



The Native American LINK, Inc. Newsletter

Issue 71 WINTER 2023

WHERE OUR MOCCASINS LEAD US

The ministries of the Native American LINK are many. Most see us as women who sing in the Native Praise Choir, since it is the most visible; yet, these women are the feet and hands of our ministry. Our team of women lead in carrying monthly ministries throughout Oklahoma and beyond. They are our eyes and ears that God uses to help us recognize needs where we can serve. Here is a brief description of what 2023 has looked like:

January Supplies to pregnancy center in McAlester, OK

February Offerings to Bacone College, Muskogee to aid in keeping doors open for Native students

March-“Gotcha” bags to share with the homeless (snacks, underwear, socks, wet wipes, etc.) in our communities

April Clothing for center for women & children/victims of domestic violence

May Devotional books to Mabel Bassett Women’s Correctional Facility

June Backpack campaign for school supplies. Partnered with FoNAC (Fellowship of Native American Christians) & Native Stone Church VBS

July Supply door prizes for the 25th Anniversary of LINK at Indian Falls Creek Bible Study and Skills Sessions

August Distributed gift cards to Native classroom teachers to show support and appreciation

September Offerings for Missionary Alpha Goombi (Nebraska) to provide assistance during hospitalization/rehabilitation.

October Offering for KWEK Society for Period Poverty to assist with feminine supplies for Native female students

November & December Donations of diapers, clothing given to the Seminole Nation Foster Care Program . Also, providing funds for seminary student

“How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, “Your God reigns!” Isaiah 52:7 NIV

In This Issue

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For Your
Convenience

ONLINE GIVING
NOW
AVAILABLE

Check out OUR LINK
WEBSITE

Thenativeamericanlinkinc.org

NATIVE PRAISE CHOIR RETREAT 2023



OKLAHOMA BAPTISTS HALL OF FAME HONORS WILLENE PIERCE



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On November 14, 2023, during the Oklahoma Baptists Annual Meeting, Willene Pierce, founding Executive Director/Treasurer of The Native American LINK, Inc. was honored and inducted into the Oklahoma Baptists Hall of Fame. Dr. Emerson Falls, Native American Specialist submitted a nomination for Willene to be considered, and she was selected. The family of Willene Pierce who attended were Stacy and Karen Pierce Smith, and LaVeta Pierce Sergeant. The current Native American LINK Executive Board were also able to attend. Willene served as Executive Director-Treasurer of The Native American LINK, Inc. during the years of 1998-2013. She continued to serve as Consultant to the ministry until her death in 2014.



**NATIVE PRAISE
CHOIR NOTES**

**FEB 7—CHOIR INVITATION
TO SING AT ROSE DAY
EVENT, OKLAHOMA CITY
CAPITOL BUILDING**

**JUNE 7-16—25TH ANNI-
VERSARY CHOIR TOUR
W/TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

**Fri, 6/7— Travel Day
Sat, 6/8—Cahokia Mounds,
Collinsville, IL & Lincoln
Home National Historic Site,
Springfield, IL**

**SUN/MON 6/9-10 Indianapo-
lis, IN to attend WMU Cele-
bration**

**Tue, 6/11—Travel Day to
Lancaster, PA**

**Wed, 6/12 AM— Tour Amish
Community in Lancaster Co.**

**PM—To Fenwick Island Bap-
tist Church, Selbyville, DE**

**Thur, 6/13—to Norfolk, VA &
Williamsburg, VA**

**Fri, 6/14— to Richmond, VA
to visit International Mission
Board**

Overnight in Knoxville, TN

**Sat, 6/15 Travel Day to Clar-
endon, AR**

**Sun, 6/16 FBC, Clarendon,
AR**

FROM THE DIRECTOR:

2023 has been a year of growth, seeing changes and fulfilling the vision that God placed in Willene Pierce's heart. We celebrate 25 years of ministry, always praying we fulfill God's purpose for this ministry.

The Native Praise Choir accepted seventeen invitations, which include tribal events, church services, funerals, women's meetings, conferences, schools, and gospel singings, plus scheduled practices every month. While we gained four new choir members this year, we had two deaths among our choir membership. We have several pursuing their education goals. LINK President, Priscilla Blackfox, has provided leadership skills to several church women's groups, all while pursuing a seminary degree. I appreciate the commitment of our faithful members. All members stay up to date on their Covid vaccinations to remain in the choir. God has been so merciful to the members of this choir.

Changes come, and we adjust. Sadly, we bade farewell to two former LINK Executive Board members. Mike Smith and I completed 10 years in our positions in 2023. Laura Mackey completed 25 years serving as President of the Native American LINK Executive Board, and we have a new LINK logo, thanks to Brother Gary Hawkins. We are truly blessed to have Priscilla Blackfox serving her first year as elected President of the Board.

We express gratitude to see the support given to the LINK ministry from our Oklahoma Baptists state convention. Now, we look forward to celebrating 25 years of the Native Praise Choir in 2024. Please pray for the preparation of the 2024 Choir Tour. We pray God's leadership and guidance. My prayer is that God will bless us to see the leadership of LINK rise among our women, that we will mentor women to prepare them to step into our places one day soon. May you enjoy the season of the birth of our Jesus, looking forward to God's blessings in 2024.

President: Priscilla Blackfox
P. O. Box 470974
Tulsa OK 74147
pblackfox37@gmail.com

Executive Director: *Augusta Smith*
P. O. Box 470974
Tulsa, OK 74147

NativeAmericanLINK@gmail.com

WEBSITE: TheNativeAmericanLINKInc.org

FACEBOOK: Native American LINK, Inc.

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES to Priscilla

SEND CONTRIBUTIONS to The Native
American LINK, Inc. Thank you.

Treasurer: Michael Smith
P. O. Box 470974
Tulsa, OK 74147
gusmikesmith@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS:

Patricia Brown, Shawnee, OK
Angella Fish, Wetumka, OK
Christine Fleming, Norman, OK
Martha Johnson, Morris, OK
Norma Lee, McAlester, OK
Elsie Little, Shawnee, OK
Laura Mackey, Red Oak, OK
Suzanne Russell, Ada, OK
Ruth Walker, Tecumseh, OK



P. O. Box 470974
Tulsa, OK 74147

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY

- *We PRAY for God's guidance in all preparations for the Choir Tour*
- *We PRAY that all choir members will have adequate funds for their food and lodging fees*
- *We PRAY that all will remain in good health throughout the choir tour*
- *We PRAY that we would discern those things (doubt, fear, worries, etc.) that work against us and consistently PRAY against evil*
- *We PRAY in gratitude for all provisions that have been made for us*