



**Urban Indian Coalition of Arizona  
COALITION MEETING**

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Phoenix Indian Center

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. Belen Santistevan – PIC/UICAZ
2. Cante Zephier – PIC/UICAZ
3. Ethan Tsosie – PIC/UICAZ
4. Jolene Fernandez – PIC/UICAZ
5. Kennedy Slowtalker-Begay – PIC/UICAZ
6. Kyrene Yazzie – PIC/UICAZ
7. Loren Bahe – PIC UICAZ
8. Perise Lauvao – PIC/UICAZ
9. Shermaine Nelson – PIC/UICAZ
10. Allen King – Allen King Consulting
11. Alyssa Dreiling – Tucson Indian Center
12. Anges Attakai – Sonoran Center for Excellence in Disabilities, UA College of Medicine
13. April Childs – NAC
14. Beth Tom – Northland Cares
15. Brian Yazzie – SRPMIC
16. Cheryl Curry – NAFFA
17. Christina Martinez – Friends of the Children
18. Cinthia Martinez – ASU SIRC
19. Dalila Guerrero – Maricopa County Public Health Office of Prevention & Cessation
20. Darien Fuller – AACIHC
21. Emily Davie – Gila River Health Care
22. Jennifer Hernandez – College Depot
23. Kathleen Montano – Banner Health
24. Kristy Stanford – CSSJ
25. Laboraex Abeita – Solari Crisis & Human Services
26. Lisa Cadman – Department of Child Safety
27. Michael Wydra – Maricopa County Public Health
28. Misty Castro – Tucson Indian Center
29. Nadine Wells – HOV Burning Man
30. Natalia Rodriguez – ASU SIRC
31. Nathan Wagner – Creative Refinery
32. Neil Tift, NAFFA
33. Quency Stewart – CAPLTER
34. Randa Hightower – The Mahoney Group
35. Rebecca Ochoa – Pascua Yaqui Tribe – Guadalupe Prevention Program
36. Sharon Banda – CASA/GRIC
37. Sheina Yellowhair-Flores – AZ Complete Health
38. Tarinda Craglow – Ombudsman Alternative High Schools

**Meeting Called to Order at 2:00 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: *What is your favorite Halloween film?* Shermaine started off the icebreaker question with an introduction and organization. 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 September 24, 2024.**

Beth Tom motioned to approve the August meeting minutes. Lisa Cadman 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, and the motions have been adopted.

### **November & December UICAZ Meetings Dates**

Shermaine informed coalition members about alternative dates due to the upcoming holiday. Poll selection was initiated. Majority selected Tuesday, November 19 and Tuesday, December 17 as new Alternative meeting dates.

## **COALITION UPDATES**

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

- Ethan Tsosie reported out – Gathering of Native American workshop. It's our talking circle workshop for anyone 15 years and older. We have a Youth GONA coming up on October 26<sup>th</sup> at the Phoenix Indian Center. If you have any youth interested, you can go ahead and register them. We have another Community GONA on November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center which is open to all community members. We have another one on November 23<sup>rd</sup> here at the Phoenix Indian Center. If you have any questions about GONA, you can reach out to any of us. To register you can go to our website. Neil Tift asked about the GONA times. Ethan indicated that the GONA events are on Saturdays starting at 9:00AM to 3:00PM.

### **Living in 2 Worlds**

- Jolene Fernandez reported out – Our Living in 2 Worlds is our evidence-based curriculum partnered with ASU SIRC. This event is our 12-week course that we do with our Middle Schoolers, and they learn about risky behaviors with risky situation and the choices they have to themselves out of them. Throughout the course, they are tying in culture as preventative factor and learning from all our Prevention staff who are very diverse in their cultures and backgrounds which they are able to relate to the youth. Currently we are at Bogle Jr. High School which they just finished their fall break, but we are back on track with them completing their second lesson. Here at Madison Park Middle School are held on Wednesdays and they are on lesson 2 with them this week. The youth are very fun to be around, and we are excited to continue our workshops with both schools.

### **Parenting in 2 Worlds**



- Jolene Fernandez reported out – We are consistently having cycles for P2W. This is our 10 lessons listed. This is a program that ties in culture, and we also provide tips and tricks to learning about their child's world and communication. Recommend this if they have anyone youth in their lives. This could be for moms, dads, foster parents, grandparents, caregivers. Monday, Thursday, and Wednesday evening. All classes are virtual at this time. Please reach out to me or Ethan about how to get registered or want to learn more about P2W.

### **GCAHR Project HF2W/P2W**

- Loren B. reported out – We are recruiting parents for our research study. We are looking for parents who self-identify as American Indian or Alaskan Native and live in an urban area. Primary caregiver of AI/AN youth ages 12-17, your family could be eligible to receive up to \$200 in gift cards! This workshop is in person and dinner is provided for parents. We also provide childcare services. In the childcare, the kids will watch cartoons, draw, play board games. This is held every Tuesdays from 6pm to 8pm. Registration is still open, and you can register. We are recruiting parents up to January for this research study.

### **Safeguarding Medications: 101**

- Ethan Tsosie reported – This workshop brings awareness to the harmful effects of prescription drugs. We provide tips and tools to safeguard your home to prevent the use of harmful drugs and overdoses. We provide lunch and learn, and we also provide collaborations. So, if you have anyone interested in collaborating, you can reach out to me, Christian, or Shermaine. We have our virtual Red Ribbon week held on Thursday, October 24, 2024, for high school youth and guardians, but its open to all community members. Go to our website and register! On October 26<sup>th</sup> we will be providing an in-person workshop at PIMC. We are also doing a Lunch and Learn on November 13<sup>th</sup>, over zoom.

### **Drug Take Back Day (DTBD)**

- Ethan T. reported - On October 26<sup>th</sup>, the coalition is hosting a Drug Takeback Day at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center. This event is for community members to bring their expired or unused medications to be properly dispose. The DEA National Drug Take Back Day events are typically held every last Saturday on October and April for community members to drop off and dispose of unwanted prescription medications. The pictures shows our outreach events at the Burton Barr Library and PIMC. You can go to the DEA website for a location close to you.

### **safeTALK**

- Perise Lauvao reported out – We held a SafeTALK training last week on October 16<sup>th</sup> at the Phoenix Indian Center in-person. The difference between QPR and safeTALK is that QPR is a 1 to 2 hour introductory to suicide prevention skills. As for SafeTALK are four



hours long and always takes place in-person. The next one is held on November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Phoenix Indian Center.

### **QPR Gatekeeper Training**

- Perise Lauvao reported out – We just held a QPR and partnered with ASU AISWA which stands for American Indian Social Work Study Association which we typically partner with every year. This event was hybrid and the photo on the left were the participants who completed in-person.

### **Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)**

- Belen Santistevan reported out – ASIST is one of our longest suicide prevention training which is 2 days long for about 8 hours each day. We are collaborating with Glendale Community College who are enrolled in the Behavioral Health class are going to be taking ASIST. We also opened it up to the community. These classes are really sought after. We have about 4 to 5 spots open at this moment. Please let us know if you have any questions or want to attend.

### **FINAL Youth Coalition**

- Cante Z. reported out – Our Youth Coalition, for those who don't know, here at the Phoenix Indian Center we have our very large youth Council called Future Inspired Native American Leaders (FINAL) Youth Council. The individuals in the photo are Kalia (Prevention Co-Chairs) and Michael (Prevention Co-Chairs representing Pascua Yaqui tribe. These youth will be hosting various presentations, education, peer-education for other youth. We are looking forward in working with them in the upcoming year.

### **Network Support Roundtable**

- Cante Z. reported out – We will be hosting a Network Support Roundtable in-person at the Phoenix Indian Center on October 1st. This event is for those who work in suicide prevention and/or have been trained in safeTALK, QPR, and ASIST. Those who attend will also receive a self-care kit.

### **Cultural Class**

- Shermaine Nelson reported out – We have a cultural workshop which we have been partnering with Madison School district. Last week on October 16<sup>th</sup>, we provided a private drum making workshop will be held at Madison. In the photo, Ethan, Jolene and I helped 16 youth complete their drums. Next month we will be doing another beading workshop with the same group of kids held on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Upcoming Subcommittee Events**

- Shermaine Nelson reported out – We have our Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast coming up and if you are not registered or want to participate, please scan the QR code to



register. We will be recognizing the nominated chairs at the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast. Please register for the appreciation breakfast.

### **FY 24-25 UICAZ CHAIR ELECTIONS**

#### **Training & Workshop Committee Chair Nomination**

- Shermaine reported out – The Training & Workshop Committee is responsible for the ongoing development of presentation topics and identifying speakers. Our first nomination is Dalila Guerrero. Shermaine read Dalila's biography to coalition members. Dalila mentioned "I am happy to be part of the UICAZ group of subcommittee chair. It's been about 6 months since I took over for this subcommittee chair. This has been awesome experience working with this committed workspace. I am happy to announce that we will be starting our Webinar Series in various substances in January. We would like to begin talking about our upcoming project in October for Substance Awareness month. Majority of the coalition members voted in favor of Dalila Guerrero as the chair for Training & Workshop Committee. No one opposed chair re-elected chair for Training & Workshop Committee.

#### **Recruitment & Outreach Committee Chair Nominations:**

- Shermaine reported out – The Recruitment & Outreach Committee focuses on coalition building and identifying training for new members and distributing marking at these events. Our first nomination is Allen King. Shermaine read Allen's biography. Majority of the coalition members voted in favor of Allen King as the chair for Recruitment & Outreach Committee. No one opposed chair re-elected chair for Recruitment & Outreach Committee Chair Nominations:

#### **Suicide Prevention Committee Chair Nomination:**

- Shermaine reported out – Shermaine reviewed subcommittee goals, roles and responsibility. Shermaine read Laboraex Abeita's biography. Laboraex said "Suicide Prevention is very important in my life. I hope to connect those people in the right workshops and resources." Shermaine opened the floor for anyone interested in nominating themselves or someone else. No other nominations were made. Majority of the coalition members voted in favor of Laboraex Abeita as the chair for the Suicide Prevention Committee chair. No one opposed chair re-elected chair for Laboraex to be the chair for Suicide Prevention Committee.

#### **Indian Child Welfare Act Committee Chair Nominations**

- Shermaine reported out – Shermaine reviewed subcommittee goals, roles and responsibility as chair position. Our nominee is Elisia Manuel. Shermaine read Elisia's biography. Shermaine opened the floor for anyone interested in nominating themselves or someone else. No other nominations were made. Majority of the coalition members voted in favor of Elisia Manuel as the chair for the Indian Child Welfare Act Committee. No one



opposed chair re-elected chair for Elisia to be the chair for Indian Child Welfare Act committee.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT OUT**

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

Attendees: Allen King; Brian Yazzie, Cante Zephier; Nathan Wagner; Perise Lauvao; Randa Hightower.

Went over our breakfast on Thursday held on 22<sup>nd</sup>. We have about 50 rsvp and we would like to see more people register. Please invite everyone to this breakfast and you all are all welcome to come out to network opportunity. Bring one or two guest. I want to say that I humbly Thank You, I gladly accept the nomination, and I am glad to serve another year.

- **Training & Workshops (Report-out provided by Dalila Guerrero)**

Attendees: Christina Martinez; Dalila Guerrero; Darien Fuller; Ethan Tsosie; Katheleen Montano.

Discussed webinar series starting in February. We did get a lot of good feedback in breakout session. We talked about offering CEUs for the community professionals or organizational professionals' attendees who will attend our webinar series. We also talked about how we can hold them accountable with Pre/Post Surveys to obtain responses on how effective the series are and how we can approve.

- **Urban Indian Child Welfare (Minutes provided via Email by Michael Wydra)**

Attendees: Loren Bahe, Lisa Cadman, Agnes Attakai, Michael Wydra

Discussed moving the event date from November 16<sup>th</sup> to December 14<sup>th</sup>. The Location is still, but we are looking at the location SMCC Library to accommodate all the needs and to hold our tables. We have our new members to our subcommittee Agnes Attakai. We are happy to have Agnes who shared all her wonderful resources. New Save the date flyer for our next subcommittee meetings.

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

Attendees: Belen Santistevan; Beth Tom; Kristy Stanford; Nadine Wells; Quincy Stewart; Rebecca Ochoa.

We just introduced ourselves and we also have a new member, Rebecca Ochoa. Got to meet new folks and new faces. We discussed the Mile 4 walk and all the activities. We also talked about all the Plans for the upcoming year and possibly fundraising for more resources. How our group can make those things come a life.



### Coalition Member Announcements/Community Calendar

- Randa Hightower – I don't have an event, but I would like to just say "What a wonderful S&T event and I hope everyone got to attend it. I believe that the attendance count was over 800 what was a record." The fundraising was also another record.
- **Crimes Survivors for Safety Justice (CSSJ)** – Kristy Stanford shared that CSSJ is having a Domestic Violence Awareness event at the Nile Theater at 1:30pm. We will be having Different organizations and proving resources. Everyone is invited on October 27 Nile theater in Mesa.
- **Sonoran Center for Excellence in Disabilities at the UofA College of Medicine** – Agnes Attakai shared that they are hosting a virtual focus group and recruiting Native parents with special health care needs. Held on Nov 13 via zoom. If you would like to share information to improve health and well-bring for children and youth with special healthcare needs. Parents will receive an incentive for participating in the focus group. Please reach out to me: Agnes Attakai, Sonoran Center for Excellence in Disabilities. Email: [agnes@arizona.edu](mailto:agnes@arizona.edu)
- **Friends of Phoenix** – Christina Martinez shared that they are having their first Fall Festival at the Spaces of Opportunity on November 16<sup>th</sup> if anyone is interested in coming out in handing out resources contact me at [cmartinez@friendsphoenix.org](mailto:cmartinez@friendsphoenix.org). Thank you
- **Liberty Wildlife** – Alen King mentioned that On November 17<sup>th</sup>, Liberty Wildlife is also having their Native American Appreciation Awareness Month, and they are looking for vendors and resources to share. I am part of their committee, and this is their second annual event. I can share flyers.

### Closing Announcements

- Shermaine Nelson reported out – Just a reminder that we have our National Drug Take Back Day event and Youth GONA on this upcoming Saturday, October 26, 2024. Our upcoming Out of the Darkness Walk on November 9<sup>th</sup> at Talking Stick Fields at 8:30AM.
- We will be meeting zoom on November 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Reminder to submit your membership forms!
- Meeting reminders are sent via Zoom and PIC Constant Contact. If you have not been receiving any emails, please email me and I can update your information.

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 PM.

### Next Meeting

Date: November 19, 2024.

Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Location: Phoenix Indian Center - Meeting format: Virtual on Zoom

### 2024 Meeting Registration Link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMoc-gspjgHtR7\\_komeE5JvlmdmDdDH1hR](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMoc-gspjgHtR7_komeE5JvlmdmDdDH1hR)





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

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