

October 23, 2014

Dear Mr. Fitzpatrick:

Thanks for contacting us. I reviewed the campaign to which you referred, including the letter attributed to "Josh Little Bear."

The name "Josh Little Bear" is fictitious, but unfortunately, his story is not. The letter is a true story of the very real and challenging situations that far too many children face not only in the Native American community, but in families found in every sphere of society.

St. Joseph's Indian School focuses on helping Native American families to learn and thrive. Our work speaks for itself. We have been in operation since 1927. Students and families receive not only an education, personal living skills and much more, but also knowledge about the culture and traditions of the Lakota (Sioux). Together, as a family, we celebrate the Lakota heritage at each level of the education process, inside the classroom and beyond.

It is never our intention to disparage in any way the Native American community. Our commitment to and respect for Native American people is evident in our work and our mission.

Your email also mentions Quadriga Art. Quadriga is one of many vendors that provides services to St. Joseph's Indian School on a competitive bid, job by job basis. In the case of this mailing, the only components purchased from Quadriga were the dream catchers. We worked with another supplier to produce the rest of the components.

If you have further questions about this campaign, I am happy to respond to them in writing. Also, more information about our organization can be found at www.stjo.org.

Sincerely,

Kory Christianson, CFRE

**Executive Director of Development**