

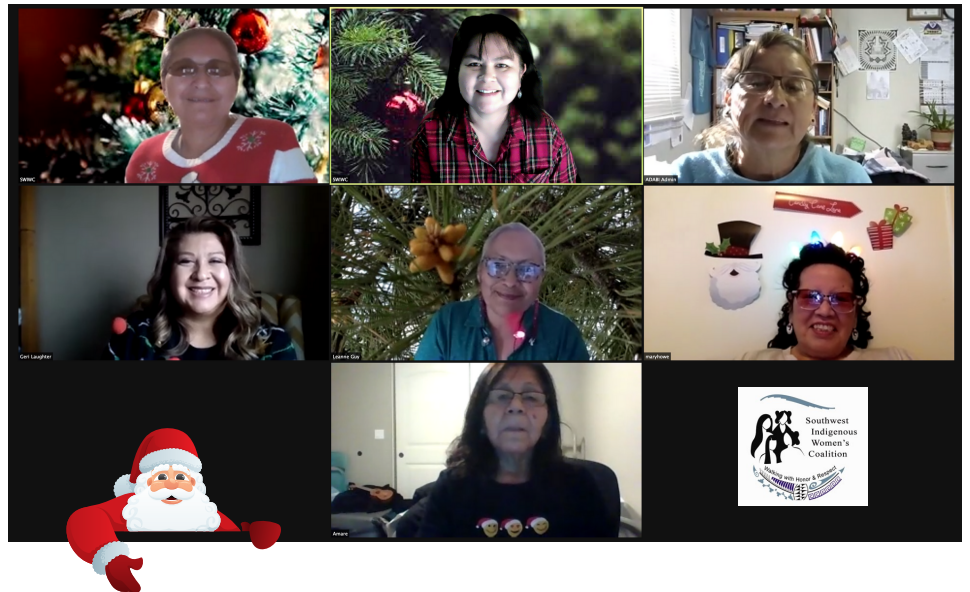
SWIWC CONNECTIONS



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2020

A TIME TO HEAL!

This year has been challenging for everyone. COVID-19 shook us to the core and created a new way of doing things. Are you ZOOMED out yet? As this year ends, SWIWC is grateful even more as we had another year of helping, learning, sharing, and supporting others albeit virtually. We send to all hugs and love and prayers to the universe for a better 2021!



Let's keep our communities safe

It is with the utmost gratitude and strongest prayers possible that we continue to salute all health professions, first responders, victim advocates, grocery workers, and all other essential workers. Their sacrifice and hard work is to be commended and cherished. Because of them, many of our relatives have survived.

FOLLOW TRIBAL COMMUNITY'S COVID-19 GUIDELINES

AND POLICIES: As this pandemic continues it is vital that community members of the 22 tribes in Arizona follow all COVID-19 guidelines for their community. Many tribes are still on lock down hoping to stop the spread of the virus, Keeping our tribal communities safe during this time is critical. Creator's blessings to all tribal communities and to those affected by this pandemic. Read more, [TRIBES](#)



Keeping others safe:

- Wear mask
- Wash hands
- Stay safe at home



SWIWC HIGHLIGHTS

SWIWC's Native LGBTQ2S Advisory Council Welcomes New Members

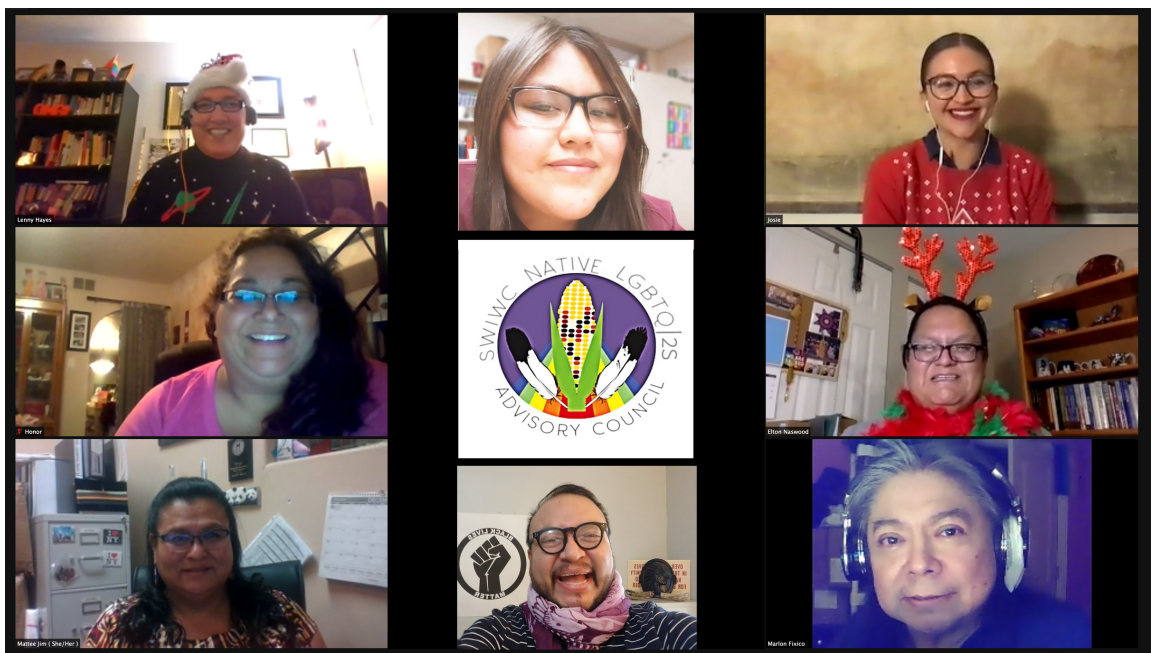
SWIWC's Native LGBTQ2S Advisory Council is growing! The Advisory Council through expertise, skills, and lived experience brings support and empowerment to Native communities to increase the awareness, safety, justice, and healing for the LGBTQ2S community. The advisory council is honored to have new members including a youth member. Look out for activities and events in 2021.

Mission Statement: To educate, support, and empower Native communities to increase awareness, safety, healing, justice and resources for the LGBTQ community.

Meet our members:

- Lenny Hayes, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Co-Chair
- Moroni Benally, Dinè
- Marlon Fixico, Cheyenne/Seminole
- Honor Fisher, Mojave/Chemehuevi
- Josie Raphaelito, Dinè - Co-Chair
- Mattee Jim, Dinè
- Elton Naswood, Dinè
- Misty Sandoval, Dinè

For more information about SWIWC's Native LGBTQ2S Advisory Council visit: [Council](#)



Virtual October Domestic Violence Awareness Month

As with everything else, October Domestic Violence Awareness Month activities were provided virtually. Every week in October, SWIWC provided a Virtual Resource Day which included 18 organizations in total that presented on their domestic violence related services. All presentations are archived on SWIWC's website along with contact information for each organization. Additionally, SWIWC provided 31 days of domestic violence awareness on all social media platforms. Much appreciation to all those who participated. To view recordings please visit: [SWIWC DVAM2020](https://www.swiwc.org/virtual-resource-day)



Arizona Study Committee on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG)

The Arizona State Committee on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) completed their report and released recommendations for future work on MMIWG in Arizona. Part of the report includes interviews with victim's families. The committee identified a list of legislative, data, victim advocacy, and law enforcement recommendations.

The study committee consists of 23 members including SWIWC. The Committee conducted a comprehensive study to determine how to reduce and end violence against Indigenous women and girls in Arizona. The study includes reviewing data collections, and collaborations with state agencies including law enforcement agencies. Reveal the full report at [AZLEG](https://www.azleg.gov).

OVW Tribal Consultation Shawl Ceremony

The 15th Annual OVW Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation opened with a Shawl Ceremony. The Shawl Ceremony recognizes and honors elders, women, men, children, and the LGBTQ2S community that we have lost due to violence including our relatives who are missing and murdered. The shawls hold space in remembrance of the lives lost and as a reminder of the urgent and continued work needed to keep all our relatives safe.

Honor Fisher from SWIWC's LGBTQ2S Advisory Council represented the LGBTQ2S Community. View the [Shawl Ceremony](https://www.swiwc.org/shawl-ceremony).



SWIWC HAPPENINGS

Best Practices in Mobile Advocacy Amid COVID-19 Webinar | July 2020

In response to COVID-19, advocates had to make a transition to mobile advocacy which created challenges in providing victim safety, confidentiality, offender accountability, and healing. In response to this and based on the needs expressed on SWIWC's Bi-weekly Virtual Advocate Talking Sessions, SWIWC organized a webinar provided by Memory Dawn Long Chase, New Life Center that addressed the following key elements in mobile advocacy: safety and protection for victims, seeking emergency assistance, and steps in providing confidentiality. Many thanks to Memory!

View the webinar here: [SWIWC](#)



NNEDV Virtual Technology Summit 2020 | August 2020

The 8th annual Summit focused on the intersection of technology and abuse. Topics included the increase of digital services in the work to support survivors, concerns of online privacy, increasing detections of stalkerware during the pandemic, online hate and gaming, teens and tech, and privacy and confidentiality during the COVID-19 pandemic.

NNEDV provides TechSafety toolkits and resources visit: [NNEDV](#)

Confidentiality in the Time of COVID-19 | August 2020



"Providing advocacy and services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence during the COVID-19 pandemic has caused all of us to rely heavily on technology to deliver assistance, unlike the face-to-face services we have long been accustomed to providing. Using the telephone, texting, email, video services (like Zoom) or even cloud-based services makes it difficult to ensure that we can always guarantee the privacy and confidentiality of our communications with survivors."

This webinar provided a refresher on confidentiality protocols

and protections when providing victim services - and demonstrated how those life-saving principles can be adapted to service provisions through technology.

Thank to presenter, Rob (Roberta) Valente, consultant to the Battered Women's Justice Project and the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. To view the webinar visit: [SWIWC](#)

2020 National Sexual Assault Conference #BoldMoves September 2020

This three-day conference provided advanced training opportunities for victim advocates and other professionals working to prevent sexual violence. It also provided critical intervention services and support to those who have experienced sexual violence.

For more information and to view the three-day conference visit: [BoldMoves](#)

SWIWC Coalition Virtual Membership Gathering | September 2020

SWIWC Virtual Membership Gathering focused on coalition and membership updates, future training/technical assistance, and networking.

Become a SWIWC Coalition Member

Membership is open to those who wish to support and participate in the movement to end domestic violence and sexual assault and those that provide services to victims/survivors in Arizona's tribal communities.

With this membership you will receive up-to-date information; access to trainings and conferences; the opportunity to request onsite training and technical assistance; and access to national initiatives working to create social change, safety and justice for victims/survivors of DV/SA. For more information contact [SWIWC](#).



JOIN OUR

[SWIWC MEMBERSHIP](#)

ADVOCACY * OUTREACH * TRAINING * TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE *
TRIBAL, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Sexual Assault Campaign

SWIWC is currently conducting a Roundtable Series on Sexual Assault. The purpose of the roundtable series is to help create a Sexual Assault Awareness Campaign for tribal communities. Discussions have included sexual health and sexual violence in our communities, the need for sexual assault awareness, cultural considerations, challenges in addressing sexual violence, using social media platforms, identifying sexual assault resources, and the creation of awareness material.

SWIWC's next meeting will focus on the LGBTQ2S community. This will be a virtual meeting in January 2021. If you are interested in participating in this campaign please reach out to [SWIWC](#).



TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT



**15TH ANNUAL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT
TRIBAL CONSULTATION**
OCTOBER 27-30, 2020

The 15th Annual Government-to-Government Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation. The Mission of the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), a component of the United States Department of Justice, is to provide federal leadership in developing the national capacity to reduce violence against women and administer justice for and strengthen services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 20126, the purpose of the violence against women tribal consultation is to solicit recommendations from tribal leaders on the following three topics:

- Enhancing the safety of American Indian and Alaska Native 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, stalking, and sex trafficking; and,
- Administering funds and programs for tribal governments established by the 1994 Violence Against Women Act and subsequent legislation.

[Letter to Tribal Leaders](#)

SESSION OVERVIEW:

A few Arizona tribes attended and provided testimony.

SWIWC participated in the Virtual Resource Room. For a list of participants visit [OVW Resource](#)

[Framing Papers for the 15th Annual Government to Government OVW Tribal Consultation](#)

NIJ provided a presentation on "Analysis and Research on Violence Against Indian Women: An Update from the National Institute of Justice" View presentation at [NIJ](#).

Written testimonies closed November 30, 2020

For more information visit: [OVWTC](#)

Virtual Consultation on the Fiscal Year 2021 Crime Victims Fund Tribal Set-Aside Formula Program

The virtual consultation took place November 2020. Discussion included potential revisions to the interim formula and application process used in 2020. Please view the informational [Framing Paper](#) as it provides a background and questions used for the consultation. Written testimony for this specific consultation is closed.

For more information regarding the consultation email: ovtribalsetaside@ojp.usdoj.gov

National Congress of American Indians Task Force Meeting

As task force members, SWIWC attended several virtual meetings provided by the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Violence Against Women Task Force. The Task Force serves as a unified tribal voice working to end violence against Native women. Meeting discussions have included topics such as; Operation Lady Justice, tribal funding and services, violence data, tribal coalition updates, and legislative updates .

For more information on the task force visit [NCAI](#)

Virtual Tribal Domestic and Sexual Assault Advocates Talking Sessions

It is imperative that domestic and sexual violence advocates are deemed as essential and critical workers during this pandemic as we know that during this time violence in homes has spiked. In an effort to support our advocates, SWIWC has conducted bi-weekly Zoom meetings since April creating space to listen, share, and stay connected.

Advocates have expressed that the talking sessions have been helpful to them and have appreciated the opportunity to feel connected and see their peers from other communities.

We send much love to our tribal advocates. They are some of the hardest working people who over and over sacrifice their own family time to help another family. The work they do is from the heart and is life saving.

To find the nearest tribal domestic/sexual violence advocate visit and for more information on resources visit [SWIWC.](#)

Virtual Tribal Council Engagement and Tribal Domestic and Sexual Violence Program Site Visits

During this time of virtual existence, staying relevant and meaningful is a challenge. However, SWIWC has tried to stay connected to Arizona tribal leaders, service providers and their communities via virtual site visits. Addressing domestic and sexual violence among other topics remains a priority, especially with the increase of violence that many communities have seen during this pandemic.

Recently, SWIWC conducted virtual site visits with the Havasupai Tribe and White Mountain Apache Tribe. Although, meeting in person is preferred, the virtual site visit provided a good opportunity to discuss challenges during COVID-19 and to strategize their needs to continue providing victim services. For more information and/or to request training/technical virtual assistance please contact [SWIWC.](#)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ITCA Social Services Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona

SWIWC continues to participate in ITCA's Tribal Social Service Working Group. The Tribal Social Service working Group consists of representatives from the 22 Tribal Social Services Departments, Indian Health Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, ASU School of Social Work as well as other interested human services programs. The working group provides tribal and state staff the opportunity to discuss, develop, and present a tribal perspective on social services issues, concerns, and needs.

For more information visit: [ITCA](#)

Governor's Office of Youth, Faith, and Family Outreach and Awareness and Victim Services Subcommittee

SWIWC continues to participate in the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family Outreach and Awareness and Victim Service Subcommittees.

The Outreach and Awareness Committee increases awareness about sexual and domestic violence throughout Arizona. The Victim Services Committee develops and/or improves statewide policies for providing trauma informed, victim-centered services in cases of sexual and domestic violence. SWIWC is excited to be a part of the subcommittees and also bring awareness of tribal communities at a statewide level.

For more information visit: [GOYFF](#)

Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence

SWIWC continues to collaborate with the Arizona Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (ACESDV) as a presenter for their 40 hour Sexual Assault Core Advocacy Training and their 40 hour "The Sharing Experience: From Violence in Our Lives to Peace in Our Communities" training. SWIWC is also a member of their Community Partnership to Address Sexual Violence Committee.

ACESDV provides direct services to victims and survivors of sexual and domestic violence. More more information and resources, please visit [ACESDV](#).

Networking with SWIWC

At the root of SWIWC is the desire to collaborate and communicate with organizations/individuals in addressing and responding to violence in our tribal communities. We find it imperative to work together to address the violence we see. Collectively, we create stronger responses and provide increased safety, healing, and justice to victims, survivors, and their families. SWIWC is thankful for the continued requests for collaboration from organizations and individuals wanting to make a change and to better understand who we are as Indigenous peoples.

Visit our website for information on the work we provide: [SWIWC](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

CURRENT OPEN SOLICITATIONS:

[OVW FY21 Justice for Families Program Solicitation](#) | **Due January 25, 2021**

[OVW FY21 Legal assistance for victims program solicitation](#) | **Due: February 3, 2021**

TO VIEW OPEN SOLICITATIONS PLEASE VISIT THE FOLLOWING:

[OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN OPEN SOLICITATIONS](#)

[OFFICE FOR VICTIM OF CRIMES CURRENT FUNDING](#)

[ARIZONA FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS/AWARENESS

UPCOMING SWIWC WEBINARS

Non-Fatal Strangulation: What Everyone Needs to Know |

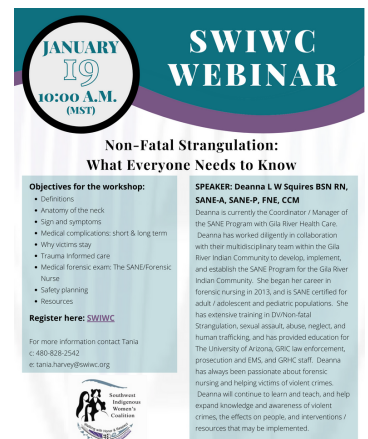
January 19, 2021 | 10:00 A.M. MST

[REGISTER HERE.](#)

Webinar provided by SWIWC's Native LGBTQ2S Advisory Council | February 2021

For future SWIWC webinars continue to visit [SWIWC](#)

For previously recorded webinars please visit: [SWIWC T/TA](#)



NIWRC Webinar: Virtual Conversations With The Field |

January 12, 2021 12 p.m. MT

How Family and Friends Can Reconnect with Native Teachings and Create Healing Spaces With and For Native 2S/LGBTQ Victim/Survivors of Domestic Violence

For more info visit: [NIWRC](#) and/or Register Here: [NIWRC](#)



AWARENESS MONTHS

JANUARY: Stalking Awareness Month | Visit: www.stalkingawareness.org

FEBRUARY: Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month | Visit: www.loveisrespect.org

Visit SWIWC on our social media platforms for upcoming awareness posts

UPCOMING SWIWC PODCASTS



In 2021, SWIWC will be hosting PODCASTS.
Stay tuned for more information!

PROTECT OUR TRADITIONS

SWIWC sends deepest condolences to those who are grieving loved ones who lost their life to COVID-19



It is heartbreaking to learn of the passing of so many of our relatives across Indian Country. To know that we have lost mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, grandparents, grandchildren, uncles, aunts, nieces and nephews is truly devastating.

During this time of great uncertainty, there is one thing that is certain - we are survivors and we will continue to be.

SWIWC will continue to assist those in need including cases of domestic and sexual violence and providing

PPEs to advocates. We stand with you in solidarity and prayer as we continue to do our part in helping communities to heal, stay safe, and overcome COVID-19.

Resources with COVID-19 Safety Information

- [StrongHearts Native Helpline](#)
- [National Indigenous Women Resource Center](#)
- [National Congress of American Indians](#)
- [National Indian Health Board - COVID-19 Tribal Resources Center](#)
- [National Network to End Domestic Violence](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
- [National Institute of Health](#)
- [Center for Disease Control](#)
- [Indian Health Services](#)
- [Native Health](#)
- [Protect the Sacred](#)
- [Inter-Tribal of Arizona](#)
- [Arizona Department of Health](#)
- [AZCESDV](#)
- [Arizona Tribal Victim Advocates](#)



Prayers for safety and wellness

SUPPORT SWIWC



Thank you for your support!

Giving makes a huge difference and we are extremely grateful for your support. With your generosity we are able to provide a much greater reach in Arizona. SWIWC appreciates your continued support and the collaborative relationships we have had with many of you over the years. You have helped us to provide successful and meaningful events that aim to increase safety, justice, and healing for all our indigenous relatives!

We have presented, trained and provided resources to over thousands of individuals. Please continue to support our work at SWIWC along with supporting our tribal communities.

A sincere **THANK YOU** for your donations during [#GivingTuesday](#). Your support is much appreciated and does not go unnoticed.

Supporting Missing and Murdered of Indigenous Women and Girls

We give thanks to **Tyffany Howard** for the most gracious donation to SWIWC. In reading on Missing and Murdered of Indigenous Women and Girls, Tyfanny organized the "Sisters of the Earth: A Re-Emergence of the Divine Feminine." event with all proceeds going directly to SWIWC. **Thank you!** For more information about Tyfanny's work, please visit [Tyffany Howard](#).

MMIWG COVID-19 Relief Fund: As COVID-19 affects all sectors of life we must consider the most marginalized and underserved populations among us and the service providers that work hard to protect them. SWIWC is focusing its attention on supporting service providers with resources such as personal protective equipment (PPE), food, transportation, clothing, and other essential items. SWIWC serves as a conduit directly providing services and resources to tribal service providers. By supporting SWIWC you are supporting those service providers. To Donate visit: [MMIWG](#)

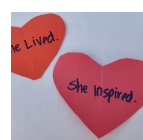
AMAZONSMILE | DONATE WHILE SHOPPING ONLINE

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. Happy shopping!

CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR WORK | [Make a Donation](#)

» **DONATE**

YOUR
SUPPORT
MAKES A
DIFFERENCE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Allstate Foundation and the National Network to End Domestic Violence Emergency Small Grant Award

We are pleased to announce that SWIWC recently received an emergency grant from The Allstate Foundation to help us provide support to survivors of domestic violence during the pandemic. These funds will provide families with food, PPEs, cleaning supplies, and traditional care packages to provide some comfort and relief during this time. Our grant was awarded as part of \$1,000,000+ in emergency grants provided by The Allstate Foundation to help provide necessary relief as the need for domestic violence services continues to rise.

NoVo Foundation and Seventh Generation Fund for Indigenous Peoples, Inc.

It is with great excitement that we announce our fiscal sponsor relationship with Tate Topa Consulting, Inc. and the much needed work that owner, Lenny Hayes is providing to the LGBTQ/2S community. Lenny Hayes, MA, is a citizen of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the northeast corner of South Dakota. Lenny is currently in private practice and has extensive training in mental and chemical health issues that impact the TwoSpirit/Native LGBTQ and Native community. Lenny has traveled nationally and locally training and presenting on the issues that impact both the Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ individual and community. With funding from the NoVo Foundation and the Seventh Generation Fund, Lenny will continue and maintain an online Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ Support Group and a Native Talking Circle Group. These support groups are designed to create support for individuals who identify as American Indian and/or Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ and provides a safe and brave space for these communities to discuss the many struggles and challenges of living in an era of COVID-19.



WHO WE ARE

GOVERNING BOARD

MARY HOWE, President
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe

CARRIE IMUS, Vice President
Hualapai Tribe

LORENA T. HALWOOD, Treasurer
Diné

GERALDINE LAUGHTER, Secretary
Diné

STAFF

LEANNE GUY, Founder & Director
Diné

TANIA HARVEY,
Director of Tribal Engagement
Diné

VERONICA HUNTER,
Director of Finance
Diné

NATIVE LGBTQ2S ADVISORY COUNCIL

LENNY HAYES, Co-Chair
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate

MORONI BENALLY,
Diné

HONOR FISHER,
Mojave/Chemehuevi

MARLON FIXICO,
Cheyenne/Seminole

JOSIE RAPHAELITO, CO-CHAIR
Diné

MATTEE JIM,
Diné

ELTON NASWOOD,
Diné

MISTY SANDOVAL,
Diné



Membership is for those who wish to support and participate in the movement to end domestic and sexual violence against all our relatives and those who provide services to victims/survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual violence in Arizona's tribal communities.

[Become a Member](#)

STAY CONNECTED

