



SWIWConnections



As this year ends, we are grateful for the many blessings that the Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition received.

We thank our colleagues, service providers, allies, and tribal leadership for the continued work to end violence in Native communities. As we move into 2018, we are encouraged and strengthened to continue our work in helping to bring safety, healing, and justice to all our relations.



Native American and Alaskan Native Heritage Month



Each year in November we recognize Native American and Alaskan Native Heritage Month. We remember that our tribal communities celebrate rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories. We acknowledge the important contributions of our Indigenous people.

It is also a time to educate the general public about tribes, not only in Arizona, but also across the states. To raise awareness about unique challenges that our Indigenous people face both historically and presently, and most importantly acknowledge the ways which tribal communities have worked and continue to work to meet these challenges and live in a manner that makes our ancestors proud.

The **Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition** celebrates everyday with our tribal communities and continues to stand alongside our Indigenous peoples.

Get to know.....

Our Arizona Tribal Victim Advocates

Are you in need of advocacy and/or victim assistance for victims/survivors within tribal communities? Contact your tribal domestic/sexual violence advocate.

Tribal communities are unique in responding and providing services. They are communities that include culture and tradition in their every day way of life.

It is imperative that responses for Native victims/survivors be by and for Native people to appropriately serve and respond to their needs.

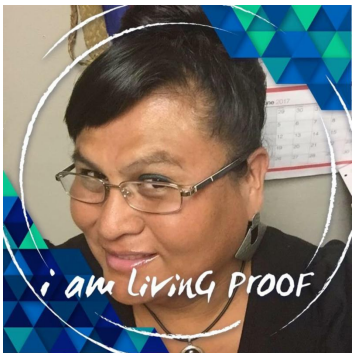
SWIWC is honored and proud to work with **AWESOME** Arizona Tribal Advocates.

Visit our website to view a list of tribal victim advocates, visit [Advocates](#).





LGBTQ Advisory Council Member



MEET MATTEE JIM

Mattee Jim is of the Zuni People Clan and Born for the Towering House People

Clan. She was raised and comes from a place called Tse'na'osh'jiin, This is where she calls home.

Mattee is currently the Supervisor for HIV Prevention Services at the First Nations Community Health Source in Albuquerque, NM. She has been working in the HIV prevention field for over 20 years; initially as an outreach volunteer distributing condoms at bars or on the streets of Gallup, NM.

Mattee started her sobriety at age 24 and remains sober to this day. It has been a long Journey, but a memorable one. Mattee dealt with discrimination and phobias since she was young. Coming from a home where she wasn't accepted and having to hide who she truly was has been a struggle for a number of years. Substance use was a coping mechanism from age 12 until she started her sobriety journey. Mattee knew she was different at age 4 and wasn't able to really express herself throughout her school years. After high school she started to dress how she wanted to and was more out in public. In those young adult years she experienced verbal harassment, physical assaults, violence, substance use and abuse, contemplating and attempting suicide, sex work, and many alcoholic binges.

When Mattee became sober, she needed to find something to keep her occupied. This is where handing out condoms and helping recruit members of the community to attend presentations on HIV Prevention came to fruition. She was a natural communicator and "life of the party". She was a gatekeeper and found herself getting involved in advocacy by joining the Coalition for Equality in New Mexico.



The Coalition was instrumental in developing the NM Hate Crimes Bill and the Non-Discrimination Act that went into law in 2007. This statewide organization conducted yearly summits to address political workshops and to get members of the LGBTQ community involved in advocacy. This is when she first heard the word "transgender" and started to learn about herself as a transgender individual. Since the late 90's, Mattee has given voice to the Native transgender population and advocated for our Native LGBTQ brothers and sisters across the country.

Mattee has conducted numerous Transgender 101's to services providers in tribal and non-tribal communities. She has been asked to sit at many tables to give voice and representation of the Native transgender population, including serving as a grant reviewer for national transgender funding opportunities. She has been invited to several national events such as the Transgender Think Tank which brought together Trans individuals who work in HIV Prevention to create a document that gives recommendations to service providers, funders, and allies. She has gone to two White House Convenings for Transgender populations, recently presented and sat on panels at the National Transgender Summit, is a member of the National Transgender Coalition, and a Board member for the Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico.

Mattee is honored to be included on the Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition (SWIWC) LGBTQ Advisory Council and hopes to be beneficial in establishing a solid future for the Council. Mattee has many more years of fight left and will continue up to do the work that needs to be done to make it a better world for our Native LGBTQ2S brothers and sisters.

In Beauty we all walk.





TRANSGENDER AWARENESS WEEK

November 14-20 • #transweek



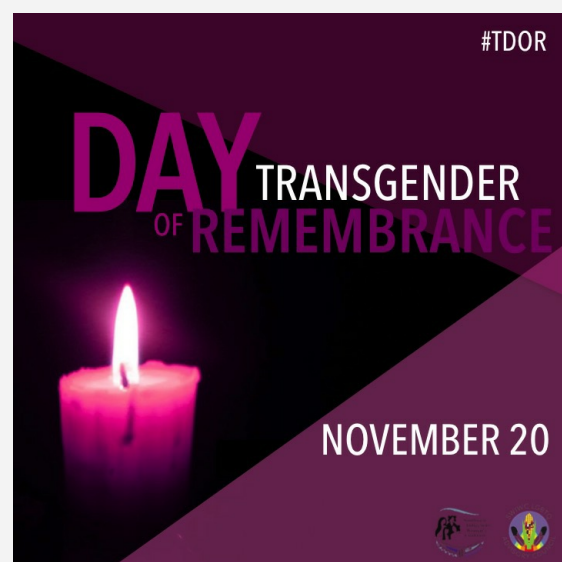
National Transgender Awareness Week

SWIWC celebrated Transgender Awareness Week via our social media sites. A week where individuals and organizations around the country participated to help raise the awareness of transgender people and address the issues the transgender community faces.

In conjunction with this was Transgender Day of Remembrance, an annual observance on November 20 that honors the memory of those lives lost due to violence.

SWIWC's LGBTQ Advisory Council works diligently to bring awareness to the many issues our Native LGBTQ/2S relatives face on a daily basis.

For more LGBTQ/2S information and/or training please visit [LGBTQ](#).



MERRY CHRISTMAS



Kurt Begaye, SWIWC's Program Specialist. LGBTQ Advisory Council: Mattee Jim, Elton Naswood, Lenny Hayes, and Honor Fisher.

The Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition's LGBTQ Advisory Council wishes all our relatives a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

SWIWC's happenings.....

Empower International

September 25, 2017

Phoenix, Arizona



SWIWC presented to 6 international delegates from Ukraine who's focus is on human trafficking, not only assisting victims in their area but also wanting to learn more about human/sex trafficking in Arizona and Native communities. Their focus is also on community work, punishment to prevention, education and partnerships with other entities especially high schools, and shows great interest in child exploitations, bullying and domestic violence.

SWIWC collaborated with Empower International, a local program whose vision is to enable others to grow and make meaningful change, stemming from mutual understanding and passion for the greater good. Valaura Imus, Victim Witness Specialist Supervisory, BIA, also collaborated and hosted the meeting.

For more information on Empower International visit [CIPUSA](#).



25th Annual Four Corners Indian Country Conference

September 27-29, 2017

Glendale, Arizona

This was a conference well attended by participants from the states that make up the four corners area. The conference also brought together federal, state and tribal governments to address the many aspects associated with Federal and Tribal Justice Services.

In collaboration with the Southwest Center for Law and Policy, Kurt Begaye presented with Hallie Bongar White on "*Two Spirit/LGBTQI Victims of Sexual Violence in Indian Country*", a workshop to assist tribal communities in providing culturally and traditionally based responses to the needs of Native LGBTQI

Thank you to the Arizona U.S. Attorney's office for a great conference.



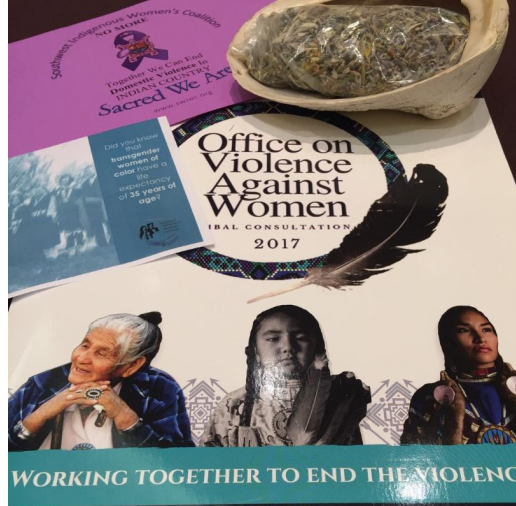
To contact the Arizona U.S. Attorney's office and/or Victim Assistance Program, visit [AUSA](#)

Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation

October 3 & 4, 2017

Ft. McDowell, Arizona





The Department of Justice's 12th Annual Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation was held October 3-4, 2017 at WeKoPa Resort and Convention Center, Fort McDowell, Arizona.

The purpose of the violence against women tribal consultation is to request recommendations from tribal leaders on the following topics :

- Enhancing the safety of Native American and Alaskan women from domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking and sex trafficking.
- Strengthening the federal response to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking and sex trafficking; and
- Administering funds and program for tribal governments established by original Violence Against Women Act and subsequent legislation.

With many tribal leaders in attendance and over hundreds of testimonials, the consultation hopes to bring stronger responses, stability, and funding for the safety of our Native communities.

The Southwest Indigenous Women's was honored to present a "Traditional Shawl Ceremony" to remember our Native relatives who we've lost due to violence. In remembrance were our children, women, men, elders, those with disabilities, the LGBTQ community and the missing and murdered.

To read more about the Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation visit [Tribal Consultation](#).

October Domestic Violence Awareness Month

SWIWC enjoyed attending various awareness events within our Arizona tribal communities during October Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

"Values of a Hopi Woman"

Kurt Begaye and Veronica Hunter traveled to the Hopi Nation to set up an informational booth at the, "Values of a Hopi Woman" health fair, which was organized by our sister tribal coalition the Hopi-Tewa Women's Coalition to End Abuse. To learn more about this coalition visit [HTWCEA](#)



"Violence Has Never Been a Native American Tradition"

Leanne Guy and her daughter Kateri Guy attended "Violence Has Never Been A Native American Tradition" at the Ak-Chin Indian Community in Maricopa, AZ to provide an informational booth and a short presentation.

The event entailed a walk, various speakers, info booths, games, and cultural performances all to highlight that violence has never been a Native American tradition.

Thank you Penny Harris and Job Elliot for reaching out to SWIWC.

To learn more about Ak-Chin Indian Community visit [Ak-Chin](#)



San Carlos Training

October 26 & 27, 2017

Peridot, Arizona



In collaboration with the San Carlos Prosecutors Office and Domestic Violence Program, a two-day training was held for the San Carlos Apache Tribe service providers. A unique training specifically designed to the meet the needs of the San Carlos Apache Tribe.

Topics included Domestic Violence: In Her Shoes, Victim Centered Approach in Domestic Violence Cases, Tribal Protection Orders Including Full, Faith and Credit, Best Practices in Coordinating a Sexual Assault Response Team, Advocating for Victims through Tribal Court, LGBTQ Community, and Victim Safety and Accountability.

In addition to the training, SWIWC coordinated site visits with community service providers all seeking and achieving the same goals of safety and enhancing services for their community.

Thank you Sherrie, Stephen and Lori for reaching out to SWIWC.

To learn more about the San Carlos Apache Tribe please vis it [SCAT](#)

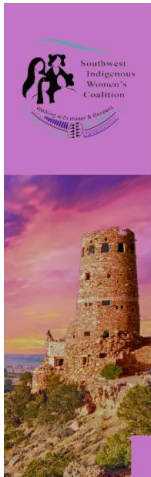


Call for Faculty

The Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition (SWIWC) is seeking professionals to join our training and technical assistance faculty for current and future projects. Native American and Native-serving professionals with the following, but not limited to, knowledge and experience are encouraged to send in their resumes.

Core Knowledge
Domestic Violence (DV)
Sexual Assault (SA)
LGBTQ+ & DV/SA

For more information visit it [SWIWC](#)



Call for Faculty

The Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition is seeking amazing professionals and community stakeholders to join our training and technical assistance faculty for current and future projects. Native American and Native-serving professionals and stakeholders with the following, but not limited to, knowledge and experience are encouraged to submit their resumes to kurt.beggs@swiwc.org.

- CORE KNOWLEDGE**
- Confidentiality
 - Coordinated Community Response
 - Historical/Intergenerational Trauma
 - Jurisdiction
 - Safety Planning
 - Trauma Informed Care
 - Victim Centered Advocacy

- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**
- Dating/Youth Violence
 - Domestic Violence 101
 - Effects of DV on Children
 - Engaging Ally's in the Movement
 - Housing Needs of Survivors
 - Men and DV
 - Protection Orders including Full, Faith and Credit
 - Role of First Responders
 - Stalking

- LGBTQ+ & DV/SA**
- Effective Communication, Outreach & Allyship Building
 - LGBTQ+ Language and Specific Needs
 - Effective Shelter Services for LGBTQ+
 - Addressing DV/SA Barriers for LGBTQ+

- SEXUAL ASSAULT**
- Building a Sexual Assault Response Team
 - Creating Safe Spaces for Survivors
 - Role of U.S. Attorneys
 - Sex Trafficking in Indian Country
 - Sexual Assault 101
 - Understanding Forensic Exams
 - Understanding Rape Culture

For more information contact:
Kurt Beggs at 928.863.8372 or kurt.beggs@swiwc.org

[Upload Resume](#)

Up and Coming

January is National Stalking and Sex Trafficking Awareness Month.

What is Stalking?

A course of conduct directed at a specific pers on that would cause a reasonable person on to feel fear.

17% of Native American and Alaskan Native Women have been stalked in their lifetime.

[Learn more.](#)




January 11th is Trafficking Day of Awareness. An Arizona study shows that the average age of entry for youth into sex trafficking ranges from 13-15 years old.

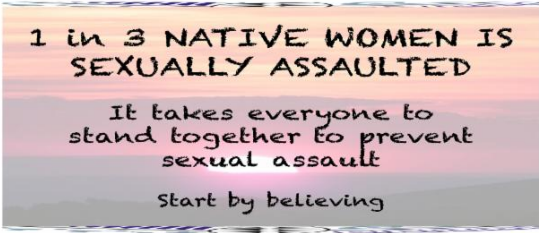
SWIWC along with Valaura Imus, BIA Victim Specialist Supervisor, will be at Native Health on January 4th to distribute program brochures,

stalking, and sex trafficking information.

Stop by to visit our booth at Native Health ([location](#)) on January 4th and visit our sites to view more info on stalking and sex trafficking.



SAVE THE DATE



Addressing and Responding to Sexual Violence in Tribal Communities
A Training for Service Providers

January 17 & 18, 2018
Phoenix, AZ - TBD

Register Online or Download Form visit www.swiwc.org

Questions please contact SWIWC via email: tania.harvey@swiwc.org

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January Regional Training

Addressing and Responding to Sexual Assault in Tribal Communities

January 17 & 18, 2018
Phoenix, AZ

To register please visit [SWIWC](#)

Limited scholarships available

SAVE THE DATES

SWIWC's Statewide Conference



We are excited for our next statewide conference coming in August 2018!!

More information coming soon!



View 2016 Statewide Conference in pictures
[View 2016](#)

Save The Dates

SWIWC Regional Trainings coming in February and March 2018
Dates and Locations: TBD



Back: Kurt Begaye, Program Specialist; Geraldine Laughter, Council of Women; Lorena T. Halwood, Council of Women; Mary Howe, Council of Women. Front: Veronica Hunter, Finance Manager; Carrie Imus, Council of Women, Leanne Guy, Executive Director; and Tania Harvey, Program Specialist, (not pictured: Honor Fisher, Council of Women).

Everyday is our Christmas, we are grateful for our blessings and for the opportunity to serve our Native people. The Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition **THANKS YOU** for your support, partnership and your continued strength in providing healing, justice, and safety to our Native communities.

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!

Who We Are
Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition

Council of Women

MARY HOWE
President
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe

CARRIE IMUS,
Vice President
Hualapai Tribe

LORENA T. HALWOOD,
Secretary
Diné

GERALDINE LAUGHTER,
Treasurer
Diné

HONOR FISHER,
Council Member
Mojave/Chemeuevi

Staff

LEANNE GUY
Founder & Director
Diné

TANIA HARVEY
Program Specialist
Diné

KURT BEGAYE
Program Specialist
Diné

VERONICA HUNTER
Finance Manager
Diné

LGBTQ Advisory Council

LENNY HAYES, Co-Chair
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate

MATTEE JIM, Diné

HONOR FISHER, Co-Chair
Mojave/Chemehuevi

ELTON NASWOOD, Diné

Become a member

Membership is for those who wish to support and participate in the movement to end domestic and sexual violence against women and children and/or who provide services to victims/survivors of domestic

Membership



DONATE

Donate to the **Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition** - Donations will continue our work in safety, healing, justice for all Native women and children, victims of violence, training and technical assistance to tribal communities and service providers. **GIVE**, it continues to give hope and strength to tribal communities .

Last minute shopping?? Don't forget



Shopping through AMAZON? You can donate directly to **SWIWC** when

you shop online through AMAZON. Go to [Amazon.Smile](#) and select "Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition" as your charity.



Contact

Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition

[Website](#)

Mesa, AZ 85274



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