Aloha mai kākou!

On behalf of the College Horizons Board of Directors, mahalo (thank you) for your support of perpetuating “College Pride, Native Pride” with our upcoming generation of Nation Builders. This past year, 2023, has been filled with our hearts' work, especially as we transitioned from heavy remote work influenced by COVID and returned to in-person programs this summer. While the magic did not wane through the programs delivered online the past 3 years, seeing our colleagues and students in 3D filled my heart and brought back this inexplicable feeling of joy that I find only College Horizons can provide. Or perhaps it's that familiar awkwardness of dorm life as an adult, together with extra long twin mattresses and campus cafeteria food that I missed? Either way, I have been infinitely grateful for the work of the CH team and Carmen's leadership bringing us back in person and finding the CH rhythm all over again.

2023 also brought its share of challenges, and I greatly admire the College Horizons community for activating its support and refusing to shy away from these challenges. After all, I don't think it was a coincidence that the SCOTUS ruling came during the Redlands program. I remember thinking that day -- there are few other colleagues and communities I would want to be with to process the initial feelings that the ruling stirred up. Without missing a beat, the CH community came closer together to reassure each other that this ruling would not disrupt our work; in fact, it only deepened our resolve and commitment to our students that our work is now more important than ever.

I believe this report will shed light on the impact of this important work and hopefully inspire you, dear reader, to think about where else you can fit in to support College Horizons. We always welcome more members and more deeply engaged members to the CH ‘ohana (family), so whether you're new to the fold or a veteran, if you read this and have an inkling to lend more of your talents and strengths to our work, I hope you will let us know. College Horizons' work is never done, and we are excited to look at the possibilities in the years ahead.

In closing, from my ancestors to yours, I wish you a healthy and safe wrap up of 2023 and holiday season. I look forward to all that we have in store for 2024!

Me ke aloha,
Aunty Nikki
College Horizons has inspired me to take my next steps in education. As an indigenous person I feel safer applying to college. Through College Horizons my cultural identity has developed tremendously. Thank you College Horizons for helping me find my place in this world.” - CH’23 Student

“I love learning the stories of our students and seeing a community form during the summer program. I love working with an all Native team who are passionate about college access and success work.” - Mikaela Crank, CH Staff

The ability to learn about the distinct cultures, languages, histories, and traditions of native/indigenous students and connect on a 1 on 1 level with these high schoolers. The mentoring pieces of this program are what make CH unique and incredibly impactful for us as University Reps. - CH’23 Faculty Member.

“Connecting with Native students and helping them realize their potential is the exciting part of working with College Horizons. I resonate with the stories students share in their application and homework for the program - I see the same ambition and curiosity about the world and I hope to guide them to make informed decisions about their future. This 1:1 culturally-relevant counseling is the work of Native nation-building.” - Kendall Harvey, CH Staff

“This was such a wonderful experience. It was the perfect blend between an access program, classic summer camp and all the best parts of college prep” - CH’23 Faculty member

Our Ancestral Stamina
Carmen Lopez, Executive Director

At College Horizons, our students come from the Cosmos. We are the Four Directions. We are Navigators. Children of the Stars. Buffalo and Eagle Dancers. Born from White and Yellow Corn. Molded in the image of Changing Woman. Collectively, our students represent 300 Tribal Nations, the villages of Alaska and islands of Hawaii.

College Horizons navigates the space between generational trauma and ancestral stamina balancing old and new narratives in education. The violence of our past and present with the possibilities of our future. Navigating feelings of outrage while remaining hopeful. Native American communities make up less than 2% of the population yet only 15% of Native American students attain a bachelors degree compared to 40% nationally.

There is not one specific problem that keeps Native American students from college entry and completion. It is the cumulative barriers over a student’s lifetime - from historical trauma to the pandemic making visible the technology divide in rural Indian Country to the Supreme Court’s ruling to exclude race in the admission process. Moreover, in higher education, Indigenous students are rendered invisible, considered statistically insignificant and largely left out of institutional data due to small enrollment rates.

At College Horizons we believe there are alternative ways to close, mend and heal the college attainment gap for Native American and Native Hawaiian students. We prepare, celebrate, and empower Native youth to pursue higher education by providing culturally sustaining college advising programs that contributes to community Nation Building. We believe that affirming the value of Indigenous Knowledge systems alongside western systems and connecting culture and community to college supports Native student’s wellbeing academically, culturally, emotionally, socially and spiritually. We see the impact among the 4,000 students we serve as 95% matriculate to a 4-year degree and 85% graduate from college.

Enjoy the testimonials of our students, faculty and staff and join us in celebrating our collective impact!

-Aunty Carmen

Our Stories, Our Impact
College Horizons Board of Directors

DR. NIKKI CHUN, President
Vice Provost for Enrollment Management, University of Hawaii-Manoa
Native Hawaiian

“The opportunity to be part of an Indigenous student’s higher education journey is everything. CH is a place that is built on possibility and the future; its commitments to young people—and by extension—our communities and nations is powerful.”

DR. BRYAN McKinley Jones Brayboy, Vice President
Dean, School of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University
Carlos Montezuma Professor of Education and Social Policy
Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina

“As a board member, I take immense pride in the accomplishments of College Horizons, especially during challenging times. The statistics speak volumes, but what resonates even more is the organization’s adaptability and resilience. Operating the program in a virtual format during the Covid-19 pandemic and successfully transitioning back to in-person activities showcases our commitment to the mission despite external challenges. Being part of an organization that not only navigated uncertainties but also thrived in the face of adversity reinforces my belief in the strength and effectiveness of our programs.”

JEREMY OYENQUE, Secretary/Treasurer
Education Department Director, Pueblo of Santa Clara
Santa Clara Pueblo

“College Horizons has come to represent my heart’s work in admissions and higher education. It’s such an honor to serve the organization in this capacity among CH leadership because this is a transformative program that does more than ensure students are supported in college; this program creates our future nation-builders. I am so proud to be a part of this incredible program.”
College Horizons Staff

CARMEN LOPEZ
Executive Director
Navajo Nation

CHRISTINE SUINA
Program Coordinator
Pueblo of Cochiti

MIKAELA CRANK
Scholars Pathway Program Director
Navajo Nation

AMELIA CATÉ
Program Associate
Pueblo of Acoma/Santo Domingo

KENDALL HARVEY
Scholars Fellow & Program Associate
Navajo Nation

TANEYA GARCIA
Policy Fellow
Pueblo of Santa Ana/Acoma
College Horizons (CH) is a national non-profit organization based in New Mexico located on the homelands of the Pueblo People. College Horizons was founded in 1998 at the Native American Preparatory School (in New Mexico) initially serving American Indian students in the Southwest and today has grown to serve over 4,000 Native American students nationwide representing over 300 Tribal Nations, villages of Alaska and islands of Hawai‘i. CH has also provided professional development training to 1,000 college admissions officers, high school counselors, and Tribal Educators.

College Horizons addresses the college attainment gap by providing a culturally responsive college and career readiness curriculum that aligns with community core values and meets individual needs. College Horizons is designed to align with diversity outreach initiatives of colleges and universities by offering pathway opportunities:

- **College Horizons** (Pre-College for high school students)
- **Scholars Pathway Program** (College Transition, Well-being & Wrap-Around Support)
- **Graduate Horizons** (Pre-Graduate for college students/recent graduates)

### OUR STUDENT IMPACT

- **99%** of CH alumni graduate from high school
- **85%** of CH students graduate college within 4-6 years, from 700 colleges/universities
- **95%** of students matriculate to a 4-year college or university
- **5%** matriculate to a Community College or Tribal College
The mission of College Horizons is to encourage and facilitate the higher education of Native American young people. Our goal is to:

1. **Increase the higher education rate of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian high school and college students** by providing pre-college (College Horizons) and pre-graduate (Graduate Horizons) admission/financial aid counseling programs and,
2. **Increase Native student well being and college completion rate** by providing a college success program for alumni (Scholars Program).

Our vision is for Native American students to attend college as their full selves - bringing their culture, language, ancestors and Indigenous ways of knowing with them because these are gifts, blessings and educational assets. College Horizons was created to address the college attainment gap of Native American students and position our work through an asset based approach.
### Revenue & Support

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<th>Source</th>
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<tr>
<td>In-Kind Revenues</td>
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<td>Management &amp; General</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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### Assets

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<td>Total Assets, Beginning of Fiscal Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Assets, End of Fiscal Year</td>
<td>$1,060,083</td>
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Financial Note: CH experienced a deficit this fiscal year due to inflation increases in program expenses, families requesting more travel aid as airline tickets increased by 30% for summer travel, and CH prioritized COVID-19 safety practices providing PPE and test-kits for all participants. Overall, CH remains financially healthy with cash liquidity reserves at $1M.

### Student Support: $92,415

Airfare assistance awarded to 2023 program participants

The only direct cost for students/families to participate in College Horizons summer programs is the cost of airfare. CH provides need-based financial assistance to eligible students.
Thank you to our 2022-2023 Donors!

The Mellon Foundation
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Davis New Mexico Scholarship Fund
Navajo Preparatory School
Scott Family Corporation Inc.
The Riedler Foundation
Schwab Charitable
Tekio Solutions, LCC
Vanguard Charitable
Give Lively
Fidelity Charitable
Network for Good
Tulley & Penny Nakai
Karla Candelaria-Oquendo
Brian Brooks
David Fetterman
Keith Williams
Avery Kamalu
Tania Barricklow
Rebecca Inaba
Denise Barricklow
Connor Beard
Jeremy Aliason
Dan Heinrich Manuyag
The Fetterman Family (Yurok)
Whitney Laughlin, Founder of College Horizons
Karla Candelaria-Oquendo
Mallott Family
Dominic & Jolynn Pruitt
David Sprengeler
Robert Henry Scarborough III
Dorothy Echols Scarborough
Shelly Krause
Terri Riendeau

CH also recognizes the 83 Anonymous contributors and individual donors.

College Horizons is grateful to all of the contributors who provide financial and in-kind support:

Foundations,
Partner Colleges,
Organizations,
Sponsors,
Businesses,
Volunteer Counselors,
and Individual Donors.
College Horizons serves 10th and 11th grade Native high school students providing pre-college admission and financial aid counseling. After 3 years of remote programming, in 2023 College Horizons returned to in-person programming serving Native students nationwide.

**2023 HOST SITES**

**University of Redlands**
(Redlands, California)
June 24–30, 2023

**Emory University**
(Atlanta, Georgia)
July 8–14, 2023

**TOTAL Participants:** 212
- 68 (32%) 11th graders
- 144 (68%) 12th graders
- 10 returning students

- **25%** of students are First Generation
- **31%** of students reside or live near their Tribal homelands

**62** Native Nations Represented
- 142 American Indian students
- 67 Native Hawaiian students
- 3 Alaska Native students

**123** High Schools Represented
- 34 Independent Schools
- 89 Public Schools

**2023 FACULTY AND COLLEGE PARTICIPATION**

**128** Total Faculty

**106** Admission Officers

**22** High School Counselors

**75** Partner Colleges

**10** New Partners
The Scholars Pathway Program is designed to empower College Horizons alumni in their transition to college. Students participate in a 4-year pathway program that supports them with academic study skills, well-being strategies, seminar/lecture courses and pre-graduate planning.

**Lawrence University** (Appleton, Wisconsin), July 15–22, 2023

**TOTAL 2023 Participants:**

- **34**
  - **21** First Year Students
  - **13** Indigenous Research Methodologies Students (Sophomores & Juniors)

**Native Nations Represented:**

- **18**
  - **17** AI/AN tribes & villages
  - **6** Native Hawaiian students

**Colleges/Universities Represented:**

- **23**
  - **22** Colleges/Universities
  - **1** Tribal College/University

**Total Scholars Served:**

- **191** (2017-2023)

17% of students are First Generation
Graduate Horizons prepares Native college students to apply to Graduate Schools and Professional Schools (master’s doctoral, professional degrees).

**Lawrence University** (Appleton, Wisconsin), July 19–22, 2023

**TOTAL 2023 Participants:**

- **32**
  - 24 students *completed* an undergraduate degree
  - 8 students *enrolled* in an undergraduate program

**20 Native Nations Represented**

- 16 AI/AN tribes & villages
- 3 Native Hawaiian Students

**30 Undergraduate Institutions Represented**

**Total GH Students Served:**

689 (2004-2023)
College Horizons is committed to advancing diversity in Higher Education. Our program is designed to assist in the multicultural outreach efforts of college and university admission offices. Throughout our summer programs, our partner institutions send admission counselors to interact with students about the college application process, share useful information and resources about financial aid, and participate in a college fair.

At College Horizons, we have:

- Trained and provided professional development to over 1,000 college admissions counselors, high school counselors, and Tribal Educators
- Historically, a total of 230+ colleges and universities have partnered

**Total Faculty & Staff Participation:**

**138**
across 2023 programs
(College Horizons, Scholars Pathway, Graduate Horizons)

**Total Interns Hired:**

**6**
across 2023 programs
(College Horizons, Scholars Pathway)

**2023 Partner Colleges:**

**75**

**2023 New Partner Colleges:**

**10**
<table>
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<tr>
<th>2023 Partner Colleges</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amherst College</td>
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<td>Barnard College</td>
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<td>Boston University</td>
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<td>Bowdoin College</td>
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<td>Brown University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bryn Mawr College</td>
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<td>California Institute of Technology (CalTech)</td>
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<td>Carleton College</td>
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<td>Johns Hopkins University</td>
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CONTACT US

College Horizons is a 501(c)3, non-profit, charitable organization.

EIN: 20-1730126

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Peña Blanca, NM 87041

By Email:
info@collegehorizons.org

Our Website:
www.collegehorizons.org

Join us in supporting #CollegePrideNativePride.
Donate today.

Follow College Horizons on social media!