



February, 2009

Dear Friends and Supporters of the American Indian Christian Mission,

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Directors of the AICM to thank you for your prayers and financial support. You have enabled the Mission to continue its Christian school and ministries to Native American children on the Navajo and White Mountain Apache Reservations without interruption.

Fifty-five Native American students are in the AICM's Christian K – 12 school on campus, and hundreds more are reached by the "Blue Bus Ministry" to communities on the nearby White Mountain Apache Reservation. We have a busy schedule in the months ahead with ministry teams coming from many churches to help with on-campus school activities, the Blue Bus Ministry and with the Summer Enrichment Programs which bring hundreds of Native American children from the Reservations to the Mission for Vacation Bible School type programs. The AICM's high school program, begun in 2006, will graduate its first senior in May. We are exploring opportunities to add vocational training to the high school program to help prepare students for life on the Reservations.

The AICM has survived the financial and management problems of last year, but finances are a continuing challenge. AICM Executive Director Patrick Lester and the AICM Leadership Team are reducing overhead costs where possible to try to keep expenses within income, and AICM employees are voluntarily taking salary reductions to help cut expenses. However, the basic costs for housing, feeding and transporting the children are increasing. If you can partner with us to increase your financial support to the AICM, it will help insure against reductions in the number of students or outreach ministries of the AICM.

We are concerned about some contacts which are being made to supporters of the AICM asking them to withhold funding of the Mission, and attempting to undermine the credibility of the Board and the Leadership at the AICM. The children served by the AICM are the ones who are endangered by these vindictive activities. If you have

questions or are receiving conflicting reports, please contact Patrick Lester or me. We, as a Board, fully support the Leadership at the mission and have full confidence in how they are leading. We are also 100% behind the staff who sacrifices daily to be part of these children's spiritual growth.

We are pleased to report that we have two prospective Board Members - a youth minister of a Christian Church, and a retired teacher/school administrator - who can be elected to the Board at the Annual Meeting in July. We also have three additional vacancies on the Board which we want to fill. If you are interested in becoming a Board Member, please contact Executive Director Patrick Lester or me at the American Indian Christian Mission.

Thank you again for your prayers and financial support. We are truly blessed to have supporters who, even in these difficult economic times, remain faithful to the AICM's mission of equipping and evangelizing Native American children for Christ.

John Hayes, Chairman, AICM Board of Directors