



Special Issue

"Committed to sharing God's gifts among all peoples of the world"

Native America 2015

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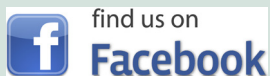
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tax deductible.



*"What good is it,
dear brothers and
sisters, if you say you
have faith but don't
show it by your
actions?"*

~ James 2:14

From the President

Dear Friends,

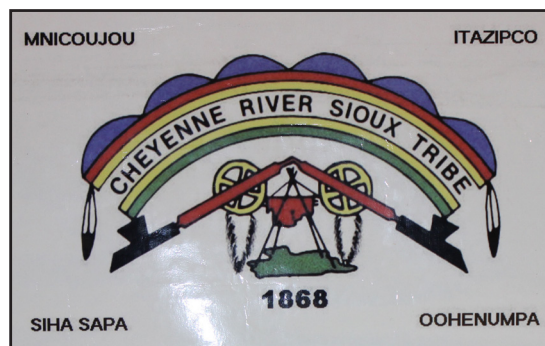
In 2015 the Native American team, under the leadership of Maxine Rhoads, visited the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota. Though we had never worked there before, the issues were still the same - grinding poverty, high teen suicide rate, little or no access to water and sewer service, and a lack of employment.

I was privileged to be part of a team of thirteen volunteers who held vision clinics at three schools. Some were seasoned travelers who had joined WAGC on past trips and some had never been on a mission trip before, but all worked together in harmony to serve the children and adults who visited the clinics.

The school leadership was very welcoming to us and opened their doors to the community as a whole, so in addition to the school children, we assisted many adults with vision screening and prescription eye wear. In addition, more than 1,000 warm home made hats and scarves were distributed along with boxes and boxes of children's and young adult's books. What a joy to see the smiles on so many faces!

*We thank God for allowing us to serve Him
and share His love with those in need.*

*In His Peace,
Carol Fanelli*



Cheyenne River 2015 Vision Clinic Report

Date	Location	# Examined	Prescription	Readers	Referred
9/14/2015	Takini Elementary	102	62	2	4
9/15/2015	Eagle Butte Elementary	249	92	2	5
9/16/2015	Eagle Butte Elementary	148	48	17	3
9/17/2015	Eagle Butte High School	101	75	10	4
9/18/2015	Eagle Butte High School	140	81	14	6
Total		740	358	45	22

I SAW THE HAND OF GOD - Maxine Rhoards, Team Leader

This year I drove out to South Dakota towing a U-Haul trailer filled to capacity with prescription eye glasses, over one thousand books, and approximately 1,200 handmade hats and scarves for the Cheyenne River Sioux children. It was amazing to see these hats being made by our children in Vacation Bible School as well as the adult volunteers. We exceeded the goal of 1,000 hats but we found a home for each and every one of them. The hats were distributed at the three schools where we held the vision clinics, as well as a homeless shelter.



There were so many times when I saw the hand of God guiding us along. There was one instant when I was asked to find a pair of prescription glasses for a young girl. No one had been able to find a pair of glasses that matched her prescription. I was concerned that I wouldn't be able to help her out either. After talking to the little girl, I went searching through our piles of glasses. No luck, but I continued to look. I was guided to look into another bag, and almost immediately found a really pretty pair of pink glasses that matched her prescription. I walked back over to the girl and saying a little prayer, I placed them on her face. The look on her face that had been so solemn when I first talked to her was now changed into a radiant smile. She giggled up at me and said she could see and was so happy she couldn't wait to show everyone.



"I was impressed with the gratitude of the Eagle Butte people..."
~ Cheryl Hohenadel



"As a registered nurse, caring for people in need is not only my professional but personal goal in life. I have always wanted to help Native Americans and by going on this mission trip I was able to fulfill one personal goal."
~ Deb Glass





"Mason, a young man with Downs Syndrome, came for glasses. How excited he was when he found a book about his favorite character, Sponge Bob, and even more excited when we found glasses to help him see his book. His smile was enough to light up the room and his excitement contagious to all who helped him." ~ Jack Hohenadel



"I am always in awe of the "Great Spirit" who watches over and shepherds His Native American flock whether they acknowledge Him or not. It is His work that continues to draw me back." ~ Don Lefever

"Our purpose was to show the love of God and to get glasses to as many people as we could and I believe we did that. This trip was like a dream come true for me as I have always had a strong interest in Native American people and their culture. My goal was also to learn and understand these people and their circumstances more. I wish I could have stayed longer." ~ Elaine Groff



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CHANGE IS IN THE AIR!

The year 2015 was a big milestone for We're All God's Children - our 10 year anniversary. After much prayer, discussion and consideration, the board has decided to change the way we serve the less fortunate. Our goal is to find ways we can better partner with those in need by joining them in projects they have already begun as they endeavor to help themselves. Giving them ownership of decisions goes a long way in restoring their dignity while, at the same time, getting to the heart of their needs.

For the Native American team that means researching existing native led organizations on both Pine Ridge and Cheyenne River Reservations to see where we can best assist them while still offering our volunteers a hands on approach to serving. Once several groups have been identified we will visit those organizations to determine our best course of action.

If you would like to be part of these exciting changes we encourage you to contact us as we are in need of volunteers. This is a great opportunity for someone who cannot travel but has access to a computer and is willing to do some searching online. We do not know what lies ahead but are confident God is leading us in a new direction where we can offer the true hope for a better future that only faith in Jesus Christ can bring. We look forward to hearing from you!

Contact us at: 717.278.0979 or info@wereallgodschildren.org

To read our Ten Year Report visit our website and click on the Mission Trip Experiences tab.

Get to know us a little better - you'll be glad you did!

***Donate online at www.wereallgodschildren.org or by mail to:
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