

**PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY BOARD**  
**September 17-19, 2014**  
**Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries Ministry Area**

**ITEM C.102**  
**FOR ACTION**

<i>FOR PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE USE ONLY</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	A. Finance	<input type="checkbox"/>	E. Corporate Property, Legal, Finance
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. Justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	F. PC(USA), A Corporation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C. Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>	G. Audit
<input type="checkbox"/>	D. Worshiping Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	H. Executive Committee
			J. Board Nominating & Governance Subcommittee
			P. Plenary

**Subject:** Cook Native American Ministries Report

**Recommendation:**

**That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board continue to disburse a base grant to Cook Native American Ministries (CNAM) from the Christmas Joy Offering until April 2015. CNAM will present a report on their progress in transitioning from an educational institution to a foundation at the April 2015 Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Meeting, and determinations about future disbursements will be made at the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board meeting in April 2015.**

**Background:**

In 2008, Cook School for Christian Leadership, now Cook Native American Ministries, began its transition from a racial ethnic institution to a Native American foundation. In April 2008, the Discipleship Committee of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board voted to approve the disbursement of the base grant of the Christmas Joy Offering to CNAM, as it transitions to a foundation.

Representatives from CNAM have come before the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board and have submitted written information reports on CNAM's status, plans, and progress to each board meeting from February 2008 to September 2014. There have been two site visit teams that have also visited CNAM during this time. Over the years, CNAM has had several offers on its property, but due to economic factors and other circumstances, the deals have fallen through. However, on July 23, 2014, CNAM announced the property was sold, and that the funds from the property sale were transferred to an endowment fund at the Presbyterian Foundation, which will manage the proceeds.

The last action of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board was in April 2013, and the board voted to approve that the Christmas Joy Offering base grants be continued for Cook Native American Ministries in 2013-2014 with the following stipulations:

- a. Cook Native American Ministries (CNAM) will continue to meet and follow the standards and criteria set by the Presbyterian Mission Agency for the Historically Presbyterian Racial Ethnic Institutions, including having a Presbyterian Mission Agency representative serve in an ex-officio capacity on the school's board of trustees.
- b. CNAM will provide a written information report to the September 2013, February 2014, and April 2014 Presbyterian Mission Agency Board meetings on the school's status, plans and progress, including a current financial report.

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- c. CNAM will report to the September 2014 Presbyterian Mission Agency Board meeting, providing as detailed a report as possible, on its strategic plan for its transition, the sale of its property, and its progress in transitioning its school to a foundation. In addition, the continuation of the Christmas Joy Offering disbursement will be reviewed in September 2014.

In April 2015, the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board will review CNAM's status, plans and progress, including a current report on CNAM's proceeds from the Presbyterian Foundation, and the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board will make a determination about future disbursements.

CNAM has qualified for the base grant of the Christmas Joy Offering under the Christmas Joy Offering Institutional Standards Item I.D.2., which reads, "Non-degree granting institutions must have an alternative educational model that is consistent with their mission to educate racial ethnic students and has been approved by Presbyterian Mission Agency in lieu of accreditation."

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**Cook Native American Ministries**

**Report to the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board**  
July 11, 2014

CNAM Mission Statement: *"In Response to the Christian Gospel Cook Native American Ministries equips leaders to better serve their churches and communities."*

**INTRODUCTION**

Rev. Charles H. Cook had a vision to assist Native Americans across the United States in order to maintain the above mission statement. The Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer, CNAM staff and the Board will maintain Mr. Cook's legacy by providing information to the donors in the following ways:

- Creating a Strategic Plan and a course of action maintaining the growth and preservation of Mr. Cook's vision and legacy.
- Providing a financial overview and audits for accountability purposes
- Providing an update on the Property Sale
- Continuing the Commissioned Ruling Elders Program
- Hosting the upcoming Educational Spring Session in 2015
- Continuing to meet and follow the standards and criteria set forth by the Presbyterian Mission Agency for the Historically Presbyterian Racial Ethnic Institutions
- Maintaining our transition to a foundation
- Planning and organizing staff changes
- Summary

**STRATEGIC PLAN**

We carefully outlined the growth and overall health of this non-profit corporation in our strategic plan. The Board of Directors, CEO, and CNAM staff will hold course in an exciting direction with the Strategic Plan. We included the following sections:

- (1) Guiding Principles,
- (2) Goals, and
- (3) Outcomes

**FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND AUDIT**

CNAM is proud to announce that it continues to remain debt free and that its expenses are under control. An agreement has been reached with Presbyterian Church (USA) Foundation to manage our endowment funds. The financial position of our organization is provided in Section 3 of the enclosures. It includes the income statements, operational costs, and a projected budget.

**AUDITS**

The 2013 independent audit, which summarized our financial position, was completed. The 2014 audit will be completed at the end of this year.

**UPDATE ON PROPERTY SALE**

In 2007 a historical decision was made to sell the campus. The sale price of the property is \$8,750,000.00 with \$120,000.00 non-refundable.

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On July 17th, 2014, the sale of the property will be evaluated before the Tempe City Council. Assisting the developers are the attorneys of Capstone Cottages and a CNAM attorney paid for by Capstone Cottages. The most recent timeline was included at the June 12, 2014, City of Tempe Request for Action meeting and is enclosed in Section 5.

**COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS ("CRE")**

Cook Native American Ministries continues to coordinate and sponsor the CRE Program. These programs are offered to help provide the necessary course work for elders in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) who wish to become Commissioned Ruling Elders. Another objective of the CRE program is to provide educational opportunities for laity who are interested in learning more about the Bible, ministry, and the theology/polity of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

We hope to identify a partner who will assume coordination of this very important program. We will be in position to fund the CRE program for several years.

**UPCOMING SPRING 2015 SESSION**

CNAM, in partnership and collaboration with the Indigenous Theological Training Institute ("ITTI"), will host a Bible symposium from April 19-23, 2015, at The Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, AZ. This is funded in part by the John C. Martin Fund. The specific topic is entitled, "The Bible through Native Eyes."

**PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES**

There are two Presbyterian representatives serving in ex-officio capacities on the school's board of trustees. CNAM is proud to announce Ms. Simone Adams-Andrade as a representative of the Presbyterian Mission Agency and Tim Clark as a representative of the Presbyterian Foundation.

**TRANSITION TO A FOUNDATION**

CNAM is expecting approval of the property sale by the City of Tempe Council on July 17, 2014. Thereafter, CNAM will fully implement its goals of becoming a Foundation.

**STAFF CHANGES:**

On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, after an extensive search, Mr. Jerome Clarke assumed the duty of CNAM Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Clarke holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, a Master's degree in Business Administration as well as a Juris Doctorate degree (with an emphasis in Federal Indian law from Arizona State University).

He is assisted by the outstanding staff of Della Peña as Administrative Assistant and Adelita Mesa as a part-time Receptionist. With the above criteria, the CNAM Board of Directors are confident that Mr. Clarke and his staff bring an expertise to CNAM to ensure its growth, accountability, and prosperity of Rev. Cook's legacy.

**SUMMARY**

With the enclosed strategic plan and vision, we are pleased to announce that we are still holding course on becoming the largest Native American philanthropic foundation in the United States.

The Board of Directors, coupled with the newly acquired C.E.O. and CNAM staff, is very excited about serving Native American communities according to Mr. Cook's vision, values, and legacy.

Jerome Clarke  
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Board of Directors

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**Rev. Charles H. Cook Foundation**  
**Strategic Plan**  
**July 2014**

**I. Guiding Principles:**

- A. Mission: *In response to the Christian Gospel, CNAM equips Native leaders to better serve their churches and communities.*
- B. Vision: CNAM celebrates its 104 years of history by becoming a premiere organization involved with facilitating leadership education within Native American communities.
- C. Purpose: CNAM brings together people, programs and resources; it is disciplined to become a philanthropic foundation and address Native leadership in the church and society.
- D. Connecting: CNAM serves as a catalyst for the development of new ideas. Through a professional staff, an active Board of Directors and a national network of constituents, we regularly gather Native people from a variety of disciplines to address topics and issues related to Indian leadership in the church and society.
- E. Equipping: We partner with other organizations and support training events and other programs related to current and emerging Native ministry issues.
- F. Granting: CNAM supports other organizations, institutions and ministries with a variety of seed money grants. Grants, provided for a maximum of three years, assist with starting or expanding Native American leadership initiatives. Grants will be made from the earning of the endowment.

**II. Goals:** As CNAM works toward the fulfillment of its mission, we will seek the following accomplishments:

- A. We will discern where the Spirit is moving and mobilize resources there.
- B. We will resource other Christian organizations that share our mission.
- C. We will facilitate a visible Native American presence in the larger church.
- D. We will partner with congregations, denominations, and others, including secular and public organizations to accomplish our vision.
- E. The Board of Directors will establish effective policies that appropriately support the goals and objectives of this strategic plan.
- F. The Board will establish a comprehensive church relations program.

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**III. Outcomes:**

- A. Deposit assets with the Presbyterian Church (USA) Foundation to manage the CNAM Endowment.
- B. Coordinate with PC (USA) Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries staff and partners to continue Christmas Joy Offering (CJO) support and plan together to achieve desired outcomes.
- C. Move Commissioned Ruling Elders (CRE) Program to another host ministry: CNAM will offer the first two years of the three-year CRE Program from September 2013-May 2015.
- D. Become more proactive in soliciting grant applicants. Goal for 2014 is to fund 12 qualified ministries and projects and 18 ministries and projects in 2015. Increase access to funding process and forms through printed and online venues.
- E. Raise unrestricted gifts which will comprise 80 percent of CNAM's operating funds. Provide training in fiduciary responsibilities/fundraising for the Board of Directors.
- F. Solicit estate gifts: grow endowment through wills, bequests, annuities, trusts, etc. Provide training for the Board of Directors and staff on how to approach a potential donor and how to make a referral.
- G. Outreach to new generations – Gen X and Millennials: Develop social media and create volunteer opportunities because the younger generation seeks engagement through hands-on work and ongoing relationships- TBD
- H. Ensure and sustain operations:
  - 1. Focus on fundraising roles – beginning with August 2014 training
  - 2. Achieve 100 percent in donations by Directors – June 2015
  - 3. Adopt gift acceptance policy and procedure – June 2015
  - 4. Fifty donor prospects will be assigned to staff and board volunteers for follow-up – November 2014