! While it was certainly a tough year to watch my mother go through the horrifying effects of chemotherapy and radiation, I prayed my heart out and kept my goals and dreams in mind daily.

Now, I have just finished up my last semester of junior year. My goal is to graduate in December with a 3.8 or higher in the future. This past semester, I made it my mission to focus on journalism as much as I could. I am a student sideline reporter for the Big Ten Network, an intern with the IU Newsroom and an anchor for IU Student TV. While it certainly is difficult to juggle my hectic schedule, it will all be worth it in the future when I am standing on the sideline interviewing the best athletes in the league.

Thank you very much for providing me with this scholarship. I do not come from a rich family and we greatly appreciate any scholarships that come my way. After my mom’s cancer recovery, my family was short on money due to medical bills and other various expenses, so this extra boost of money is truly an appreciated gift.

In the future, I would like to be a donor, too, where I can assist young college students in funding their education and helping them pursue their greatest dreams.

Thank you for your kindness,
- Haley Begay
American Indian Services 2019
Scholarships Awarded By State
Total: 2,438

Scholarships Awarded By Tribe:
Confederated Tribes & Bands of the Yakama Nation 7; Confederated Tribes of the Colville 6; Lummi Tribe 23; Makah Indian Tribe 1; Muckleshoot Indian Tribe 1; Nooksack Indian Tribe 25; Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe 3; Spokane Tribe 1; Suquamish Indian Tribe 4; Swinomish Indian Tribal Community 2; Tulalip Tribes 3; Upper Skagit Indian Tribe 1; Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla 2; Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs 4; Arapahoe Tribe 5; Coeur D’Alene Tribe 2; Shoshone-Bannock Tribes 8; Shoshone-Paiute Tribes 13; Bishop Paiute Tribe 1; Bridgeport Indian Colony 2; Chemehuevi Indian Tribe 2; Hoopa Valley Tribe 4; Round Valley Indian Tribes 3; Susanville Indian Rancheria 1; Atsiskan Native 76; Orutsararmiut Traditional Native Council 1; Other 39; Fort McDermitt Paiute & Shoshone Tribes 4; Lovelock Paiute Tribe 2; Paiute-Shoshone Tribe 5; Reno-Sparks Indian Colony 2; To-Moak Tribe 4; Walker River Paiute Tribe 1; Paiute Indian Tribe 3; Shoshone Tribe 5; Ute Mountain Tribe 1; Ute Indian Tribe 3; Ute Mountain Tribe 1; Colorado River Indian Tribes 4; Ak Chin Indian Community 1; Hopi Tribe 23; Hualapai Indian Tribe 1; Navajo Nation 1995; Pascua Yaqui Tribe 7; Quechan Tribe 3; San Carlos Apache Tribe 12; Tohono O’odham Nation 7; White Mountain Apache Tribe 18; Jicarilla Apache Nation 1; Kewa Pueblo 1; Mescalero Apache Tribe 1; Othkay Owinge 4; Pueblo of Acoma 12; Pueblo of Cochiti 4; Pueblo of Isleta 6; Pueblo of Jemez 6; Pueblo of Laguna 11; Pueblo of Picuris 1; Pueblo of San Felipe 4; Pueblo of San Ildefonso 3; Pueblo of Santa Clara 1; Pueblo of Taos 5; Pueblo of Tesuque 1; Pueblo of Zia 2; Zuni Tribe 7; Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes 4; Blackfeet Tribe 12; Chippewa- Crees Indians 3; Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes 8; Crow Tribe 6; Fort Belknap Indian Community 6; Northern Cheyenne Tribe 7; Spirit Lake Tribe 4; Standing Rock Sioux Tribe 21; Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation 30; Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians 103; Minnesota Chippewa Tribe 14; Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians 2; Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe 15; Crow Creek Sioux Tribe 8; Lower Brule Sioux Tribe 1; Oglala Sioux Tribe 18; Rosebud Sioux Tribe 16; Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate 8; Yankton Sioux Tribe 5; Sac & Fox Tribe 8; Omaha Tribe 12; Winnebago Tribe 5; Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation 3; Absentee-Shawnee Tribe 1; Apache Tribe of Oklahoma 1; Caddo Nation 1; Cherokee Nation 14; Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes 1; Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma 4; Comanche Nation 7; Kickapoo Tribe 2; Kiowa Indian Tribe 2; Muscogee (Creek) Nation 6; Pawnee Nation 4; Ponca Tribe of Indians 3; Seminole Nation 4; Wichita and Affiliated Tribes 1; Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe 5; Ho-Chunk Nation 2; Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians 5; Menominee Indian Tribe 3; Oneida Nation 2; Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians 4; St. Croix Chippewa Indians 1; Bay Mills Indian Community 2; Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians 6; Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians 3; Cayuga Nation 2; Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe 7; Seneca Nation of Indians 2;Shinnecock Indian Nation 2; Passamaquoddy Tribe 1; Wampanoag Tribe 1; Tuscarora Nation 1; Bay Mills Indian Community 2; Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians 6; Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians 3;

*Map is grouped by tribal cultural areas and lands, and corresponds with the list of tribes below. Please note that this is not a completely accurate depiction of tribal areas due to tribal lands and cultures overlapping state lines.

1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019
Donor Designations of Philanthropic Funds
Total: $3,928,540

Tribal Projects:
$22,743.14 - .05%

Administrative Costs:
$730,758.11 - 18%

AIS PREP: $737,124.62 - 19%

Scholarships: $2,437,915.57 - 62%

Please help us reach our goal of raising $4 million in 2020
We’ve raised $1,722,180 so far in 2020

$2,277,820 to go!