

S U M M E R 2 0 1 6

# SWIWC CONNECTIONS

WALKING WITH HONOR AND RESPECT

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## Greetings from the Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition

We are trying to keep cool in the Phoenix area, how are you spending your summer? The Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition have been keeping busy with local conferences and trainings for our Arizona Tribal Programs. We also continue to stand together with our allies to always bring awareness on domestic and sexual violence that is ever present in our tribal communities. With many tragedies also brings a stronger stance to address the violence in our communities. Remember to talk about it, stop it, prevent it, and do something about it.

### Save the Date!

October  
Domestic  
Violence  
Awareness  
Month

SWIWC  
Regional  
Training

More information  
coming soon!

The Monument  
Quilt in Arizona  
April 2017





## HIGHLIGHT PROGRAM

*Amá Døø Alchini Bighan, Inc*

**ADABI**

Offering Prevention and Intervention Care to Victims and Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

### About ADABI

ADABI is a private, non-profit, community based domestic violence and sexual assault crisis intervention program.

ADABI provides advocacy, prevention, intervention, direct care services and safe home network. ADABI serves victims of intimate partner violence. Our services are culturally, respectful, free of discrimination against race, religion, culture and sexual orientation.



### Mission Statement:

In collaboration with communities within the Navajo Nation, Chinle Agency, and surrounding areas, ADABI promotes prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault while fostering safety and healing.

### Free Services Provided:

- \*Outreach
- \*Safe House/Shelter
- \*Safety Planning
- \*Emergency food and clothing
- \*24-hour crisis intervention
- \*Lay Legal Advocacy – Protection Orders/Court Support
- \*Community Education and Workshops
- \*Follow up
- \*Support Groups
- \*Transportation
- \*Referrals

### CONFIDENTIALITY:

What you see at ADABI, what you say at ADABI, what you hear at ADABI, stays at ADABI, when you leave.



**Contact:** PO BOX 1279  
Chinle, AZ 86503

Phone: 928-674-8314 or 877-698-0899

Fax: 928-674-8218

**\*\*After 5 pm:** Chinle Hospital –  
Emergency Room: 928-674-7090 –  
ask for ADABI's On-Call Advocate.

[www.adabi.org](http://www.adabi.org)



## April Statewide Conference

### Arizona Native Peoples Gathering for Healthy Relations: Striving for and Achieving Safety, Healing, and Justice for All Our Relations.

The Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition (SWIWC), held its fifth statewide conference on April 26-28, 2016 in Mesa, AZ. This year's conference included tracks designed to address the youth, elders, LGBTQ community, violence against women, and engaging men in the movement.

Over 150 people from across the state attended the conference and participated in the general sessions, workshops, and evening events. Of particular significance was the Eleanor E. Roehrig advocate Award ceremony, which recognized and honored five tribal advocates for their outstanding advocacy for and diligent commitment of victims/survivor of domestic and sexual violence in their respective communities.

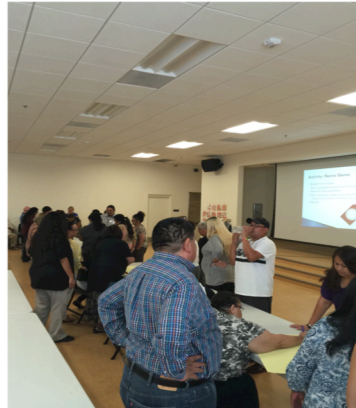
This conference also marked the first time that the LGBTQ community was meaningfully including in the planning and implementation of this conference. SWIWC's LGBTQ Advisory Council members were on the conference planning committee and served as plenary and workshop speakers. It is through their guidance and leadership that SWIWC board and staff is learning, growing and helping to increase the capacity of tribes to better

address and respond to the LGBTQ community.

For SWIWC, this conference was a success, not only because of the number of people attended, or the wonderful speakers who presented, or the outstanding planning committee and volunteers who helped throughout, but mainly because it touched the hearts of those who attended.

Our hearts were open when we listened to and felt the heartbreaking and beautiful life journeys of Nichols Metcalf and Vanessa Losey; saw and stunned and happy faces of the Eleanor E. Roehrig awardees; let loose at the drag show, danced and sweated at the Zumba session; and during the closing session, when we listened to those who stood and bravely shared their journey to healing, their appreciation for the opportunity to learn more about domestic and sexual violence, their gratitude for the inclusion of the LGBTQ community, their commitment to being more responsive to the LGBTQ community, and from the mom who expressed her understanding and acknowledgement of her son to whom she would return home and tell that she accepts him as he is. **Sacred We Are!**





## “Humanizing Our Response to Violence in Our Communities: Being Inclusive, Coordinated, and Accountable”

In coordination with the Gila River Crime Victim Services Program, SWIWC held a regional training for the Gila Indian Community in June. In attendance were various service providers within Gila River along with surrounding communities. This training provided presentations on domestic/sexual violence, historical trauma relating to domestic/sexual violence, coordinated community response, sex trafficking, and LGBTQ community introduction.

In providing regional trainings, SWIWC works with specific staff within each region to identify their needs in responding to violence against Native women. We discuss the gaps in services, safety strategies for victim/survivors of DV/SA, and ways of

working together in a coordinated effort as we know that our tribal communities have the highest rate of victimization across the U.S.

SWIWC will conduct its fifth and last regional training for this fiscal year in July at the Havasupai Tribe. We then will strategize on next fiscal year and assess the work we've done over the past year as we have presented to numerous tribal service providers and community members on the issues of violence against Native women, being inclusive of the LGBTQ community and bringing awareness to sex trafficking.

We look forward to continuing our work in building awareness, education and policy advocacy in an effort to: *Humanize Our Response to the Violence in Our Communities.*

### Thank you!

**Caroline F. Antone,  
Kurt Begaye,  
Lorena T. Halwood,**

For providing outstanding information  
in your presentations!

**Gila River Crime Victim Services:  
Robin Begay  
Angel Cruz & Staff**

Thank you to all who attended and made  
this training successful!



## LGBTQ ADVISORY COUNCIL

### Meet SWIWC's LGBTQ Advisory Council:

While at the Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition (SWIWC) Statewide Conference in April; the LGBTQ Advisory Council used this time to hold a meeting. It is here that they developed their mission statement and purpose. Honor Fisher and Vanessa Losey were elected to serve as co-chairs for the advisory Council.



"Speaking as a victim advocate, the Native American population has the highest numbers across the board when it comes to violence. Being part of a smaller community and being LGBTQ increase the danger. It is with this in mind that we would like to bring awareness and provide training and resources to help better serve the LGBTQ community. In coming to the table, each of us has something to contribute to this conversation."

-Honor Fisher-

### Purpose:

To advise and guide the staff and Council of Women on training and technical assistance (T/TA) approaches, data inclusion, resource development/funding opportunities, policy development and tribal on-site trainings with activities that come directly from the voices and presence of the LGBTQ community.

### Mission Statement:

To educate, support, and empower Native communities for increased safety, understanding, healing, justice, and resources for the LGBTQ community.

"I'm very grateful and excited to be part of SWIWC's LGBTQ Advisory Council. We hope to bring awareness, training, resources, and better understanding of our LGBTQ community and the problems we face daily and usually in silence. I look forward to seeing this Council grow and make a big impact on the quality of care and services for our LGBTQ Members."

-Vanessa Losey-

### LGBTQ ADVISORY COUNCIL:

**Vanessa Losey, Salt River Pima-Maricopa**    **Honor Fisher, Mojave/Chemehuevi**

**Lenny Hayes, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate**    **Kurt Begaye, Diné**

**Nicholas Metcalf, Sicangu Oyate**    **Elton Naswood, Diné**

**Mattee Jim, Diné**    **Jody Gonzales, Tohono O'odham**

**Trudie Jackson, Diné**    **Violet Parker, Hualapai**

**Vonda Beecher, Hualapai/Diné**

**Miranda George, Duckwater Western Shoshone**

# A TIME FOR HEALING, A TIME FOR JUSTICE!

## Ashlynnne

Ashlynnne Mike was an innocent little girl abducted on May 1, near the Fruitland, New Mexico area that had many of us holding our daughters, sons, and grandchildren tighter and praying for Ashlynnne's safe return to her family. After hearing the tragic news that her body was found on May 2 near the Shiprock pinnacle on the Navajo Nation, expressions of anger, sadness, shock and disbelief flooded social media along with Ashlynnne's beautiful picture. A child so young, innocent, and vulnerable enticed by the chance to see a movie had everyone asking, "How can this be happening?"



We must wake up! As whole Nations from leadership to law enforcement to prosecution to healthcare to DV/SA programs, we must build our responses, strengthen our laws, hold offenders accountable, provide healing, and support the movement to end violence against our children, women, elders and our LGBT relatives as it is them that are our most vulnerable.

## Loreal

Loreal, a mother, daughter, sister, niece and friend; shot and killed by police on Easter Sunday. There was no threat, no excessive force, no reason to be shot five times by police. Navajo Nation, Russell Begaye has demanded a federal investigation in to the death of Loreal Tsingine. Not only to seek justice for Loreal but also to help protect the civil rights of tribal members.

How do we protect further our Nation, our community, our people?

As tribal nations, we must stand together to end the violence that targets our young girls, boys, and women. Sexual assault, sex trafficking domestic violence, and gang violence are a part of our reality.

**JUSTICE FOR ASHLYNNNE**

**JUSTICE FOR LOREAL**

**JUSTICE FOR OUR NATIVE COMMUNITIES.**

***We pray for Ashlynnne's and Loreal's family. No family should have to experience the tragic loss of a child, daughter, mother, sister, so very young. For Ashlynnne and Loreal we will work harder, swifter, and more purposefully to do our part in making tribal communities safer.***

## The Monument Quilt:

The Monument Quilt is traveling to the West coast. SWIWC has been asked by The Monument Quilt organizers to partner with them to bring the quilt display to Arizona, which is slated for April 2017.

This will be a one-day event to include speakers, informational booths, the quilt display and other activities to bring awareness of sexual violence, and the need for safety, justice, and healing for our tribal communities.

“The Monument Quilt is a National event, which was showcased in Washington DC – Supreme Court, and hosted by other states. It’s a growing collection of over 1,500 stories from survivors of rape and abuse. Written, stitched and painted onto red fabric, these stories come together in large displays to create and demand public hearing space for survivors. The quilt has toured 22 U.S cities since its inception, the quilt is building a new culture where survivors are publicly supported, rather than publicly shamed.

The Monument Quilt mobilizes survivors to stand together, resisting a one dimensional narrative about how rape abuse happens, and who it affects. Quilt displays can be spaces for healing, resistance, raising visibility, a call to action or protest.”

[www.themonumentquilt.org](http://www.themonumentquilt.org)

**If you are interested in making a quilt square and/or to include in your October events for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, please contact SWIWC.**

**More information coming soon!!**

**Save the Date:  
APRIL 2017**



**SWIWC'S Quilt Square**



**Ariel view of the quilt display in  
Baltimore, MD**



## Up and Coming

# October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS:



- A learned behavior
- Batterers learn from observations of other people, including family and friends.

Native American Resources

## October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month



Every 9 seconds in the U.S. a woman is assaulted or beaten.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS NOT:



- Genetically inherited
- Caused by illness
- Caused by alcohol or drugs
- The result of stress or anger
- Due to bad temper
- Due to the behavior of the victim, children or a problem in the relationship

Native American Resources

More than 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men is a victim of some form of physical violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime.

NCADV 2015

If SWIWC can be of assistance in coordinating your events for October, please contact us at [www.swiwc.org](http://www.swiwc.org). SWIWC can also post your October events on our website.

## Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition

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The Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition (SWIWC) works to end violence against women and children by strengthening the leadership, community response, justice, and safety of indigenous women while restoring the essence of sisterhood and sacredness of being through education, training, technical assistance, and culturally sensitive supportive services.



Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition



@swiwc\_4



SWIWC