

**MINISTRY REPORT**  
**2017**

Dear Quest Church...

Hello from the Yakama Nation! We're loving Fall and our people. I hope you enjoy seeing what Creator is doing in the Yakama Nation through Mending Wings and your partnership with us.

**Programs**

Footprints of Our Elders classes focus in 2 areas—drumming and language and culture. We have about 15 students who are learning how to drum and sing our sacred songs, and about the same who are involved in learning their language and culture.

4-1 Youth Group continues to grow. We have more and more new students who are coming to have fun and learn life-lessons as we all strive to become better human beings.

Guys & Girls Night is always popular as we spend 1 Friday night a month just going out and having a good time in a drug & alcohol-free environment. It's an excellent time for our leaders to connect with students.

Community Healers helped our Yakama Nation homeless by sorting and organizing clothes at the clothing bank and distributing.

**S.L.A.M. TRIPS**

We hired a new director of this program this year in Mollie George. Mollie grew up through Mending Wings and has now moved into leadership in her mid-twenties.

There were close to 300 participants this Spring and Summer, with several Covenant Church participants.

### **Dancing Our Prayers**

Our teams of Native youth drummers, dancers and drama teams traveled to 5 different churches this year sharing Christ in culture through song, dance, regalia, drama and testimony.

### **Conference Speaking**

Corey spoke at 4 different conferences across the country this year, sharing about justice issues between the Church and Native America and tearing down barriers while building bridges.

### **Language Knowledge Bowl**

Our Mending Wings students participated for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in the Northwest Language & Knowledge Bowl where Ichishkiin speakers come to compete by showing their knowledge of our language. The following tribes were part of this annual event: Colville, Yakama, Warm Springs, Umatilla and Nez Perce. Out of 28 teams our Mending Wings kids (Yakama) took 4<sup>th</sup> place. They are learning their language!

### **Mni Wiconi Wacipi Family Camp & Pow Wow**

Mending Wings once again partnered with Wiconi International to host our annual Family Camp & Pow Wow in Turner, OR. Where families and teens come to relax and dance our prayers in the summer.

### **Thunder Junior High Retreat**

Mending Wings participated in our first ever Thunder Retreat thanks to the generosity of some Covenant Churches and individuals. We took 10 kids this year, I believe. They had a blast!

### **Suicide Prevention in Alaska**

Mending Wings was invited by the Tlingit, Tsimshian and Haida nations in Alaska to share suicide prevention with their youth coalition. Corey Greaves and Josephine Buck traveled to meet the invitation. We also did consultation with Presbyterian Churches on contextual Native ministry and how to begin youth ministries.

We do not have a word in our language for 'Thank You'. We would, however, say 'Kwathlanushamaash'—I am happy. So, Kwathlanushamaash to Quest Church for your partnership with Mending Wings in bringing healing, restoration, revitalization and the love of Yeshua to our Yakama Nation youth and families.

Peace.