



**Urban Indian Coalition of Arizona  
COALITION MEETING**

Tuesday, September 26, 2023  
Phoenix Indian Center, Inc.  
Hybrid Meeting  
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**MISSION**

Create a sustainable coalition that addresses prevention of suicide, underage drinking and use/abuse of marijuana and prescription drugs through the foundation of cultures to improve the overall well-being of Urban American Indian youth and families.

**MEETING MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES**

1. **Kami Ortiz** – PIC (IN-PERSON)
2. **Shermaine Nelson** – PIC (IN-PERSON)
3. **Kyrene Yazzie** – PIC
4. **Kennedy Slowtalker-Begay** – PIC
5. **Maya Diaz** – PIC
6. **Loren Bahe** – PIC
7. **Belén Santistevan** – PIC (IN-PERSON)
8. **Ethan Tsosie** – PIC (IN-PERSON)
9. **Jolene Fernandez** – PIC
10. **Perise Lauvao** – PIC (IN-PERSON)
11. **Dari Nichols** – PIC (IN-PERSON)
12. **Bob Dalpe** – Veterans Medical Leadership Council
13. **Almalia Berrios-Payton** - NACA
14. **Haley Velluntini** – CASA of Maricopa County
15. **Kellie MacDonald-Evoy** - Maricopa County Public Health
16. **Brian Yazzie** – SRPMIC Youth Services
17. **Monique Reveles** – ASU Next Education Workforce
18. **Sheina Yellowhair** – Arizona Complete Health
19. **Notiosha D'Addabbo** - Notiosha Music International
20. **Daniela Munoz Alvarez** – ACESDV (IN-PERSON)
21. **Dorothy Goeman** - Travis L Williams Family Services Center (IN-PERSON)
22. **Kelly Vallo** – ITCA
23. **Patricia Sutton** - State of Arizona Tribal Liaison - DAAS & DCAD
24. **Valencia Gorman** - Parent
25. **Michael Wydra** - Maricopa County Public Health
26. **Dougherty Tsalabutie** - National Center for American Indian Health Professions/AT Still University
27. **Derek Patton** - IHS Integrated Behavioral Health Program Phoenix Area
28. **Karenina Paredes** - Southwest Behavioral & Health Services
29. **Dalila Guerrero** - Maricopa County Tobacco Prevention & Cessation
30. **Laboraax "Lab" Abeita** - Solari Crisis & Human Services
31. **Arlinda Bee** - Gila River Healthcare Public Health
32. **April Childs** – NAC
33. **Sharon Newkirk** - NAC
34. **Sharon Banda** – Gila River Indian Community CASA
35. **Celina Meadows** – Arizona Statewide Manager for Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice
36. **Michelle Miller** – Hualapai Health Education and Wellness
37. **Allison Tobon** - notMYkid
38. **Tosheen Nez** – ICF Next
39. **Ursuala Watson** – Dept of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs
40. **Jose Hernandez** – Inner Immersive
41. **Jeremy Arviso** – Cahokia
42. **Lauren Wideman** - Human Services Consultants (In-Person)
43. **Loren Grizzard** – HEAAL
44. **Marcus M** - Nooksack
45. **Micheal Valenzuela** - (IN-PERSON)
46. **1 480-371-4206** - Unknown

**Meeting Called to Order at 2:00 PM by Kami Ortiz**



September is National Suicide Prevention Month. Kami welcomed attendees and prompted all virtual attendees to type their name and organization into the Zoom chat box. In person attendees passed the microphone for introductions.

Icebreaker introductions were completed popcorn style with the question: *What is your favorite self-care activity?* Kami started off the icebreaker question with an introduction and organization. In-person attendees went first and then passed to the virtual attendees. For those who did not get a chance to participate in the icebreaker question, Kami encouraged to type their answer in the chat and to continue to type their name and organization in the chat. Kami and attendees reviewed today's agenda.

### **Review Meeting Minutes from August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.**

**Laboraax Abeita** motioned to approve the April meeting minutes. **Haley Vellutuni** seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes. There was no discussion regarding the meeting minutes. The majority voted in favor of approving the August meeting minutes. The motion has been adopted.

### **Organization Spotlight Series**

#### **Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence presented by Daniela Munoz Alvarez**

Daniela Munoz Alveraz reported out on ACESDV coalition's mission: To end sexual and domestic violence in Arizona by dismantling oppression and promoting equity among all people. ACESDV serve the individuals who have experience domestic violence and/or sexual assault. They work together as a community as a whole to end sexual and domestic violence. Daniela Munoz Alvarez is a Survivor Engagement for the coalition. Daniela shared a statistic, "1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men have experienced domestic violence, these reports do not calculate the accurate amount as survivors do not always report their experiences". The coalition recognizes that Indigenous women in the United States have one of the highest rates of a group of people to experience domestic violence and/or sexual assault. The (S.H.A.R.E.) committee work with community and speakers to lift and share voices of Domestic Violence. They provide survivors with the opportunity to share their story in the Speakers Bureau safe space.

Slides can be found here: [SHARE presentation.pptm](#)

More information: [Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence in Arizona \(acesdv.org\)](#) or contact [daniela@acesdv.org](mailto:daniela@acesdv.org)

### **Coalition Updates**

#### **Gathering of Native Americans (GONA)**

Maya D. reported out – our team completed Youth GONA on Sept 16<sup>th</sup> at South Mountain Community College. On September 27<sup>th</sup>, the GONA team is collaborating with Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community to provide a gonified talking circle to some of their clients and staff. There are 2 upcoming opportunities on October 10<sup>th</sup> and October 28<sup>th</sup>. The Youth GONA on the 28<sup>th</sup> will be Halloween themed with an ongoing costume contest and chances to win prizes. Young adults and youth aged 15-24 are welcome to attend!

#### **Living in 2 Worlds (with Speak Up, Be Safe)**

Kami O. reported out – L2W draws on Native culture and values as an effective drug resistance strategy. The curriculum uses a variety of ways to say no to negative choices that confront youth every day, while learning about different cultures. The team has reached out to multiple school districts across Maricopa County. Brian Yazzie expressed interest in starting L2W at Salt River Youth centers.

#### **Parenting in 2 Worlds**



Maya D. reported out – Cycle 8 which happens on Tuesday evenings is wrapping up soon. Cycle 2 on Thursday evenings is going strong with about 5 actively attending. Cycle 3, Tuesday evenings registration just closed. Finally, the newest opportunity, C4 which will happen on Wednesday evenings is still open for registration. The last day to register is Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>. Please spread the word to caregivers of Native youth. We want to welcome them into this safe space for parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, etc.

### **DEA Drug Take Back Day**

Ethan T. reported out- The DEA hosts 2 days for Take Back Day, it is an event where anyone in the community can come out and safely dispose your unused, unwanted, and expired medication. This year it will be on Saturday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>, there are several locations where you can dispose of your medication. We will be working with PIMC & Native Health Mesa

### **Safeguarding Medications 101 (Rx360)**

Ethan T. reported out – This workshop brings awareness to the harmful effects of prescription drugs. The coalition is working with Creighton Academy to provide a private workshop for their parent committee. There is an upcoming community training opportunity on October 10<sup>th</sup>, this will be a virtual Lunch and Learn workshop starting at Noon. Also, if there are individuals looking to receive this workshop to for a private group they can reach out to the Prevention team.

### **QPR Gatekeeper Training**

Belen S. reported out – We completed a QPR on August 28<sup>th</sup> for the P2W C8 parents. Three parents got a certificate and access to QPR resources. There is one opportunity to become a Gatekeeper on September 27<sup>th</sup>, this is the last suicide prevention training of Suicide Prevention Month.

### **ASIST**

Kami O. reported out – Thirteen members of the community are now officially trained in ASIST! The last 2-day training was a success! Stay tuned for the next training opportunity to be announced.

### **safeTALK**

Shermaine N. reported out – SafeTalk is a half-day training in suicide alertness. It helps participants recognize a person with thoughts of suicide and connect them with resources who can help them in choosing to live. The next training will be in collaboration with ASU staff/faculty. The date is to be finalized.

### **Network Support Roundtable**

Shermaine N. reported out – On Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>, PIC will host the Network Support Round Table. Anyone who has been trained in ASIST, safeTALK & QPR is invited! This forum is to establish a safe place to discuss any matters pertaining to suicide prevention which includes barriers, successes, challenges and other experiences we have encountered in suicide intervention/prevention. Let's close out SPM23 in a good way by working towards establishing suicide-safer communities and supporting each other!

### **FINAL Youth Coalition**

Belén S. reported out – Here are some pictures of this year's inauguration. The Youth Coalition will be hosting a few events in celebration of Red Ribbon Week and will follow up with details soon.

### **Spotlight Speaker Thriving Cities**

Kyrene Y. and Elisia Manuel presented together to highlight the work UICAZ is doing for the urban Native community here in the Valley. The series focused on community organizing among Native youth and volunteer leaders. One of UICAZ events highlighted included ICWA Symposium. In addition, Jalen Harvey,



last year's Madam President of the youth council spoke on the work she's been apart of starting with Indigenous youth. The event was virtual and had a great turn-out.

### **Subcommittee Chair Nominations**

We are starting a new fiscal year so please take out your phones and scan the QR code. Please take a few minutes to nominate somebody for our subcommittee chairs if you know of someone fitting to lead your subcommittee. We will be holding our elections at the next meeting on October 24th. We will be electing new volunteer leaders.

### **Subcommittee Breakout Sessions / Subcommittee Debrief**

- **Recruitment & Outreach (Report-out provided by Kami O.)**

Attendees: Kami Ortiz, Ethan Tsosie, Almalia Berrios-Peyton, April Childs, Derek Patton, Monique Reveles, Tosheena Nez, and Lauren Wideman

As there were new members, the Recruitment and Outreach committee did a round of introductions as a meet and greet for the group.

- **Training & Workshops (Report-out provided by Maya D.)**

Attendees: Maya Diaz, Perise Lauvao, Brian Yazzie, Dahlila Guerrero, Jeremy Arviso, Loren Grizzard, Marcus M., and Sharon Newkirk

The group discussed their past vaping workshop, which included the feedback they received. We are in the works to plan another Vaping workshop in 2024.

- **Urban Indian Child Welfare (Report out provided by Loren B.)**

Attendees: Loren Bahe, Jolene Fernandez, Derek Patton, Haley Vellutini, Michael Wydra and Sharon Banda

Some of the UICAZ staff had the opportunity to attend the Stepstone Family Youth Services ribbon cutting. Loren had the amazing opportunity of providing a prayer and song for the organization. We are looking forward to participating in more of their events and congratulate them on their expansion success.

- **Suicide Prevention Committee (Report-out provided by Laboraex A.)**

Attendees: Shermaine Nelson, Belén Santistevan, Allison Tobon, Arlinda Bee, Joe Hernandez, Karenina Paredes, and Laboraex Abeita

There was a quick discussion about the #Milefor campaign: the current submissions and Solari's companywide part take in the campaign. The walk was a success in being able to spread more awareness about 988 call and texting services. Staff family and friends came out to walk together- it was a great day! The committee is brainstorming plans to put something together, maybe another campaign for the holiday season coming up for those you may have suicide ideations or may have lost someone during that time in past years. We want to provide resources for those who need it and remind them they're not alone.

### **Coalition Member Announcements/Community Calendar**



- **HEAAL Coalition - Loren Grizzard reported out:** This Thursday on the 28<sup>th</sup> we are hosting a webinar on Stigma. The Black and Brown Conversation, *Stop Stigma, Save Lives!* Will be held virtually at 3:00PM. Dalila Guerrero from Maricopa County Public Health will be facilitating. Also, October the 28<sup>th</sup> is the DEA Take Back event. HEAAL will be set up at the Walgreens on 1825 W Bethany Home Rd. Phoenix, AZ 85015. If you are interested in tabling with us, please reach out to Loren Grizzard [LorenGrizzard@tcdccorp.org](mailto:LorenGrizzard@tcdccorp.org)
- **Cahokia (PHX) - Jeremy Arviso reported out:** Indigenous People's Day Phoenix Fest happening in 2 weeks on Oct 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be a 5k Fun Run and Walk that morning. There will also be a bicycle event happening called The Sacred Cycle of Life. The route includes Phoenix to Tempe starting at Margret T. Hance Park. We're encouraging people to get out and enjoy this beautiful weather while walking and biking together. For more information, click here: [@cahokiaphx\(Cahokia\) - Official - Linktree](https://www.instagram.com/cahokiaphx)
- **Native Americans for Community Action - Almalia Berrios-Payton reported out:** NACA is in Flagstaff, AZ. If you know of anyone in the area, please let them know about the following events. This Friday, the 29<sup>th</sup>, we are hosting a Truth & Reconciliation Orange Shirt Day Awareness Walk at the NACA Wellness Center. There will be Running for Renewal training program starting in October that will lead to the Rock-Your-Mocs 2k/5k virtual run in November. Every Wednesday in October, we are having a community Beading Circle so anyone who has a beading project or other crafts can come together in a group at the Wellness Center. On October 27<sup>th</sup>, there will be a coat drive, this a large community event that happens every year. Anyone who donates a coat will receive a frybread taco. On October 28<sup>th</sup>, NAU is having their homecoming game but it is a donation game. NACA is getting 30% of the proceeds from ticket sales sold through an online link. We will be tabling at the event. Finally, health promotions team is holding a Culture & Community Health Fair on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at Puente De Hozho from 4:30PM to 7:30PM. More information: [Welcome - NACA \(nacainc.org\)](https://www.nacainc.org)
- **Maricopa County Department of Public Health of Tobacco Prevention & Cessation - Dalila Guerrero reported out:** Our team of regional mobilizers has completed the Catch My Breath vaping curriculum; it can be implemented for 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth. If your organization works with youth within those grade levels, we can train school support staff to implement the curriculum to their youth. For more information, contact Dalila Guerrero, Maricopa County Public Health Tobacco-free Regional Mobilizer, [Dalila.guerrero@maricopa.gov](mailto:Dalila.guerrero@maricopa.gov)
- **Phoenix Indian Center GONA – Maya Diaz reported out:** There will be a community GONA on October 7<sup>th</sup> and a youth GONA on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Both events will be held at the Phoenix Indian Center. If you know of any youth aged 15-24, they can attend the talking circle next month.

### Closing Announcements

- Our next meeting will be held on October 24<sup>th</sup>. That will be the chair elections meeting. Again, if you want to submit your chair nomination there is still time!
- One quick announcement from the Powwow committee, there are open nonprofit spots to provide an information table at the upcoming Social PIC and Gourd dancing powwow. There is no fee associated. If interested, please email Candice at [cjoe@phxindcenter.org](mailto:cjoe@phxindcenter.org).
- Follow us on our social media platforms! Get connected with us! All the information about upcoming events and workshops can be found on the UICAZ website: [www.uicaz.org](http://www.uicaz.org).

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 PM.

### Next Meeting

Date: October 24, 2023



Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Location: Phoenix Indian Center – Hybrid Meeting

**2023 Meeting Registration**

Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlucOqtpj4rHdVJeljNYIKNYxgqbwDJAZnk>

**Note: Registration only needs to happen once. Once registered, you will have access to all future UICAZ meetings until December 2023.**

DRAFT