

## Resolution 2024.27

TITLE: Remembrance, Recognition, Reconciliation, Relationship and Reparations: Native Ministry in the Diocese of Arizona

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Organization/Church: Council for Native American Ministry  
City: Diocese of Arizona

BE IT RESOLVED: that the 57th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona affirmed the 2006 General Convention Resolution D046 (2007 – 2017 as the Decade of Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation) and the Covenant of Faith signed at Jamestown, VA in 1997, and designates the Mission for diocesan Native American Ministry as that of Remembrance, Recognition, Reconciliation, Relationship and adds Reparations.

BE IT RESOLVED: that all congregations remember and recognize the traditional people of the land by honoring the Recognition of Traditional Custodians of Church Lands resolution passed at the 56th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Arizona including a Land Acknowledgement in all print materials and as gatherings begin.

BE IT RESOLVED: that the 62nd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona affirmed the work of the 80th General Convention Resolution A127 by designating 2024 as the Boarding School Listening & Healing Pilgrimage (2022-04 Telling the Truth about the Episcopal Church's History with Indigenous Boarding Schools).

BE IT RESOLVED: that we have remembered and recognized the history of Arizona Boarding Schools and continue to reconcile this history and the historical trauma that resulted. In the spirit of our faith in the hope of healing the historical trauma and repairing our futures for the generations that follow we now enter into the discernment process seeking restorative justice. In the spirit of our faith in the hope of healing the historical trauma and repairing our futures for the generations that follow we now enter into the discernment process seeking restorative justice. Every ministry of the diocese is encouraged to reflect on how this might be realized in their life of prayer and work in the community.

*Explanation: The Council for Native American Ministry sponsored the 2024 Listening & Healing Pilgrimage with the whole diocese. Regional gatherings were held and survivors of the 47 boarding schools identified in Arizona and their families shared their experiences and memories. Each gathering also included presentations to further our knowledge of this history and connections to the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition and the TEC A127 Committee work were integrated with these gatherings. A Documentary is being developed to memorialize the Pilgrimage and to make it available to the wider community. The Council for Native American Ministry is beginning a process of discerning what restorative justice looks like for our diocese and is specifically engaging with the strong relationships that already exist between congregations and the 22 Federally Recognized tribes in Arizona.*

*Funding Implications: There are no additional funding implications outside of the continued need to support the Canon for Native American Ministry position (salary, travel and expenses) and our Council for Native American Ministry work.*

## Resolution 2024.28

TITLE: Support of Federal Legislation for Truth and Healing Commission

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Organization/Church: Council for Native American Ministry  
City: Diocese of Arizona

BE IT RESOLVED, The 64th Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona does hereby support the “Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding Schools Policies in the United States Act” (S.1723 and H.R. 7227), or any similar act by state or federal governments that will:

- formally investigate, document, and report on the histories of Indian boarding schools, Indian Boarding School Policies, and the systematic and long-term effects on Native American peoples;
- develop recommendations for federal and state action based on the findings of these investigations.
- promote healing for survivors of Indian boarding schools, the descendants of those survivors, and the communities of those survivors;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona urges the House and Senate to pass S. 1723 and H.R. 7227;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona calls on President Joe Biden and Interior Secretary Debra Haaland to garner the full authority of the Biden Administration to support these bills and will continue to call for such legislation to future administrations.

*Explanation: Attempts to destroy Native cultures, religions, and languages through assimilationist practices and policies can be traced to the early 17th century and the founding charters of some of the oldest educational institutions in the United States. The Federal Indian Boarding School Policy was expressly intended to accomplish genocide—the systematic destruction of Indigenous identities and beliefs. and the taking of Native lands. Between 1819 and the 1960s hundreds of thousands of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children were removed from their homes and families and placed in Indian boarding schools operated by the federal government and churches. Many of the children who were taken to Indian boarding schools did not survive, and of those who did survive, many never returned to their parents, extended families, or communities. Many of the children who were taken to Indian boarding schools who did not survive were interred in cemeteries in unmarked graves. Parents of children who were forcibly removed from or coerced into leaving their homes and placed in Indian boarding schools were prohibited from visiting or engaging in correspondence with their children. Parental resistance to compliance with the harsh, no-contact policy of Indian boarding schools resulted in parents being incarcerated or losing access to basic human rights, food rations, and clothing. American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian communities continue to experience intergenerational trauma and cultural and familial disruption from experiences rooted in Indian*

*Boarding Schools Policies, which divided family structures, damaged cultures and individual identities, and inflicted chronic physical and psychological ramifications on American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children, families, and communities. The descendants of these children, spanning across multiple generations, bear the legacy of Indian boarding schools and the enduring federal policy that established and perpetuated them, wherein the trauma they endured remains unacknowledged and unresolved to this day. It has been identified that 523+ Indian boarding schools existed across 38 states but this does not include day schools, asylums, orphanages, and hospitals that were used to take Native children from their family and Tribes during this same time period.*