

November 2025 WWW.TICENTER.ORG

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

TIC will be closed November 27th & 28th



WELCOME TO THE TUCSON INDIAN CENTER NEWSLETTER!

Let us welcome the month of November with open hearts and renewed purpose. As the seasons shift the days get cooler, and autumn settles in we are reminded of the importance of reflection, connection, and action. November is a month rich with meaning, remembrance, and opportunities to uplift one another.

We give thanks for the abundance around us and the strength within us. Whether through ceremony, community gatherings, or quiet reflection, this is a time to reconnect with our roots and each other.

This November, we honor a wide range of awareness causes — a time to listen, learn, and stand united with those that are impacted.

- American Diabetes Month
- Bladder Health Month
- **Epilepsy Awareness Month**
- National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month
- Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month
- Prematurity Awareness Month
- Native American Heritage Month

These causes remind us of the importance of compassion, advocacy, and community care.

We are excited to invite you to the upcoming events that are right around the corner! Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend with your family and friends. These gatherings are opportunities to celebrate culture, build community, and support each other.

- Out of the Darkness Walk November 8
- Native American Family Wellness Day November 15

The Tucson Indian Center continues working to honor our mission to guide every step we take, every story we share, and every program we build. To enhance leadership, provide advocacy, deliver education, and strengthen the well-being of the people in the greater Tucson Area with the emphasis on the Urban Native American Community.

We hope this month's newsletter brings you inspiration, updates, and opportunities to engage with our work. Thank you for walking this path with us.

Jacob Bernal/Executive Director

can expect:

In this newsletter you

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VISIT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA:

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

Facebook: https://www.facebook.co m/tucsonindiancenter/

https://www.instagram.co m/tucson.indian.center/

Stay up to date with our very own Podcast https://bit.ly/TICtalks



Updates and Uplifts

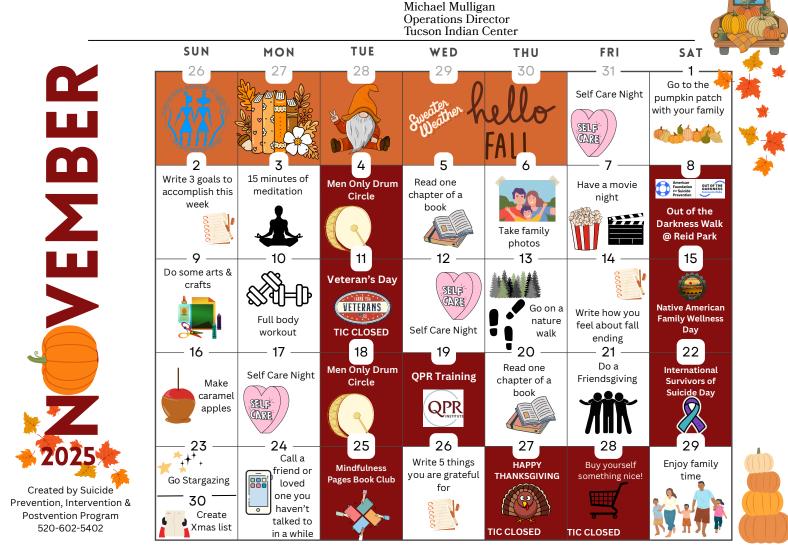


I hope this message finds you happy, healthy, and blessed. As we continue working to maintain and improve the Tucson Indian Center, I want to take a moment to inform our community about an important upcoming project. Beginning in late December 2025 and continuing through late January 2026, we will begin construction on a full Roof and partial HVAC Replacement Project.

This project is essential to ensure the safety, comfort, and reliability of our facility. As many know, our building has served the community for decades in different capacities, and with that longevity comes the need for continued investment in infrastructure. The new roofing and partial HVAC system will help create a more comfortable environment for our clients, visitors, and staff, especially during Tucson's warmer months.

While this work is underway, most areas of the Center will remain open and operational. However, the Clinic will be temporarily closed for approximately 30 days during construction. We understand how important continuity of care is to our patients, and we are already working on accommodations during this period. Please watch our social media pages and website for detailed updates and instructions. Clinic staff will also be reaching out directly to patients with information well in advance.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your patience and understanding. These improvements are a necessary investment in the long-term health and safety of our community spaces. Our goal is to ensure that every visit to the Tucson Indian Center remains welcoming, safe, and enjoyable for all.





FREE RIDES

TO YOUR HEALTH
SERVICES
APPOINTMENT AT
TUCSON INDIAN
CENTER



Do you have an appointment at the Rodney W. Palimo, Sr. clinic? We can transport you directly to your appointment, so a reliable ride is not a barrier.

BENEFITS:





Get Picked Up and Dropped
Off Directly from your House
or Living Facility



For questions or to schedule transportation call:

Call us!



520-506-7131

November Highlights At the tucson Indian Center



🌟 Honoring Our Elder – Sonny Junhama 🌟

The Tucson Indian Center proudly recognizes Elder Sonny Junhama, who brought home 8 gold medals at the Chair Volleyball Regional Competition!

His dedication, strength, and community spirit continue to inspire us all. Congratulations, Sonny, for representing our community with pride and excellence! Throughout his involvement with TIC, Sonny has lost over fifty pounds. We are so proud of you, Sonny!



Dorma Koinva and her daughter Veronica Koinva at Native American Recognition Week

November is Native American Recognition Month

November is a time to honor the history, resilience, and living cultures of Indigenous peoples across the country and right here in Tucson.

At the Tucson Indian Center, we're proud to serve and celebrate our Native community every day. For over 60 years, we've worked to preserve tradition, promote wellness and strengthen connections that keep our culture thriving.

This month, we invite you to join us in recognizing the stories, teachings and strength that continue to inspire generations. Together, we honor the past, celebrate the present, and build a stronger future for our community.

Honoring Life, Love, and Memory

Animam Mikwame (Yaqui), Limoṣañ (Tohono O'odham) also known as Day of the Dead and Día de los Muertos is a time to honor and remember our ancestors - celebrating the lives, teachings, and love they left behind. Rooted in Indigenous traditions, this sacred celebration reminds us that life and death are deeply connected and that our loved ones continue to walk beside us in spirit.

In Tucson, Indigenous communities have carried these traditions for generations, blending ceremony, art, music, and food to create a space of reflection and joy. As we gather to build altars, share stories, and light candles, we celebrate the beauty of life and the strength of our cultural roots.





A look at what's happened in the last month

AT THE TUCSON INDIAN CENTER



Footsteps for Healing Walk







October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, On October 18th, the Tucson Indian Center joined community members in walking together for Violence Awareness. The Footsteps for Healing Walk, hosted by Emerge and Indivisible Tohono, brought together survivors and families affected by domestic violence, sexual violence, and gun violence, with a special focus on Indigenous communities. Now in its second year, the event saw participation double from last year. This powerful walk created a safe, supportive space for healing, amplifying the voices of survivors and encouraging others to share their stories.

Emerge's 50th Anniversary Celebration

On Sunday, September 28, the Tucson Indian Center was honored to take part in Emerge's 50th Anniversary Celebration at the Berger Performing Arts Center.

The event celebrated fifty years of supporting survivors, uplifting voices, and creating spaces of safety and healing.

Guests enjoyed moving stories, shared reflections, and powerful performances throughout the evening and at the reception that followed.





Phoenix Indian Center - Gourd Dance and Social Powwow

In October, our group traveled to Phoenix to participate in a day full of culture, community, and connection. We attended the Native American Connections Parade, centered around the inspiring youth-focused theme: "The Future is Ours!" The group also took part in the Phoenix Indian Center's Gourd Dance & Social Powwow and explored health and wellness resources at the Native Health Fair. We were especially proud to have members of the Native Youth Coalition join us for this meaningful experience and learn more about the opportunities for Native Youth!





Upcoming Events AT THE TUCSON INDIAN CENTER





The Tucson Indian Center Presents





SAMHSA





FAMILY WELLNESS DAY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 2025 FUN RUN - 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM EVENT - 10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM RUNWAY/ART SHOW 12:30-1:00 (TRADITIONAL ATTIRE ENCOURAGED) DANCING 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Join us in celebrating you and your family, honoring your presence and your ongoing commitment to making healthier choices for your family's well-being while celebrating with your community and our culture.

DONNA R. LIGGINS CENTER 2160 N. 6TH AVE



Music

For any questions, please email ticwd@ticenter.org or Call Tucson Indian Center (520)884-7131

Tucson Indian Center Gathering

Celebrating Community Partners

The Tucson Indian Center is hosting an event to honor our valuable community partnerships. The Tucson Indian Center Gathering is an opportunity for us to celebrate our partners contributions while inviting the community to learn how they can support and engage with the Center's programs.

Saturday, November 8, 2025
Desert Diamond Casino on Nogales Highway
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Get your tickets at ticenter.org/2025-gathering/

Silent Auction | Dinner | Entertainment | Recognition Awards



Series to Attend At the tucson indian center



Food Club - Brought to you by our Diabetes Prevention Specialist

Come join us for a fresh way to prepare food and enjoy what you create!

Contact Jose Duran for more information (520) 884-7131 ext. 8304



November 5: Winter Squash Cakes

November 12: Strawberry Vanilla Overnight

November 22: Oats with Cottage Cheese Egg Muffins Surprise

November 29: Cocoa-Peppermint Powder



Wednesday's at 10:30 am - 160 N Stone Ave - 2nd Floor

TUCSON INDIAN CENTER IS HOSTING

DRUMMING

~~~~~

OF EVERY MONTH
5:30PM-7:00PM

14+ INDIVIDUALS WHO IDENITFY AS MALE REGISTRATION REQUIRED



QUESTIONS/ CONCERNS
CONTACT
SAMHSA/SPIP AT 520-884-7131
TICWD@TICENTER.ORG

2 Spirit of Tucson Support Group (GLBTQ2S)

(2nd Monday of the month @ TIC)



November 10, 2025, 5:30pm-7:00pm December 8, 2025, 5:30pm-7:00pm

For more information call (520) 884-7131 ext. 2238 or mjose@ticenter.org

## Services Update

#### AT THE TUCSON INDIAN CENTER



**Pima** C.A.R.E.S.

Health **Promotion Specialist** 



#### **Our Core Services**

Assist individuals with a substance use issue to connect with treatment services.

Assist individuals with locating treatment services for a person with a substance use issue.

> Assist individuals with connecting to support groups.

Provide Narcan and Fentanyl Testing Kits to the community.

Our Health Promotion Specialists are here to assist individuals and families impacted by substance use.

Let us help you take the next step toward healing and wellness.



Contact Us (520)884-7131 Ext. 2301





#### Pick Up Schedule

Monday: 11am - 4pm Tuesday: 9am - 4pm Wednesday: 9am - 4pm Thursday: 9am - 4pm Friday: 9am - 4pm





**Documents Required for Food Box:** 

• State ID or Tribal ID

One Food Box Per Month Per Family

#### **Documents Required for Diapers:**

- State ID or Tribal ID
- Child Birth Certificate or Proof of Guardianship
- Proof of Income or **SNAP/AHCCCS Card**



#### Location:

160 N Stone Ave Tucson, AZ 85701 Questions: Please Call Us At (520) 884-7131



November 06, 2025 10:00AM-11:00AM **AZ&WORKS** 

## **LOOKING FOR A JOB? WE CAN HELP!**

**New Client Orientation is every** Monday, from 11:00am to 12:00pm.

Job Clubs are every Thursday, from 10:00am to 11:00am.

November 13, 2025 10:00AM-11:00AM **Desert Diamond** Casino

November 20, 2025 OUTREACH INTAKE **ENDEAVORS** 10:00AM-11:00AM

Our WIOA Program (Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act) is designed to assist adult Native American living off-reservation and within the Tucson Metropolitan Area



C 520-884-7131 c starin@ticenter.org <u>Jromero@ticenter.org</u> rurbina@ticenter.org

## Activities Update

#### AT THE TUCSON INDIAN CENTER



### Join Our Amazing Walking Club/Workout Sessions!

Are you ready to get moving and boost your health and well-being? Come join, Jose and friends for 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 at the Tucson Indian Center from 8:30am-10:30am.



### This month's recipe is Hominy and Chicken Stew

#### **Ingredients**

6 cups chicken stock

2 lbs chicken thighs or breasts

1 lb tomatillos

1 small white onion

2 poblano chilis

2 jalapeños

1 tbsp dried oregano

4 cloves garlic

2 tbsps maple syrup or light

brown sugar

Dash ground pepper

1/4 tsp cinnamon

1 orange (juiced)

1/2 cup cilantro

Salt to taste

Black pepper to taste







#### **Directions**

- 1. Husk and half tomatillos, quarter onion, and chop poblano chilis and jalapenos. Smash the garlic cloves and chop the cilantro.
- 2. Bring the chicken stock to a boil in a large pot over medium-high heat. Add the chicken pieces, tomatillos, onion, poblanos and jalapenos, oregano, and salt. Return to a boil, then reduce the heat to low, cover and simmer for 40 minutes until tender.
- 3. Carefully remove chicken from pot and shred the meat, discarding any bones and skin. Skim fat from the cooking liquid and reserve.
- 4. Place a strainer over a large bowl and strain the broth. Set aside.
- 5. Transfer the solids to a blender. Add garlic cloves, cilantro, and 1 cup of the broth and puree until smooth. Season with salt and pepper to taste.
- 6. Return pot to stove top, setting it over high heat. Add 2 tablespoons of the skimmed fat to the pot and cook for 30 seconds.
- 7. Pour the tomatillo puree to the pot and stir. Reduce heat to medium. Add the stock and stir to combine, then stir in the shredded chicken and drained hominy. Cook for 10 minutes until warmed through, seasoning with salt and pepper.

WE PROVIDE THE BOOK FOR FREE!





Whether you're on a journey of healing or looking to support others, all are welcome. Let's turn pages and start meaningful conversations together!

#### **EUERY OTHER TUESDAY**

5:30 PM - 7 PM

**Tucson Indian Center** 160 N Stone Ave First Floor November 11th November 25th December 9th

More information contact Alyssa or Halia ticwd@ticenter.org 520-884-7131

Join Tucson Indian Center Suicide Prevention team at the







## THE DARKN

JOIN TIC IN THE WALK AS WE WALK AROUND REID PARK WITH OTHER'S TO PREVENT SUICIDE WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY.

Please register with the AFSP QR code link to join the TIC SPIP team. Click on register for SPIP TIC team and fill out the information it requires. We will send an email to you once we see you are registered.

**NOV. 8, 2025** 

9AM - 1PM

**REID PARK TUCSON** 

SPIP TEAM ticwd@ticenter.org 520-602-5402



\*DEADLINE TO

**REGISTER** 



## **QPR Gatekeeper Training**

QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) is a simple, lifesaving method that teaches people to recognize suicide warning signs and intervene, much like CPR or the Heimlich Maneuver does for medical emergencies.

This training is open to community members aged 18 and older who want to learn the essential skills needed to ask the life-saving question.

After completion of training you will receive a certificate & \$10 gift card

#### Registration is Required

Wednesday, November 19th, 2025 Wednesday, February 18, 2026 Wednesday, June 24, 2026 Wednesday, September 16, 2026 Wednesday, December 9, 2026

5:30pm-7:30pm Location: Tucson Indian Center Tucson, AZ 85701

Need more information or interested in attending, please contact Alyssa Dreiling, Misty Castro, or Halia Shirley ticwd@ticenter.org 520-884-7131



#### **Tucson Indian Center Staff** Executive Director Finance Director Operations Director Jacob Bernal Michael E. Spotted Wolf Michael Mulligan Chemehuevi Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Human Resource Generalist Executive Assistant Finance Operations Manager **Jorge Molina** Yolanda Valenzuela Rajiv Ranjan Building Maintenance Safety Officer Pascua Yaqui Staff Accountant **Jackie Shemesh** Client Service Support Honey Ignacio Client Service Support Specialist Specialist Tohono O'odham Rosa Duarte - Espinoza Monique Ugaitafa Accountant Clerk Tohono O'odham Claudia Oldman Navajo Wellness Department Wellness Director Grants & Services Manager Administrative Assistant Veronica Boone **Mildred Manuel** Angela Reves Laguna Pueblo/Navajo Wellness Case Manager Native Connections Project Health Promotion Specialist Christina Luna Coordinator Marlene F. Jose Wellness Case Manager Misty Castro Tohono O'odham Priscilla "Loreto" Curti SAMHSA Youth Specialist Transportation Specialist Prevention & Education Specialist Jose "Joey" Haro "Ricky" Manuel Ochoa **Alvssa Dreiling** Youth & Community Health Prevention & Education Community Health Representative Educator Specialist Marcella Delgado Jovon Boling **Halia Shirley** Tohono O'odham Navajo Navajo Diabetes Prevention Specialist Health Promotion Specialist Domestic Violence Prevention **Autumn Begav Jose Duran** Specialist Tohono O'odham Wellness Family Health Advocate Tanya Rios Health Promotion Specialist Andres Epaloose Tohono O'odham Vashti Solis Navajo/Hopi/Zuni Native American Cancer Project Educator Community Cultural Dynnika Tso Specialist & Educator Navajo Javier Aguiñiga **Health Department** Medical Director Health Services Director Family Health Advocate & Peter Ziegler MD Phoebe Cager Community Health Rep Family Physician Yup'ik Carolyn Tapia Dr. Paul Weintraub Medical Billing & Coding Specialist Medical Business Office Manager Vonda Talawepi Family Physicians Assistant, PA-C Katrina Rodriguez Juniper Dery-Chaffin Hopi Grants & Services Manager Medical Record Clerk Family Physician Adam Fernandez Angie Estrella Dr. Joan MacEachen Rarámuri & Guachichil Medical Assistant Pediatrician/Pediatric Admin Assistant Andi Morgan Consultant Jaden Hale COVID - 19 CHR Dr. Marisa Werner Navajo Vacant Family Nurse Practitioner Behavioral Health Therapist Diana Bautista Aurora Ramirez **Social Services Department** Employment Case Manager Social Services Director Dylan Baysa Estella Tarin Intake & Support Services Case Manager Choctaw Jerry R. Romero Community Engagement Community Engagement Coordinator Tohono O'odham Coordinator & Data Specialist

Tucson Indian Center Board of Directors

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Tohono O'odham

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> Christine Nelson Navajo

Tasha Labahe

Navajo

Natalia Cachora

Employment & Training Case Manager

Renee Urbina

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

#### **American Indian Association**

Association

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

Fax: 520-884-0240

www.ticenter.org

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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**

#### All events listed are held at the Tucson Indian Center

- New Client Orientation Every Monday 11:00am-12:00pm (11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 11/24)
   Contact: Tucson Indian Center
- Job Club Every Thursday 10:00am-11:00am (11/6, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27)
   Contact: Tucson Indian Center
- 2 Spirit of Tucson November 10<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 pm-7:00 pm Contact: Marlene F. Jose
- Native Sisters in Recovery Thursdays (11/6, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27) @ 4:15pm-5:15pm
   Contact: Wellness Case Managers
- White Bison Recovery Group Thursdays (11/6, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27) @5:30 pm—6:30pm Contact: Wellness Case Managers
- AIIR (American Indians in Recovery) AA Mtgs. Fridays (11/7, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28)
   @ 8:30 am 9:30 am, Contact: Wellness Case Managers
- Native Youth Coalition 4PM 6PM, Wednesdays (11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 11/26)
  Contact: Wellness Department
- · Leadership Development Workshop Wednesdays and Fridays from 1-3 PM
  - Learning Our Past, Leading Our Future.
  - Join us for a reimagined leadership training that centers Native issues, histories, and voices.
  - Certificate of Completion for those who complete 10 hours (attend 5 classes)
  - For More Info Contact: Tasha 520-884-7131 ext. 2306
- Coffee and Bingo Every Friday 10 AM 12 PM (NO BINGO NOVEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>)

## 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 Angela Reyes at (520) 884-7131 ext. 2249 or anreyes@ticenter.org.