

TUCSON INDIAN CENTER NATIVE WELLNESS VOICE

April 2025 Vol. 43 ISSUE 4 WWW.TICENTER.ORG



Here's what has happened in the last month and what's to come!

Welcome and Happy Easter! 🌼 🕌

April has arrived and it is a rich and diverse month, bringing with it several important awareness campaigns. This month, we recognize the following:

- Stress Awareness
- Child Abuse Prevention
- Sexual Assault Awareness
- Autism Awareness
- Parkinson's Awareness
- Rosacea Awareness
- National Minority Health

Let us take this opportunity to educate ourselves and support these vital causes.

As we embrace the arrival of spring, we are filled with renewed energy. The Tucson Indian Center is deeply committed to our Vision and Mission Statements of delivering and strengthening the Urban Native American Community.

The Tucson Indian Center continues to successfully serve our community, and we have an exciting event lined up this month, the Tucson Indian Center 2025 Social Pow Wow! (Please refer to page 6).

Our events and workshops are designed to bring us closer together, provide opportunities for learning, and strengthen the bonds that make our community unique. (Please refer to pages 7 and 8 for updated information on workshops and services that we have to offer).

Thank you for being a part of our journey. Together, we can continue to build a strong, vibrant, and supportive Urban Native American Community.

We really appreciate you taking the time to read our newsletter's each and every month. The Tucson Indian Center is always here with open arms to support, assist, and care for you and your family.

Enjoy our newsletter and please do not forget to also follow us on social media to keep up with the announcements, daily post and stay updated and informed of upcoming events.

Tik Tok:

https://www.tiktok.com/@tucson.indian.center Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/tucsonindiancenter/ Instagram:

https://www.instagram.com/tucson.indian.center/

Wishing you and your family a joyful and blessed Easter!

Jacob Bernal/Executive Director

Jack Bernal

Office is open 8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday-Friday



In this newsletter you can expect:		
Page 1. Executive Director Updates	Page 7. Workshops to Attend	
Page 2. Welcome Spring! & Wellness Calendar	Page 8. TIC Services Updates	
Page 3. Health Services Open House	Page 9. TIC Services Update & Recipe of the Month	
Page 4. TIC Highlights	Page 10. Words of Impact	
Page 5. Events of March Update	Page 11. TIC Staff	
Page 6. Upcoming Events	Page 12. Reminders & Announcements	

Welcome Spring?

Greetings!

50

I hope this message finds you, your family, friends, and community happy and healthy. Spring has arrived, bringing longer days, sunshine, and of course-rising temperatures! As we prepare for the warmer months, it's important to keep safety in mind. Taking a few simple precautions can mean the difference between a fun-filled season and serious health concerns like heat exhaustion or sunburn. Here are a few key tips to help you stay safe and enjoy the season:

Michael Mulligan/Operations Director

- 1. Stay Hydrated!
 - Drinking enough water is crucial in the heat. A good rule of thumb is to drink ½ to 1 ounce of water per pound of body weight (depending on your activity level). That's about 11.5 cups per day for women and 15.5 cups per day for men on average.
- 2. Dress Smart & Seek Shade
 - Wear light, breathable clothing, along with a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen to protect yourself from the sun.
 - If you start feeling weak or fatigued, find a cool, shaded area to rest. Never ignore signs of heat exhaustion—they can be serious.
- 3. Limit Exposure to Extreme Heat
 - When temperatures soar above 100 degrees, it's best to stay indoors or in shaded, cooler areas as much as possible.

Even if you've lived in Arizona your whole life, a friendly reminder never hurts! Your health and well-being are important to us, and we want to see you thriving for many years to come. Stay cool, stay safe, and enjoy the season!



Page 2





On March 1, 2025, the Tucson Indian Center proudly hosted the Rodney W. Palimo, Sr. Clinic Open House, welcoming over 200 attendees. This event focused on engaging new patients and was a success, with 30 new patients registered and scheduled for appointments.

> We offered tours of our clinic space and provided community members the opportunity to meet our dedicated providers.

> > We are also honored to have various Arizona congressional staff in attendance, showing their support for our community.









The lively atmosphere featured delicious food, entertainment from Gertie N the TO Boyz, a variety of vendors, and featured numerous exciting raffle prize giveaways. The event spanned from a festive block party setup outside our building to welcoming tours throughout our newly renovated 2nd floor, as well as our clinic on the 3rd floor. Thank you to everyone who joined us in making this event memorable!



OPR CATEKEEPER QPR stands for



QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer — three easy steps anyone can learn to potentially save someone from suicide. Similar to how CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver save lives, QPR training teaches people to spot warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to intervene by questioning, persuading, and directing someone to the proper help.

Dates:

Location: Joe D. Valdez Main Library 101 N Stone Ave, Tucson, AZ 85701 Tortolita Room

Wednesday, May 14th, from 1<mark>-3 p.m.</mark> Wednesday, August 20th, from 1-<mark>3 p.m.</mark> Wednesday, Novem<mark>ber 19th, from 1-3 p.m.</mark> Need more information or interested in attending, please contact: Alyssa Dreiling, Misty Castro, Halia Shirley, or Loretto Maldonado ticwd@ticenter.org 520-884-7131

Native Wellness Voice

Page 4



INDIGENOUS FUN RUN/WALK

Our recent Indigenous Fun Run event was a huge success, filled with excitement, meaningful activities, and opportunities for connection.

The event kicked off with the Fun Run, where community members of all ages came together to enjoy a scenic route, promoting both physical activity and unity.

Following the run, we hosted an exciting game of kickball, which brought out the competitive spirit and teamwork in everyone. It was heartwarming to see participants of all skill levels enjoy the game, cheer each other on, and celebrate the joy of movement.

Another highlight of the day was the mindfulness and togetherness activities. These activities were designed to encourage reflection, connection, and a deeper sense of community. Participants engaged in calming mindfulness exercises, where they practiced breathing techniques, gratitude, and being present with one another. Overall, the Indigenous Fun Run was an event filled with laughter,

energy, and connection. We were grateful to see so many participants come together in the spirit of health, culture, and mindfulness. Follow our social media for more Fun/Run's to come! (See page eight for upcoming Heart Walk)



NATIVE YOUTH COALITION 🚫

The Native Youth Coalition had a successful and impactful experience attending the 100th Rodeo Parade, where they proudly showcased their float promoting a tobacco-free message. In the days leading up to the event, the youth worked diligently together to design, build, and decorate their float, incorporating vibrant and creative elements that reflected their commitment to health and wellness in Native communities. During the parade, the coalition members walked alongside their float, engaging with the crowd and spreading awareness about the importance of living a tobacco-free lifestyle. Their participation in this historic event not only highlighted their dedication to making a positive change but also fostered a sense of pride and unity within the group, all while helping to promote a crucial health message to the larger community.

The Coalition was created with the purpose of giving Native Youth the chance to come together and share wellness ideas, learn leadership skills and impact their communities. The coalition focuses on the prevention and education of substance abuse, tobacco, and drug abuse prevention, as well as teaching its members to stay healthy in body, mind, and spirit. The Native Youth Coalition Group will continue to take place throughout April, *every Wednesday* on 04/02, 04/09, 04/16, 04/23, 04/30 from 4PM - 6PM.





Contact Jr to sign up for the Youth Coalition! Ph:520-884-7131 Ext. 2248 Email: rmaldonadojr@ticenter.org



This will be an unforgettable day filled with joy, culture, and a deep sense of pride. We can't wait to share this special occasion with you and create lasting memories together. So, gather your family, bring your friends, and come celebrate with us in a truly unique way! Let's come together to dance, drum, and celebrate our shared heritage!

You'<mark>re Invited!</mark>

Elder Monthly Luncheon (Native American 55+) Join us for a time of connection, community, and celebration!

> Come enjoy a delicious meal, great company, and an opportunity to socialize with fellow elders. This is a wonderful chance to share stories, spread positivity, embrace our culture, and, most importantly, have a blast together!

DATES:

- APRIL 30, 2025
- MAY 8, 2025
- JUNE 25, 2025
- JULY 30, 2025
- AUGUST 27, 2025
- SEPTEMBER 24, 2025
 OCTOBER 29, 2025
 <u>*NO ELDER LUNCHEON*</u>

NOVEMBER 2025 DECEMBER 2025

Let's gather, share laughs, and continue to DECE strengthen our beautiful Native American community. We look forward to seeing you there!

Luncheons are held the last

Wednesday of every month

Time: 12:00pm - 3:00 pm

520-884-7131 x2238

To Register call Marlene F. Jose

Looking for a relaxing time to learn different healthy coping skills, breathing techniques, and mindfulness exercises? Register for our Wellness Series with Shraddha in which tools for your toolbox are introduced!

<mark>Starting Ap</mark>ril 2nd

WELLNESS SERIES WITH SHRADDHA LOCATION TUCSON INDIAN CENTER 2ND FLOOR TIME: 5PM - 6PM

> MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS CALL SPIP AT 520-884-7131 OR EMAIL TICWD@TICENTER.ORG

"Tools for your toolbox"

"Tools for your toolbox"

"Tools for your toolbox"





TRADITIONAL FOOD WORKSHOPS with Rainbow Lopez

Are you interested in learning about the history, cultural background, and nutrition on different traditional foods? Then you're on the perfect page! This workshop also includes a recipe demo on different traditional foods and is for adults 18 years and older!

There are 30 spots available each workshop! If you are interested in a workshop, please contact Jovon! The schedule for upcoming workshops is to the right, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out!

Go

Email: ticwd@ticenter.org Phone: (520) 884-7131, Ext. 2218 **Location:** Tucson Indian Center **Time:** 6:00PM - 7:30PM

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

von!	FEB 5	APR 16
he M	FEB 19	Apr 30
ot	MAR 5	May 14
	MAR 19	May 28
V	APR 2	June 11

Leadership Development Workshops







Join our exclusive Leadership Development Workshops to become the leaders you aspire to be! This workshop offers tools and strategies for both emerging leaders and community members such as:

- Leading with confidence
- Enhance communication skills
- Team building and management skills
- Develop emotional intelligence

Tuesdays @ 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM March 18 March 25 April 1 April 8 April 15

*Certificate of Completion for those who complete 10 hrs

*Weekly Raffle With Fun Prizes

Tucson Indian Center 160 N. Stone Ave. Tucson Az, 85701 1st Floor Conf.

TIC Services Update

SOBRIETY SUPPORT **NEW CLIENT ORIENTATION** GROUPS To deliver culturally competent, respectful, LBRIE compassionate Health, Wellness, and Social Services. PLEASE JOIN US IN PERSON AT THE TUCSON INDIAN CENTER WALK-INS WELCOME AND LEARN ABOUT THE OTHER AA Meetings: **DEPARTMENTS AND THEIR SERVICES. Every Friday Mornings** 8:30-9:30AM SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT JOIN US . WELLNESS DEPARTMENT Native Sisters in Recovery: White Bison: HEALTH DEPARTMENT Every Thursday Every Thursday 4:15-5:15pm 5:30-6:30pm MONDAYS @ 11:00AM-12:00PM >>> 1ST FLOOR Call or email Christina Luna with any questions or **TUCSON INDIAN CENTER 160 N stone Ave** concerns 520-884-7131 or cluna@ticenter.org 520-884-7131 for information **TUCSON INDIAN CENTER** Job Network **NEED A JOB**? **RODNEY W. PALIMO, SR. Resume Workshops Leadership Classes** CLINIC **Job Readiness Training** We can help! • And much more! **Accepting Same** Job Club Thursdays 10am-11am Day Appointments Ne are dedicated to providing accessible patient-APRIL 3, 2025: AZ@WORKS, GUADALUPE GRAY centered care. Empowering our community to achieve the highest quality health and well-being. **Our Services** APRIL 10, 2025: NESCO RESOURCE, TASHA FLORES, LEAD RERUITER Primary Care Behavíoral Health • Outreach & Refferals APRIL 17, 2025: HSL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, PAULA CELAYA **Contact Us** 520-506-7131 APRIL 24,2025: PIMA COUNTY, www.ticenter.org THOMAS BARTKOWSKI, HUMAN **RESOURCES COORDINATOR** Stella Tarin Jerry Romero **Renee Urbina** starin@ticenter.org jromero@ticenter.org rurbina@ticenter.org CHAIR Every Monday & Wednesday AT GENE C. REID PARK FREE SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025 REGISTRATION **ZUMBA! REGISTRATION STARTS AT 7:30 AM TUCSON INDIAN CENTER** ON THE 2ND FLOOR 12 PM / 1PM LET'S GET FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL JOSE DURAN 520-884-7131 OR EMAIL TICWD@TICENTER.ORG

TIC Services Update



Wednesday's Walking Club at the Tucson Indian Center from 8:30am-10:30am.



🛨 🛨 Join Our Amazing Walking Club!

Are you ready to get moving and boost your health and well-being? Come join Jose and friends of our Walking Club, where you'll create social connections and friendships, promote healthy mental-wellbeing, and learn about healthy eating choices.

Walking is a fun, easy way to stay fit, reduce stress, and improve your mood, all while making new friends and strengthening your sense of community. Whether you're looking to get active, unwind, or simply enjoy nature, our Walking Club is the perfect opportunity to do so!



"Keep up the great work!"

-Bingo participants



Wednesday at 10:30am at Tucson Indian Center 160 N Stone Ave Tucson 85701, 2nd Floor ⁹⁰⁰



Cherokee Blueberry Honey

- Ingredients
- 120 g butter, room temperature
- 120 g caster sugar
- 200 g honey
- 3 eggs, beaten 125 ml whole milk
- 140 g white flour
- 70 g wholewheat flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon of salt
- 380 g. fresh blueberries
- Preheat your oven to 175c or bake in the Aga baking oven, bottom shelf.
- Cream the butter, sugar and honey together.
- Beat in the eggs and milk.
- Once well combined, sift in the white flour, wholewheat flour, baking powder and salt. Mix well.
- Dust the fresh blueberries with a tablespoon of flour then fold them in gently with the batter. I reserved a cupful and sprinkled them on top.
- I tipped the mixture into a lined loaf tin and baked for 45 minutes. In a conventional oven it may take an hour.
- Keep an eye to make sure the top isn't burning, if it is, cover it with foil.
- It's done when you test with a metal skewer and it comes out clean.
- This cake was beautifully moist and not too sweet.
- Dust with icing sugar (Could use a tea strainer as a mini sieve). www.msmarmitelover.com

WORDS OF IMPACT Thank you for reading!

Honoring Congressman Raúl Grijalva: A True Friend and Advocate

On Thursday, March 13, 2025, we lost a true friend and champion of Native communities. The Honorable Raúl M. Grijalva, who represented Arizona's 7th Congressional District for over two decades, passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. His passing is a tremendous loss, not just for our state but for all Indigenous people who knew him as a tireless advocate for our rights, our sovereignty, and our future.

For years, Congressman Grijalva stood alongside Native nations, fighting for Indigenous land rights, better economic opportunities, and respect for our tribal sovereignty. He wasn't just another politician—we knew him as someone who listened, who showed up, and who never wavered in his support for our community. Whether it was pushing for policies that protected sacred lands or securing funding for vital healthcare and education programs, he made sure Native voices were heard in Washington.

Here at Tucson Indian Center, we were fortunate to witness his commitment firsthand. Thanks to his efforts, TIC received a generous grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration that is funding critical renovations to our building at 160 N. Stone Avenue. His support ensured that our Center-this space that means so much to so many-remains a place where our people can gather, heal, and thrive.

It's not easy to find someone who will stand up for what's right, no matter the opposition. It's even rarer to find someone who does it for decades. Congressman Grijalva was that person for us. His absence leaves a hole in our hearts that cannot be filled, but his legacy will always remain.

From all of us at Tucson Indian Center-our Board of Directors, our staff, and our community-we say thank you. Thank you for your service. Thank you for your friendship. Thank you for never forgetting us.

Sincerely, The Tucson Indian Center

Rest in power, Congressman. You will be deeply missed.



RARE	TUCSON INDIAN CENTER	520-884-7131
BEGREAT	www.ticenter. org	160 N. Stone Ave Tucson, AZ 85701

Executive Director Jacob Bernal Chemehuevi

Executive Assistant Yolanda Valenzuela Pascua Yaqui

Monique Ugaitafa Tohono O'odham

> Wellness Director Veronica Boone Laguna Pueblo/Navajo

Health Promotion Specialist Marlene F. Jose Tohono O'odham

Transportation Specialist **Marcus Baldenegro**

Community Health Representative Marcella Delgado Tohono O'odham

Health Promotion Specialist Autumn Begay Tohono O'odham

Health Promotion Specialist Vashti Solis

Health Services Director **Phoebe Cager** Yup'ik

Medical Business Office Manager **Katrina Rodriguez**

Grants & Services Manager Adam Fernandez Rarámuri & Guachichil

> Admin Assistant Jaden Hale Navajo

Tucson Indian Center Staff

Michael Mulligan

Human Resource Generalist Jorge Molina

Building Maintenance Safety Officer **Jackie Shemesh**

Client Service Support Specialist Client Service Support Specialist Rosa Duarte - Espinoza

Wellness Department

Grants & Services Manager Native Connections Project Coordinator Susan Mulligan **Misty Castro**

Finance Director

Michael E. Spotted Wolf

Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Staff Accountant

Honey Ignacio

Tohono O'odham

Accountant Clerk **Claudia Oldman**

Navajo

SAMHSA Youth Specialist

Loretto Maldonado

Pascua Yaqui

Administrative Assistant

Angela Reyes

Jovon M. Boling

Navajo

Youth & Community Health Educator

Ramon Maldonado Jr.

Pascua Yaqui

Diabetes Prevention Specialist

Jose Duran

Family Health Advocate &

Community Health Rep

Carolyn Tapia

Medical Billing & Coding Specialist

Vonda Talawepi

Honi

Medical Record Clerk

Angie Estrella

Medical Assistant

Crysta Duarte - Espinoza

COVID - 19 CHR

Rosemary Corella

COVID - 19 CHR

Andi Morgan

Finance Operations Manager

Rajiv Ranjan

Wellness Case Manager **Christina Luna**

Wellness Case Manager Vacant

Prevention & Education Specialist **Alyssa Dreiling** Community Cultural Specialist Educator

Prevention & Education Specialist Halia Shirley Navajo

Domestic Violence Advocate Vacant Wellness Family Health Advocate **Andres Epaloose**

Navajo/Hopi/Zuni

Health Department

Medical Director Peter Ziegler MD

Family Physician **Dr. Paul Weintraub**

Family Physicians Assistant, PA-C **Juniper Dery-Chaffin**

> Family Physician Dr. Joan MacEachen

Pediatrician/Pediatric Consultant Dr. Marisa Werner Behavioral Health Therapist **Aurora Ramirez**

Social Services Department

Social Services Director **Dylan Baysa** Choctaw

Community Engagement Coordinator

Tasha Labahe

Navajo

Intake & Support Services Case Manager Jerry R. Romero Tohono O'odham

Employment Case Manager **Estella Tarin**

Community Engagement Coordinator & Data Specialist **Employment & Training Case Manager** Natalia Cachora

Tucson Indian Center Board of Directors

> Chairman **Alexander Lewis** Tohono O'odham

> > Vice Chairman Mark Bahti

Treasurer Melisa Cota Tohono O'odham

Board of Directors Secretary **Amalia Reyes** Pascua Yaqui

Board of Directors Member **Yolanda Molina** Pascua Yaqui

Tucson Indian Center Advisory Council

Olivia Villegas - Liston Tohono O'odham

> Christine Nelson Navajo

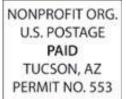
Renee Urbina Native Voice is Published by the American Indian Association of Tucson D.B.A Tucson Indian Center

Native Wellness voice



Operations Director







To enhance leadership, provide advocacy, deliver education, and strengthen the well-being of the people in the greater Tucson Area with emphasis on the Urban Native American Community.

Reminder and Announcements

- New Client Orientation Every Monday 11:00am-12:00pm Contact: Tucson Indian Center
- Job Club Every Thursday 10:00am-11:00am Contact: Tucson Indian Center
- 2 Spirit of Tucson April 14th @ 5:30 pm-7:00 pm Contact: Marlene F. Jose
- Native Sisters in Recovery Thursdays (04/03, 04/10, 04/17, 04/24) @ 4:15pm—5:15pm Contact: Wellness Case Managers *Location: Tucson Indian Center*
- White Bison Recovery Group Thursdays (04/03, 04/10, 04/17, 04/24) @5:30 pm—6:30pm Contact: Wellness Case Managers *Location: Tucson Indian Center*
- AIIR (American Indians in Recovery) AA Mtgs. Fridays (04/04, 04/11, 04/18, 04/25)
 @ 8:30 am 9:30 am, Contact: Wellness Case Managers *Location: Tucson Indian Center*
- Native Youth Coalition @4PM 6PM, Wednesdays (04/02, 04/09. 04/16, 04/23, 04/30)
 Contact: Ramon Maldanado Jr.
- Coffee & Bingo Every Friday, 10:00am-12:00pm Contact: Tucson Indian Center *Location: Tucson Indian Center*
- Walking Club Wednesdays (04/02, 04/09, 04/16, 04/23, 04/30) @8:30am-10:30am Contact: Jose Duran
- Chair Zumba/Yoga- Mondays & Wednesdays, 12pm-1pm Contact: Jose Duran
 Location: Tucson Indian Center
- Elder Monthly Luncheon April 30, 2025, 12pm-3pm RSVP with Marlene F. Jose

PLEASE REFER TO OUR WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA FOR ALL FLYERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS. (REFER TO PAGE 1 FOR SOCIAL MEDIA)

We are happy to share the monthly Native Wellness Voice with you. If you would like to receive an electronic copy or if you experience any problem related to this mailing, such as receiving more than one copy or the wrong name, please contact Susan Mulligan at (520) 884-7131 ext. 2232 or vboone@ticenter.org.