



St. Joseph's Indian School
We serve and teach, we receive and learn.

Facts

for you to know

Did you know?

All services are **FREE** to the Native American children and their families.

Our History

In 1923, Fr. Henry Hogeback, SCJ, traveled to the United States from Germany. Knowing education would be vital to Native American children in South Dakota, he began work to found a school shortly after his arrival. In April of 1927, he purchased the property that is now St. Joseph's Indian School. In September of 1927 classes began.

Over 90 years later, thanks to your kindness, our work continues with Lakota (Sioux) families to educate for life — *mind, body, heart and spirit.*

Our School

St. Joseph's Indian School is a residential school for Native American children. Students are never charged tuition. Admission is based on their need for a safe home and a quality education.

Church Affiliation

Though we are affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church, students are not required to be Catholic to attend. About 66% practice Catholicism or were baptized Catholic.

Many different denominations are represented, including Episcopalian, other Christian faiths and traditional Lakota spirituality. Some students have no religious background.

Facilities

- Our campus covers 55 acres
- Buildings include the Nagel Business Office, Rec Center, Dining Hall, the Aktá Lakota Museum & Cultural Center, the Sacred Hoop Tiyospaye Center, Our Lady of the Sioux Chapel, elementary school and 20 student homes
- The newest addition to campus is the Health & Family Services Center

Our Mission Statement:

St. Joseph's Indian School, an apostolate of the Congregation of the Priests of the Sacred Heart, partners with Native American children and families to educate for life — *mind, body, heart and spirit.*

Homes

The campus has 20 student homes with 12 students and two houseparents in each. Students participate in household chores, including cooking and laundry, learning the skills necessary to live independently as adults.

Students

Most of our students are Lakota (Sioux) and their families are primarily from South Dakota.

While attending St. Joseph's Indian School, Native American youth receive loving care and a top-notch education.

Our youngest students are six years old. Our elementary school on campus is for students grades 1-8.

High school students — still part of St. Joseph's program — attend Chamberlain High School, where they participate in numerous groups, clubs and are active members of the Chamberlain community.

Academics

Though we are a private school, St. Joseph's meets all the academic standards set forth by the South Dakota Department of Education.

In addition to core studies of math, science and reading, St. Joseph's students take Native American Studies classes, Lakota language and religious education. For children affiliated with the Catholic faith, additional instruction and sacramental preparation are provided at the request of families.



(over, please)

Accreditation and Memberships

- Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children, Inc.
- South Dakota State Department of Education
- Coalition for Residential Excellence (CORE) member
- Federally-recognized 501(c)3 non-profit charitable organization
- Recipient of multiple Top-Rated Charity Awards by GreatNonprofits

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Dance Group
- Drum Group
- Cheerleading
- Boys' Football
- Girls' Volleyball
- Cross Country Running
- Boys' and Girls' Basketball
- Archery
- Beta Club
- Explorer's
- Y.E.S. Girls
- Handgames
- Track and Field
- Travel Opportunities

Counseling Services

There are 11 fully certified Family Service Counselors at St. Joseph's. Counseling services include talk, art, play and equine therapies.

Each student has a counselor, regardless of the need for formal therapy.

Counselors serve as the primary contact between school and home.

Family Outreach

Students are enrolled by parents or guardians and families are encouraged to be part of their children's lives. Families are always welcome and encouraged to visit.

The Sacred Hoop TiyoSpaye Center provides a place for visiting families to stay.

Funding

St. Joseph's Indian School does not receive funding from the Catholic Church.

Of each dollar raised, approximately 65 cents goes to the children in our care and for future planned program growth.

Thanks to the kindness of our many friends, 98% of St. Joseph's funds come from private donations for our annual operating budget.

"St. Joseph's offers Native American children opportunities they may not receive anywhere else. I am honored to be a small part of St. Joseph's mission."

— P. Johnson, Minnesota

Administration

- Fr. J. Anthony Kluckman, SCJ, Chaplain
- Mike Tyrell, President
- Kory Christianson, Executive Director of Development
- Jennifer Renner-Meyer, Executive Director of Child Services



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