

TUCSON INDIAN CENTER NATIVE WELLNESS VOICE

June 2025 Vol. 43

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WWW.TICENTER.ORG

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

TIC will be closed on June 19th In observance of the Federal Holiday, Juneteenth



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

It feels like the year just started, yet here we are, already halfway through! As we welcome the month of June, we are excited to share the latest updates, events, and stories from our community. Your unwavering support and involvement continue to propel the Tucson Indian Center's mission forward, and we are deeply grateful for your dedication.

June often marks the beginning of summer in many parts of the world, bringing longer days, warmer weather, and a variety of outdoor activities and festivals. This month is also significant for several important awareness campaigns, including Caribbean American Heritage Month, National Men's Health Month, National PTSD Awareness Month, Pride Month, and Child Vision Awareness Month.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support. Together, we are making strides in preserving our heritage and empowering our community. We are looking forward to the upcoming events and hope to see you, your family, and friends there to continue our journey together!

- Summer Youth Camp
- Men's Day

• Basketball Camp with Analyss (See page 6 for further information.)

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter and for being an integral part of our community. Together, we can make a difference and preserve our heritage for future generations.

Please remember to stay connected with us through our website (https://www.ticenter.org) and like and follow us on social media to keep up and stay informed of upcoming community events, announcements, and other important information.

Tik Tok: https://www.tiktok.com/@tucson.indian.center

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

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

Jacob Bernal/Executive Director

Jacob Bernal

Updates & Uplifts



🛠 Carrying Mental Wellness Forward

While May spotlighted mental health, many traditions remind us that wellness is lifelong—and deeply connected to balance, community, and the land.

As we move into June, let's carry forward practices that ground us: time in nature, quiet reflection, storytelling, or ceremony. These aren't just habits—they're ways of returning to ourselves.

Mental strength grows through steady care. Keep walking that good road, one step at a time.

Native Wellness Voice

🍸 What You Can Do This Month

- Revisit one new habit you started in May—whether it's 10 minutes of daily quiet time, a weekly walk without your phone, or guided meditation.
- Encourage your team, friends, or family to share what helps them reset or recharge.
- Set a personal reminder to pause once a week and ask: "How am I doing, really?"

🔆 Looking Ahead

Mental health is not a finish line—it's a process of ongoing care, reflection, and growth. Let's keep the momentum going this summer.

Best regards,

Halia Shirley & Alyssa Dreiling Suicide Prevention, Intervention, Postvention Team



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PEDIATRIC SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE

AT THE TUCSON INDIAN CENTER RODNEY W. PALIMO, SR. CLINIC



SICK/URGENT VISITS FOR ALL AGES

PREVENTATIVE/WELL VISITS FOR PATIENTS 13-17 YEARS

ssociation Or

Location: 160 N. Stone Tucson, AZ 85701

Native Wellness Voice

Call to schedule:

520-506-7131

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T R A N S P O R T A T I O N A N N O U N C E M E N T

Marcus,

On behalf of all of us at the Tucson Indian Center, thank you for your time, dedication, and commitment as our Wellness Transportation Specialist. Your contributions have made a meaningful impact, and your presence will truly be missed. We wish you all the best as you embark on this exciting new chapter in your career.

To our Tucson Indian Center clients, please know that transportation services will not be affected during this transition. We remain committed to ensuring continued services.

Thank you for choosing our services! Wellness Department ticwd@ticenter.org 520-884-7131







OPR GATEKEEPER TRAINING

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



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.

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

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



Here's a look at what our Saturday Workshops have looked like in May!

So far, we've hosted 15 engaging workshops, featuring a variety of interactive sessions for all ages and interests. Highlights include:

- Beading sessions that sparked creativity and connection
- Relaxing Reiki and Reflexology to help participants unwind
- Sculpt Dancing for some heart-pumping cardio and leg toning
- Art activities that children especially loved
- Fun Line Dancing classes perfect for beginners
- Yoga sessions that offered moments of calm and mindfulness



Each Saturday has brought joy, movement, creativity, and relaxation to our community!

Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Awareness Run/Walk





In May, the Tucson Indian Center, in collaboration with Indigi Well Being, Alianza, and other community partners, came together to honor our Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) across the country. Held at Pima Community College West Campus, the MMIP Run served as a powerful tribute and call to action, uplifting the voices of our loved ones and raising awareness of this ongoing crisis.





YOUTH BASKETBALL

CAMP W/ ANALYSS BENALLY

Building skills, resilience, and community through basketball.

Pre-Registration is required. SPACE IS LIMITED, up to 35 participants for the first and second session.

Participants and family can join us Friday, July 11th for Dinner and a movie. We will be showing R<mark>ez Ball!</mark>



GUEST COACH

Professional Basketball <mark>Player &</mark> actor in Rez Ball Netflix Movie

More Information and registration Call 520-884-7131 or email hshirley@tic<mark>enter.org</mark> July 11th & 12th El Pueblo Activity Center 101 W Irvington Rd Building 1, Tucson, AZ 85714

3RD-6TH GRADE Boys & Girls 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM **7TH-12TH GRADE** Boys & Girls 12:30 PM - 4:00 PM



Native Wellness Voice

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• You're Invited! Elder Monthly Luncheon (Native American 55+)

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!

> Luncheons are held the last Wednesday of every month Time: 12:00pm - 3:00 pm

To Register call Marlene F. Jose 520-884-7131 x2238

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

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

FEB 5	Apr 16
FEB 19	APR 30
MAR 5	MAY 14
Mar 19	MAY 28
APR 2	JUNE 11

DATES:

- <u>JUNE 25, 2025</u>
- JULY 30, 2025
- AUGUST 27, 2025
- SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

• OCTOBER 29, 2025

<u>*NO ELDER</u> <u>LUNCHEON*</u> <u>NOVEMBER 2025</u> <u>DECEMBER 2025</u>

FOOD CLUB

DELICIOUS FOOD DEMONSTRATION CLASS

COME JOIN US FOR A FRESH WAY TO PREPARE FOOD AND ENJOY WHAT YOU CREATED

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

> M E N U June 4th: Beets so Sweet June 11th: Dates that Count June 18th: WILD FOODS

June 25th: Protein Power Bars

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

TIC Services Update



SOBRIETY SUPPORT

PLEASE JOIN US IN PERSON AT THE TUCSON INDIAN CENTER

AA Meetings: Every Friday Mornings 8:30-9:30AM

White Bison: Every Thursday 5:30-6:30pm

Native Sisters in Recovery: Every Thursday 4:15-5:15pm

LBRIE

Call or email Christina Luna with any questions or concerns 520-884-7131 or cluna@ticenter.org



Diaper Bank & Food Bank

Pick Up Schedule

Documents <u>Required</u> for

- State ID or Tribal ID
- Child Birth Certificate
- Proof of income or SNAP/AHCCCS Card

Documents Required for FOOD BOX:

- State ID or Tribal ID
- One Food Box per month per family

Location: 160 N Stone Ave Tucson, AZ 85701 Questions: Please call us at (520)884-7131



TIC Activities Update

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



American Heart Association Walk April 26, 2025 Proud of you all!

Acorn Cookies Courtesy of Rainbow Lopez

Ingredients:

- 1 cup of Acorn Flour
- 1 ½ cup of Coconut Milk, Buttermilk, or Milk
- 1 Egg
- ¹/₄ cup Melted Butter
- 3/4 cup of Monk Fruit Sugar
- 2 tbs Maple Syrup
- 1 ¹/₂ cup Flour
- ¹/₂ tsp Baking Soda
- ¹/₂ tsp Baking Powder
- ¼ tsp Salt
- ½ tsp Vanilla Extract

Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Grease your oven trays.
- Mix coconut milk with egg, melted butter, maple syrup, and sugar in one bowl.
- In another bowl, mix the dry ingredients: acorn flour, flour, salt, baking soda, baking powder.
- Add both mixtures together. This will mix well in a few whips.
- Bake in the oven for 15 minutes.







WORDS OF IMPACT Thank you for reading!

Summer Youth 2025

Supporting youth mental health during the summer can be especially impactful, as it's a time of transition, less structure, and potential isolation. Here's a mix of practical and encouraging advice you can offer:

Summer Mental Health Advice for Youth

C<u>reate a Simple Routine</u>

- **Why**: Structure supports mental stability.
- Advice: Set a regular sleep schedule, include daily goals (even small ones), and build in time for rest, fun, and learning.

<u>Stay Connected</u>

- Why: Social connection helps reduce anxiety and depression.
- Advice: Encourage youth to reach out to friends, attend community events, or join a summer camp or hobby group—even if virtual.

<u>Move Your Body</u>

- **Why**: Physical activity boosts mood and reduces stress.
- Advice: Aim for at least 30 minutes of movement a day —walking, biking, dancing, swimming, or even yoga.

<u>Unplug Strategically</u>

- Why: Constant screen time can increase anxiety and worsen self-esteem.
- Advice: Suggest digital detox times—like "no phones at meals" or a tech-free hour before bed. Encourage using devices for creativity, not comparison.

<u>Try Something New</u>

- Why: Novelty boosts brain health and builds confidence.
- Advice: Start a small garden, learn to cook something, pick up a new book series, or explore a creative outlet like painting or journaling.

<u> Talk About Feelings</u>

- Why: Bottling things up can lead to deeper issues.
- Advice: Encourage open conversations. Remind them that it's okay to not be okay—and to talk to someone they trust, whether it's a friend, family member, or counselor.

Practice Mindfulness

- Why: Helps manage stress and increases self-awareness.
- Advice: Try simple breathing exercises, meditation apps like Headspace or Calm, or daily gratitude journaling.

Volunteer or Help Out

- Why: Helping others builds purpose and reduces negative self-focus.
- Advice: Look for opportunities in local shelters, food banks, or helping neighbors or younger kids.

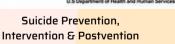
Watch for Warning Signs

- Why: Early signs of mental health challenges can emerge subtly.
- Advice for adults: Watch for changes in mood, sleep, or withdrawal from activities. Be proactive in offering support or professional help.

Make Space for Fun

- Why: Joy is a protective factor for mental health.
- Advice: Celebrate the small stuff. Plan mini adventures—picnics, movie nights, sunset walks. Encourage fun without pressure.









TUCS <mark>ON INDIAN</mark> CENTER	520-884-7131
www.ticenter.org	160 N. Sto <mark>ne Ave</mark> Tucson, A <mark>z 8570</mark> 1

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Transportation Specialist Vacant

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

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Grants & Services Manager Adam Fernandez Rarámuri & Guachichil

> Admin Assistant Jaden Hale Navajo

> > Choctaw

Community Engagement Coordinator

Tasha Labahe

Navajo

Native Wellness voice

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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 Susan Mulligan

Wellness Case Manager **Christina Luna** Wellness Case Manaaer **Tanya Rios**

Prevention & Education Specialist

Prevention & Education Specialist Halia Shirley

Domestic Violence Advocate Vacant Wellness Family Health Advocate Andres Epaloose Navajo/Hopi/Zuni

Health Department

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

Tohono O'odham

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Estella Tarin

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

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

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Diabetes Prevention Specialist

Medical Director Peter Ziegler MD

Aurora Ramirez

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Hopi Medical Record Clerk Angie Estrella Medical Assistant

> Andi Morgan COVID - 19 CHR **Rosemary Corella**

Employment Case Manager

American Indian Association of Tucson, Inc. Tucson Indian Center 160 North Stone Tucson, AZ 85701 Phone: 520-884-7131 Fax: 520-884-0240

www.ticenter.org





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 June 9th @ 5:30 pm-7:00 pm Contact: Marlene F. Jose
- Native Sisters in Recovery Thursdays (06/05, 06/12, 06/19, 06/26) @ 4:15pm—5:15pm Contact: Wellness Case Managers *Location: Tucson Indian Center*
- White Bison Recovery Group Thursdays (06/05, 06/12, 06/19, 06/26) @5:30 pm-6:30pm Contact: Wellness Case Managers *Location: Tucson Indian Center*
- AIIR (American Indians in Recovery) AA Mtgs. Fridays (06/06, 06/13, 06/20, 06/27)
 @ 8:30 am 9:30 am, Contact: Wellness Case Managers *Location: Tucson Indian Center*
- Native Youth Coalition @4PM 6PM, Wednesdays (06/04, 06/11, 06/18, 06/25) Contact: Ramon Maldanado Jr.
- Coffee & Bingo Every Friday, 10:00am-12:00pm Contact: Tucson Indian Center *Location: Tucson Indian Center*
- Walking Club Wednesdays (06/04, 06/11, 06/18, 06/25) @8:30am-10:30am Contact: Jose Duran
- Chair Zumba/Yoga- Tuesdays & Thursdays 12pm -1pm Contact: Jose Duran
 Location: Tucson Indian Center
- Elder Monthly Luncheon: June 25, 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.