

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE 1994-96 TRIENNIUM

In the last three years the Fund continued its work of giving relief in times of disaster and awarding grants to places and dioceses that span the globe.

In 1994 the Fund received extra-budgetary contributions amounting to \$4,500,000. It disseminated \$4,247,874 in 193 grants to nearly as many places.

In 1995, contributions dropped because of a general diminishing in church giving. Extra-budgetary contributions received, \$3,803,345, were lower. Granted approximately \$3,000,000, given in 185 grants and in nearly as many places.

In 1996 contributions were up with receipts increased by approximately \$1,000,000. A larger number of grants were awarded, amounting to more than \$3,500,000. In 1996, the number of parish representatives continued to increase as did the overall number of donors.

Staff visited dioceses and parishes to tell the story of the Fund and produced a number of new materials that were sent to all dioceses and the networks of volunteers.

The diocesan volunteers, Diocesan Fund Coordinators, met in each year of the Triennium for three-day training sessions.

The first direct mail appeal went into effect September 1995 and it continues on a regular basis with good results. More and more parishes are showing a great interest in the ministry of the Fund. *Lifeline* now goes to a list of 70,000, in addition to the many copies picked up in the churches. The number of issues reaches 150,000.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE COMING TRIENNIUM

The ministry of the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief continues throughout the world with emphasis on enlarging the donor base and increasing the resources (dollars) available for distribution. The increase is necessary because the needs in all places of the world are multiplying and the requests are more urgent and more numerous in each granting season.

The Episcopal Council of Indian Ministries

MEMBERSHIP

The Rev. Carol Gallagher *Cherokee* (Pennsylvania) *Secretary*
Ms. Sherrie LeBeau, *Lakota* (El Camino Real)
Mr. Robert McGhee, *Poarch Band Creek* (Central Gulf Coast)
Mr. Frank Oberly, *Osage/Comanche* (Oklahoma) *Chair*
The Rev. John Robertson, *Dakota* (Minnesota) replaced
Mr. Eli Hunt, *Vice-Chair, Ojibwa* (Minnesota)

Ms. Virginia Doctor, *Mohawk* (Alaska), *Executive Council Liaison*
Dr. Owanah Anderson, *Choctaw*, *Staff Liaison*

SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL'S WORK (all members concurring)

The Episcopal Council of Indian Ministries, an outgrowth of the National Committee on Indian Work (established in 1969), was instituted by Executive Council in 1989, upon receipt of recommendations of the Presiding Bishop's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Indian Affairs, which had been charged with bringing forth better ways to respond to unique needs of Native Americans, with whom PECUSA has had specialized mission since 1814.

Executive Council voted in 1994 to combine racial/ethnic commissions into a single multi-ethnic advisory committee. However, General Convention, in adopting the triennial budget at the 71st General Convention, accepted the recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Program Budget & Finance to designate ECIM as a "discrete identity" with responsibilities for annually allocating \$1.3 million for Indian work.

ECIM has taken quite seriously its assigned responsibility for exercising good stewardship in allocating national church funding. In addition to apportioning funding amounting to more than \$1.2 million annually for base budget support for Indian work for four jurisdictions -- the dioceses of Alaska, North Dakota, and South Dakota, and Navajoland Area Mission -- ECIM has encouraged and nurtured 42 new ministry programs in 17 dioceses between the years 1992 and 1996 (the "New Ministry" program was initiated when the 70th General Convention voted \$125,000 annually for this purpose).

Driven by the drastically diminished number of Indian clergy and trained lay leaders over the past three decades, ECIM prioritized theological training as paramount for survival of Native ministry in the Episcopal Church. Though various training models have been tried -- none netted the needed replacements. During the triennium, a vision of a fundamentally new approach to training leaders evolved. By the end of 1996, ECIM announced establishment of the Indigenous Theological Training Institute, a three-way partnership which includes the Diocese of Minnesota, the Church Center Congregational Ministries Cluster, and the Episcopal Council of Indian Ministries (ECIM). It focuses on culturally relevant training to respond to the unique needs of Indian ministers and proposes a partnership with dioceses to provide multi-track training programs.

ECIM, with the Office of Native Ministries, coordinated multiple activities in dioceses across the nation during the triennium. These activities include an annual gathering of 45 to 75 Native Americans (including Native Hawaiians and Canadians) from 15 to 20 dioceses for January Winter Talk, to chart a direction for the 21st century. Bold major steps have been taken toward shouldering responsibilities, self-determining and covenanting to define for themselves the native place within the Episcopal/Anglican Church.

ECIM was host in 1995 to the Anglican Indigenous Network, a coalition of indigenous peoples (who now are a minority within their own homeland) from Aotearoa (New Zealand), Australia, Canada, and the U.S (including Native Hawaiians). ECIM continues its sponsorship of several networks including the Mountains & Desert Regional Ministry, Paths Crossing (which brings together native and non-native congregation representatives from as many as 26 dioceses to form partnerships for mutual support), a

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

national native youth event each triennium, an urban Indian coalition which meets annually and draws representatives from 10 dioceses with specialized ministry with Native peoples in the cities.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution A034 The Indigenous Theological Training Institute

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the Episcopal Church of the United States of
- 2 America support new directions in American Indian leadership training through the Indigenous
- 3 Theological Training Institute in North America; and be it further
- 4 *Resolved*, That \$375,000 be allocated in the Triennium to fully develop the Indigenous Theological
- 5 Training Institute and placed under coordination of Episcopal Council of Indian Ministries and Office of
- 6 Native American Ministry, with report on progress at the next General Convention.

Explanation

- The past three decades have seen a drastically diminished number of Native American clergy, resulting in a critical shortage of ordained and lay leaders in many of our Indian communities, and existing training programs and seminaries have not adequately responded to the unique needs for culturally relevant training.
- The Episcopal Council of Indian Ministries, in partnership with the Diocese of Minnesota, and the Congregational Ministries Cluster of the Episcopal Church Center, has initiated efforts to develop an Indigenous Theological Training Institute to respond to this need.

Resolution A035 The Decade of Remembrance, Recognition, and Reconciliation

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the Episcopal Church of the United States of
- 2 America in its 72nd General Convention of the Episcopal Church, meeting in Philadelphia in July, 1997,
- 3 designates the decade 1997-2007 as the “Decade of Remembrance, Recognition, and Reconciliation”
- 4 during which each diocese will take such steps as necessary to fully recognize and welcome Native
- 5 Peoples into congregational life, and enter into a special intentionality toward developing an outreach
- 6 partnership among urban Native Peoples; and be it further
- 7 *Resolved*, That the 72nd General Convention of the Episcopal Church designate the Episcopal Council of
- 8 Indian Ministries and Office of Native American Ministries with \$30,000 funding for the triennium, and
- 9 with responsibility for planning appropriate celebrations, events, and materials for the Decade of
- 10 Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation, and that progress reports be presented at the 73rd
- 11 General Convention.

Explanation

- The Age of Missionary Endeavor for the Churches in Communion with the See of Canterbury began with a mission to American Indians, thereby providing the foundation for creating the Worldwide Anglican Communion.
- The year 2007 marks the 400th anniversary of Jamestown colony, the first permanent English settlement on these shores, which was chartered with King James’ stipulation that the Gospel be shared with indigenous peoples of the “new” world.
- Every domestic diocese of PECUSA, according to the U.S. Bureau of Census, has within its boundaries residents who are bona fide, though often invisible, frequently unchurched, American Indians.