



**Urban Indian Coalition of Arizona
COALITION MEETING**

Tuesday, June 25, 2024
Phoenix Indian Center, Inc.
Virtual 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. **Agnes Attakai**
2. **Allen King** – Naadaa' Path Consulting
3. **Belen Santistevan** - PIC
4. **Beth Tom** – Northland Cares
5. **Brian Yazzie** – Assistant Director of Youth Services for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
6. **Cante Zephier** – PIC
7. **Celina Meadows**
8. **Christine Wilmont**
9. **Clyde Miller** – TDCD/HEAAL
10. **Elisia Manuel** – Stepstone & TPM
11. **Haley Vellutini**
12. **Joyce Givens** – CASA of Maricopa County
13. **Kat Montano** – Banner Health Plan, Health Plan Educator
14. **KC Uber** – Banner Health Plan
15. **Kendall Kee**
16. **Kristy Stanford** – Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice
17. **Kyrene Yazzie** – PIC
18. **Lisa Cadman** – Dept of Child Safety/ICWA Specialist
19. **Loren Grizzard**
20. **Marcus M.**
21. **Michael Wydra**
22. **Nadine Wells**
23. **Natalia Rodriguez**
24. **Nathan Wagner**
25. **Perise Lauvao** – PIC
26. **Rachel Sodhi** – City of Phoenix Office of Public Health
27. **Randa Hightower** – The Mahoney Group
28. **Richard Rodriguez** – US Bank
29. **Ryan Martin** – Native American Liaison with Maricopa County Dept of Public Health
30. **Sharon Banda** – GRIC CASA Coordinator
31. **Shermaine Nelson** – PIC
32. **Vicci Begay**
33. **Wendy Wolfersteig** – ASU-SIRC

Meeting Called to Order at 2:02 PM by Shermaine Nelson

Shermaine 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: *This or that: Monday morning or Friday afternoon meeting?* Shermaine started off the icebreaker question with an introduction and organization. Those attendees in-person went first and then passed to the virtual attendees. For those who did not get a chance to participate in the icebreaker question, Shermaine mentioned to type their answer in the chat and to continue to type their name and organization in the chat.

Shermaine and attendees reviewed today's agenda.

Review Meeting Minutes from May 28, 2024.



Clyde Miller motioned to approve the May meeting minutes. Joyce Givens seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes. There was no discussion regarding the meeting minutes. The majority voted in favor of approving the May meeting minutes, and the motions have been adopted.

Retreat Speakers

Implementing Alternative Disciplinary Measures: Focus Group Report 2024 presented by Dr. Wendy Wolfersteig & Dr. Natalia Rodriguez

ASU Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center (SIRC) conducted research in the fall and are here to share with us. The SIRC evaluation team includes Wendy Wolfersteig (PhD, Research Professor), Natalia Rodriguez (PhD, Research Analyst), and Maria Aguilar-Amaya (DM, Director). SIRC developed focus group questions and protocol; they facilitated two 1-hour online focus groups with educators and parents of students who were recruited by Phoenix Indian Center. There were 13 participants total, majority of whom self-identified as Native American.

Through speaking to participants, they found that there were gaps in school disciplinary actions, such as lack of reporting, communication, consistency, and underutilization of resources like reporting systems. The typical school discipline system may be effective for some but is often an ineffective deterrent. Participants also shared that many youths regard substance use very casually and as a part of them “living their best life”. Suggestions include but are not limited to: engagement of parents, clear standards for behavior (including student handbook), social-emotional learning at the individual student level through prevention education strategies, etc. Phoenix Indian Center does have the full report from this study and will send out that information later.

Opioid Overdose, Prevention, Recognition and Response presented by Christine Wilmont, Tribal Liaison from Sonoran Prevention Works

Today’s training will be 40 minutes, but typically these trainings can be up to 2 hours, so please reach out to Sonoran Prevention Works if you’d like a more detailed, full training.

Sonoran Prevention Works works to build a healthy Arizona with people who use drugs. They operate on a micro level in the field or “on the street,” a mid-level via virtual and in-person trainings, and on the highest-level by working to change legislation and advocate for individuals who use substances. The first discussion surrounded harm reduction. Harm reduction does not excuse the negative consequences of an individual’s choice to use drugs, but instead recognizes that drug use and recovery is complex and exists along a continuum; the goal is to meet people “where they’re at” by supporting any positive change. Many approaches to recovery require full abstinence, which results in many barriers for those looking to heal. Stigma regarding substance use and mental illness (prejudice, discrimination, stereotyping) creates barriers for those seeking resources like housing, healthcare, etc. The language we use can label others and isolate them, rather than regard them as our relatives. We can instead look to educating ourselves and individuals who use drugs on the language we use to promote a healthier community.

The training reviewed types of drugs such as stimulants, depressants, and opioids as well as some of their effects they have when used. There was emphasis on fentanyl, its accessibility, and dangers. Risk factors towards an overdose were reviewed and included mixing substances, physical health, tolerance changes, and using alone. In the event of an opioid overdose, you may see infrequent or stopped breathing, deep snoring, unresponsiveness, and slow or no pulse. To respond, check for responsiveness via a sternum rub, administer naloxone, call 911, perform rescue breaths, and repeat as necessary. Christine demonstrated how to open and administer naloxone and detailed how to perform rescue breaths. Even if you may have limited opportunities to assist in an opioid overdose, everyone should carry naloxone! If you or someone you know may be hesitant to go to a pharmacy and get, you can request naloxone from Sonoran



Prevention Works directly by emailing them at supplies@spwaz.org or visiting spwaz.org/orderنالoxone (limited to those within Arizona).

Coalition Updates

Gathering of Native Americans (GONA)

- **_____ reported out** – On June 22nd, we held our first Two-Spirit GONA at the Phoenix Indian School Visitors Center!

Living in 2 Worlds

- **_____ reported out** – Our first summer camp of 2024, June camp, will be completing on 6/28. So far we have had a great experience with the students and they've enjoyed the cultural workshops provided. They are currently participating in a Youth GONA. We are also providing the L2W curriculum and a drum making workshop at another summer camp, Flight 33, which began yesterday on 6/24. On 7/8, we begin our second summer camp, July camp, which will also be held at Clarendon Elementary school (the same location as June camp).

Parenting in 2 World

- **_____ reported out** - We have 5 cycles currently in progress, three have closed registration due to being passed their third lessons. Three cycles currently have open registration (links shared), one of which is starting their first lesson on Tuesday, July 2.

Parenting Classes w/ ASU Global Center for Applied Health Research (GCAHR)

- **_____ reported out** - We have a GCAHR cycle beginning on July 11 that will be taking place at Native Health Mesa and will continue every Thursday evening. We are seeking guardians who self-identify as American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN) who are caregivers for an AI/AN youth ages 12-17.

Safeguarding Medications 101 (Rx360)

- **_____ reported out** – Our UICAZ staff, Cristian and Ethan, facilitated a prescription drugs misuse workshop at Human Services Consultant on 6/11. Cristian did an excellent job facilitating this training for the first time. On July 25, we will have a virtual Lunch and Learn.

QPR Gatekeeper Training

- **Belén S. reported out** – On 6/18, a successful QPR was held at Human Services Consultant, great discussion happened here.

Network Support Roundtable

- Belen S. reported out – On 7/31 at 1PM, we will be having an in-person roundtable at Phoenix Indian Center's new building.

FINAL Youth Coalition

- **Belén reported out** – The Youth Council had their end of the year celebration by attending the Diamondbacks Native American Recognition Day on 6/15! Special shout out to our Recruitment & Outreach chair, Allen King, who was also there in full regalia for **[reason?]**

Subcommittee Breakout Sessions / Subcommittee Debrief:



- **Recruitment & Outreach (Report-out provided by Allen King):**

Attendees: Belen Santistevan, Allen King, names

The group is in their final planning stages for the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast including assigning roles and finalizing marketing materials. They also would like to make an amendment to their subcommittee's bylaws by altering the language to fit a more appropriate timeline regarding event planning and community outreach. Following breakout report-outs, the amendments were presented and adopted by vote of the coalition.

- **Training & Workshops (Report-out provided by Perise Lauvao)**

Attendees: Perise Lauvao, Loren Grizzard, names

The group briefly reviewed their bylaws, and spent the rest of the given breakout time to introduce themselves and discuss why they joined the Training & Workshops committee.

- **Urban Indian Child Welfare (Report- out provided by Elisia Manuel)**

Attendees: Elisia Manuel, others

No bylaw amendments were made. The group is still planning for the ICWA Symposium; they have a date and theme secured. Elisia Manuel also shared that she spoke before the House Committee on Ways & Means on ICWA and the importance of culture.

- **Suicide Prevention Committee (Report-out provided by Shermaine):**

Attendees: Shermaine Nelson, others

This subcommittee will be meeting externally in July to discuss their #AMileFor suicide prevention campaign that is taking place in September.

Coalition Member Announcements/Community Calendar

- **Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice** – This Saturday 6/29 from 1-3PM at Bubbly Brush in Tempe, there will be a gun violence awareness event. Other organizations will be present to provide gun violence awareness information. (shared by Kristy Stanford).
- **Tribal Healing to Wellness Program Conference** – This conference will take place in September in Phoenix. Allen King will be a keynote speaker. They are currently looking for vendors and late workshop proposals so reach out to him for more information. (shared by Allen King).
- **City of Phoenix Office of Public Health** offers free naloxone kits at their libraries. This is a great resource for those looking for naloxone on an individual level. (shared by Rachel Sodhi)
- **HEAAL Webinar: Marijuana Facts & Myths** – This Thursday, 6/27 at 3PM. This webinar will discuss marijuana use and its impact on youth in our community. (shared by Loren Grizzard).
- **Work Based Learning Experiences within the Navajo Nation** – July 16 at 1PM. This presentation will cover Pre-Employment Transition Services. Speakers will discuss how the University of Arizona Sonoran Center for Excellence in Disabilities is working collaboratively with Window Rock Unified School District to develop Work Base Learning Experiences for their transition-aged students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Closing Announcements



- Due to Phoenix Indian Center's prolonged building move, we are unsure of the location of our July coalition meeting. Plan for another virtual meeting, but stay tuned and check our notifications to find out if we can hold it hybrid once again!
- Submit your membership forms. We will have a link sent in the chat for this. Fill it out and email it to us.
- If you want to volunteer for us, we have a form on our website to fill out.
- You can subscribe to our PIC events calendar. You can see all our workshops and anything that is going on and it will link to your Google Calendar, Outlook Calendar, or your phone.
- Follow us on our social media platforms! Like our posts, like our stories. If you want us to reshare your posts, just tag us and we can repost on our page. All the information about upcoming events and workshops can be found on the UICAZ website: www.uicaz.org.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 PM.

Next Meeting

Date: July 23, 2024

Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Location: Phoenix Indian Center – Hybrid Meeting

2024 Meeting Registration Link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMoc-qspjgHtR7_komeE5JvlmdmDtDH1hR

Note: Registration only needs to happen once. Once registered, you will have access to all future UICAZ meetings until December 2024.