

December 17, 2014

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As we close our 26th year of running programs for American Indian youth, we are already preparing for another year of increased expansion and outreach.

This summer, Wings served nearly 1,900 unique participants through a summer initiative that spanned 5 states. In June, the organization trained 63 student-athlete facilitators from more than a dozen different Native communities to act as role models and teachers for young athletes. These young men and women went on to administer 32 free two-day “Running & Fitness Camps” for kids ages 6-18 across Indian Country. Aside from continuing programs in Arizona, New Mexico, New York and Oklahoma, Wings was proud to welcome trainees from South Dakota into the “Wings family” and provide them with the support they needed to coordinate camps on the Rosebud and Pine Ridge reservations.

Another cross-country season has come and gone since the last USATF Cross Country Championships and we stayed busy through the fall keeping a close eye on Native runners across the United States. Over 60 high school and college aged runners competed in post-season championship races over the last few weeks hoping to run fast enough to be selected for our elite “Junior” squad. Wings provided race registration and travel assistance for some of these runners. On November 22nd, a team of Wings-sponsored girls took 1st place in the open race at the Nike Cross Regionals Southwest race in Casa Grande, AZ. Our organization is encouraged by the improved standard of excellence exemplified by those trying out for our National Teams in recent years. The student-athletes we’ve select to line up on February 7th, 2015 in Boulder, CO will surely form the fastest Wings National Teams in recent memory.

Last spring we welcomed Tiffany Calabaza of Santo Domingo Pueblo as our new Office Manager and Operations Administrator. She has settled into the role nicely and proven herself an integral part of the team. We are excited to watch her influence on the organization grow.

As Wings continues to reach out to serve youth in Indian Country, we reach out to you who believe in our mission with hopes that you will continue your support. Please join us as we empower more and more Native student-athletes to become leaders and role models in their communities.

With our best wishes,



William E. Channing
Chair / Founder



Dustin Q. Martin
Program Director

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