The term "hero" can be defined as a person with courage or one who is a champion to others. When you overcome a hurdle blocking your path you champion it, and American Indian Program directors or coordinators throughout North Dakota are experts in assisting students to get over those hurdles. For years Indian people have dealt with limited program funding and human resources, and we still made miracles happen. In order to find the appropriate resources to keep our students in college, networking became essential. In the fall of 1991, several college/university representatives throughout the state met to discuss the critical issues and hear other perspectives on how to assist their students overcome hurdles and reach their educational goals. Thus, in the fall of 1991, the Higher Education Resource Organization for Students (H.E.R.O.S) was born.

Our mission is for tribal/state college resource personnel to provide quality support and advocacy to American Indian students by addressing selected needs and issues throughout North Dakota's colleges and universities. Because of our networking, numerous success stories have been realized. Students are enrolled, students are graduating, and students are successful! Students have an educational vision, and they have HEROS. as their voice! This voice assists to provide American Indian students the means to complete their college programs.