

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Native American Fatherhood and Families Association  
525 West Southern Avenue, Ste. 100 Mesa, 85210  
Office: 480-833-5007 info@aznaffa.org



**MR. ALBERT M. POOLEY**  
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT

# A WORD FROM OUR FOUNDER

It is my pleasure to present the Native American Fatherhood and Families Association's 2025 annual report.

At Native American Fatherhood and Families Association, our work has always been rooted in a simple but powerful truth: strong families create strong communities, and strong communities build strong nations. This belief continues to guide every program we develop, every partnership we form, and every life we touch.

This past year reminded us that healing is possible when culture, connection, and compassion come together. Across our communities, we witnessed fathers and mothers stepping into leadership, youth discovering their identity and purpose, and families rebuilding bonds once strained by recidivism. These moments are not statistics, they are stories of courage, resilience, and hope.

From recovery and re-entry curriculum and youth development to fatherhood engagement and community education, we are seeing lasting impact because we walk this journey together.

I am deeply thankful for our dedicated staff, board members, community partners, and supporters who believe in this mission. Your commitment makes it possible for NAFFA to serve as an organization that strengthens families.

Most importantly, I thank the families who trust us with their stories and their futures. You inspire this work every day.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to cultivating goodness, decency, and honor – values that have sustained Native people for generations and continue to light the way forward. Together, we are not only strengthening families; we are shaping a healthier tomorrow for our children for generations yet to come.

Thank you for standing with us.

With respect and gratitude,



---

# OVERVIEW OF NAFFA



Established in 2002, Native American Fatherhood & Families Association (NAFFA) works with over 300 tribes and tribal agencies across the country and Canada, trained over 3,000 certified facilitators who have helped over 70,000 fathers and mothers strengthen and keep their families together, with limited direct federal or state funds.

Based in Arizona, NAFFA provides programs to strengthen, keep and reunite all families through responsible fatherhood and motherhood. These unique programs create a passion in parents to take a leadership role in keeping families happy and safe. Through the programs' successes, NAFFA has found that their purpose and methods extend to people of all ages, cultures, and backgrounds.

## **NAFFA's four courses include:**

### **Fatherhood Is Sacred®, Motherhood Is Sacred® (FIS/MIS)**

This is NAFFA's foundational program that helps strengthen families by empowering and uplifting fathers and mothers. FIS/MIS is a program for those wanting to improve family relationships, prepare them to become responsible parents, reduce recidivism and substance abuse, and improve safety for our children. We have the vision to pave our way into a future where fathers and mothers will experience a truly happy family.

### **Linking Generations by Strengthening Relationships® (LGSR)**

This program teaches the importance of linking generations to strengthen one's self-worth and identity. The significance of one's personal identity is critical in forming and maintaining healthy relationships. Included in the program, we address how to select, maintain, or dissolve marital relationships. This course provides tools that will bring happiness, stability, and security to individuals and families.

### **Addressing Family Violence and Abuse© (AFVA)**

NAFFA identifies domestic violence as true identity theft. Identity theft is illegal. This course covers how to support families struggling with domestic violence and describes the innovative and culturally relevant ways that address this vital issue.

### **Suicide Prevention© (SP)**

Suicide Prevention is a course that discusses the importance of hope and helps individuals recognize the beauty of life and living. Hopelessness is the reduction of hope and despair is the absence of hope, a state which affects our body, mind, and spirit. This course emphasizes strategies that help prevent suicide.

---

# NEW CURRICULA DEVELOPED IN 2025

**Transforming Tomorrow's Youth™ (TTY):** NAFFA's Transforming Tomorrow's Youth program delivers a message of hope through a culturally relevant curriculum that strengthens Native youth, promotes safe and healthy families, and reconnects young people to their heritage while addressing substance abuse and mental health challenges.

**NAFFA Wellness Re-entry:** NAFFA's Re-entry Program for those who are released from incarceration includes sessions in healing and hope, developing courage with goodness, decency and honor, understanding anger and strengthening ourselves and families. Also included will be resources for housing, employment and healthcare to ensure all participants the guidance needed for a successful re-entry into their communities. Facilitators can be trained individually or by agency.

**NAFFA Wellness Recovery:** NAFFA Wellness Recovery is facilitated for those coming from addiction. Included are sessions in healing and hope, developing courage with goodness, decency and honor, understanding anger and strengthening ourselves and families. Also included will be resources for housing, employment and healthcare to ensure all participants the guidance needed for a successful recovery into their communities. Facilitators can be trained individually or by agency.

---

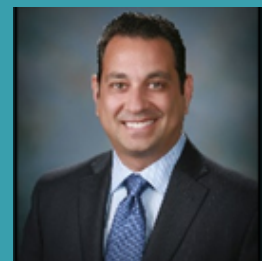
## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

YEAR 2025



Thomas Intrieri: Peoria Chief of Police  
[thomas.intrieri.gov](http://thomas.intrieri.gov)

Steve Chucri: President and CEO of the Arizona  
Restaurant Association.  
[steve@chucri.com](mailto:steve@chucri.com)



Kevin Pooley: Salt River Pima Maricopa Prosecution  
Office in Domestic Violence  
[kevin.Pooley@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:kevin.Pooley@srpmic-nsn.gov)

Rodney States: Attorney at Law for Jellison & Robens  
[rstates21@gmail.com](mailto:rstates21@gmail.com)



Amy Fa'atoafe: Nat-Su Behavioral Health  
Chief Operating Officer

[afaatoafe@natsuhealth.com](mailto:afaatoafe@natsuhealth.com)

# NAFFA PARTNERS

YEAR 2025

1. NABEDC: [www.NABEDC.com](http://www.NABEDC.com) Contact: Christina Cercado Gonzalez / [christina@nabedc.com](mailto:christina@nabedc.com)  
Maintaining our fifth year with NABEDC, NAFFA continues to help those American Indians, Alaska Native, and Native Hawai'iian (AIANNH) business owners and entrepreneurs. Goals for NABEDC include fostering relationships and understanding the importance of entrepreneurship with those they nurture in their program.



2. BioMetrica Systems : Contact: Ka and Wyly Wade  
This organization provides continuous monitoring of individuals or groups of individuals for lawful investigations, national security or workplace safety locating missing or exploited persons.



3. Waterford.org: This organization teaches children the skills they need to be prepared for kindergarten through their UPSTART program. This program is available at NO COST to families of all backgrounds and is proven to be effective. All children who receive their academic start with Waterford UPSTART begin on the path toward success. Waterford is based out of Salt Lake City, Utah.



4. Kids Need to Read: Contact: Jessica Payne: [Jessica@kidsneedtoread.org](mailto:Jessica@kidsneedtoread.org)  
<http://www.kidsneedtoread.org/>



Kids Need to Read works to create a culture of reading for children by providing inspiring books to underfunded schools, libraries, and literacy programs across the United States, especially those serving disadvantaged children.

5. Arizona Law Enforcement Outreach and Support  
Contact: Cindy Hill <http://www.arizonaleos.com/>  
Arizona Law Enforcement Outreach & Support is the first of its' kind. Collaboration and Fundraising Hub" for Arizona law enforcement and community members. They create new outreach programs and collaborate with existing programs that allow the law enforcement and the community at large to strengthen positive bonds and serve community needs.



6. Palo Verde Republican Women  
President: Casey Hargett: [PVRWPresident@gmail.com](mailto:PVRWPresident@gmail.com)  
A like-minded group of conservative republican women working together to better our community.



7. Hopland Band of Pomo Indians  
Sonny J. Elliott Sr. – 707-472-2100 <https://www.hoplandtribe.com/>  
A community of Hopland Band of Pomo Indians located in the southeast Mendocino County of California. They are a community who help each other and practice the traditions of their forefathers.



8. Indigenous Wellness Alliance Inc.: Diana Billy-Elliott /diana@iwainc.org  
The alliance offers impactful community social services aimed at promoting wellness and support for indigenous populations in Ukiah, CA. <https://iwainc.org/>



9. Inter-Tribal Council of California Connie Reitman <https://itccinc.org/>  
This council of 35 tribes in California develops and administers a wide range of programs to promote economic, educational, cultural, legal and social advocacy.



10. Monovo: Contact: Jake Poulsen: [jake.poulsen@monovotech.com](mailto:jake.poulsen@monovotech.com)  
A company which has developed a virtual health system that integrates devices software, data and human infrastructure to deliver personalized care and support.



11. Hope and Healing Treatment Addiction Center: Michael Cunningham:  
[michaelc@azhopeandhealing.com](mailto:michaelc@azhopeandhealing.com)  
An outpatient/inpatient addiction treatment drug and alcohol counseling organization. They are dedicated to the sobriety and well-being of their clients, ensuring they receive the help they need to reclaim their lives.



12. Scottsdale Recovery Center: Lee Yaiva <https://scottsdaletox.com/>  
Providing Our Community with Detoxification, Inpatient, Residential, Outpatient services. SRC Whole Person Care to Achieve Health Equity.



13. NAFFA Wellness Center: Director: Dr. Joel Touchet  
Dedicated to supporting the well-being and recovery of individuals and families by focusing on self-worth, identity and purpose



---

## NEW STAFF HIRED IN 2025



KRIS JOHNSON  
YOUTH PROGRAM ASSISTANT



JORDYN WYMAN  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
SPECIALIST



KAT BAREHAM  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

# TRAINING DEPARTMENT

## New NAFFA Facilitators in 2025

Fatherhood is Sacred®  
Motherhood is Sacred®

167

Linking Generations  
by Strengthening  
Relationships®

23

Suicide  
Prevention©

49

Addressing Family  
Violence and Abuse®

31



MALCOLM REDHAIR  
FACILITATOR COORDINATOR

Wellness Modality  
Re-entry and Recovery

25

Transforming Tomorrows  
Youth™

54



CHERYL HONNIE  
DIRECTOR TRAINING DEPARTMENT

### CERTIFIED FACILITATOR TRAINERS:

NAFFA is increasing the number of certified facilitator trainers to help with the expansion of our programs and services across the US and Canada. They include:

Mike Duncan: Round Valley Indian Tribes, Woodland California

Katie Ray: Round Valley Indian Tribes, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indian Tribe (Lakeport, CA)

Ian Petershoare: CCHITA Tribe, Juneau, Alaska

Terry Medina: Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, Winnebago, Nebraska

Stephanie and Joseph White Eagle: Ho-Chunk Nation, Baraboo, Wisconsin

Jean Swanson: Sitka Tribe of Alaska, Sitka Alaska

Cheryl Bearchild: Choctaw Nation of OK, Karuk Tribal TANF, Yreka California

Chris Kill: San Carlos Apache, Fountain Hills, AZ

Collin Bird: Saskatchewan, Canada

Cheryl Honnie: Diné (Navajo), Rough Rock, AZ

David Pratt: Gila River Indian Community, Sacaton, AZ

Malcolm Redhair: Navajo—Window Rock, AZ

# TRANSFORMING TOMORROW'S YOUTH



## ANNUAL REPORT

Strengthening Native youth as they come to understand their self-worth, connect to their identity, and find their purpose.

### CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT, EDIT & REVISION, AND RELEASE

Our team worked to combine our Fatherhood is Sacred®/ Motherhood is Sacred® and Suicide Prevention© curriculum and create an interactive and engaging program for the youth. The Transforming Tomorrow's Youth curriculum was released on June 2, 2025.



### 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL GONA EVENT

In February, TTY hosted its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual GONA Event. Participants watched a screening of the movie "Rez Ball" and heard from actor Kusem Goodwin who starred in the film. The event focused on suicide prevention and mental health awareness.



### TEAM TRAINING

Our team participated in a variety of trainings throughout the year. These trainings add to our "information/ resources tool belt" for our work in Transforming Tomorrow's Youth.

### BIG SUPRISE!



Transforming Tomorrow's Youth was awarded two grants to assist Native and underserved youth reach their college and vocational goals.



# TRANSFORMING TOMORROW'S YOUTH



## ANNUAL REPORT

Strengthening Native youth as they come to understand their self-worth, connect to their identity, and find their purpose.

### TTY TRAINING

Since the release of the TTY curriculum in June 2025, we have been training facilitators in the new curriculum.



Participants like the hands on and engaging approach, and are excited to bring it to their communities.



### SUPPORTING COMMUNITY

Our Transforming Tomorrow's Youth Team and NAFFA family was invited to host a booth at the Mesa Public Schools Native American Education Program Fall Festival.

Our Transforming Tomorrow's Youth Team was invited to attend the Fiesta Sports Foundation and PNC Bank "Closest to the Pin Challenge."

We were paired with Ray Schey from the Phoenix Business Journal and received a donation of \$1,000.



# TRANSFORMING TOMORROW'S YOUTH



## ANNUAL REPORT

**Strengthening Native youth as they come to understand their self-worth, connect to their identity, and find their purpose.**

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE YOUTH PLENARY PANEL DISCUSSION

At our National Conference this year, we hosted a Youth Plenary Panel featuring local Indigenous Royalty. The youth spoke about the strengths, needs, and vision for Native youth today.



### COMMUNITY RELIEF DONATION DRIVE

Transforming Tomorrow's Youth organized a supply drive for our neighbors in San Carlos that were impacted by severe storms and flooding. We gathered blankets, hygiene items, and other supplies for families in need.



### 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL COLLEGE & VOCATIONAL FAIR

We hosted our 1st Annual College and Vocational Fair on Thursday, November 13th. Over 200 Native and underserved youth attended the event and were able to meet with over 25 different schools and vocational programs to discuss possible options after graduation.

At the event, youth were treated to popcorn and ice cream, raffle prizes, swag and information from the different schools and programs, and a free shirt with this year's theme: "Forward-Thinking, Forward-Looking, Forward-Moving."



# TRANSFORMING TOMORROW'S YOUTH



## ANNUAL REPORT

**Strengthening Native youth as they come to understand their self-worth, connect to their identity, and find their purpose.**

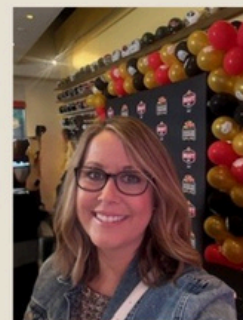
### RATE BOWL COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

NAFFA's Transforming Tomorrow's Youth program was recognized on field at the RATE BOWL on December 26th for our work in the community



### WISHES FOR TEACHERS

Our Transforming Tomorrow's Youth Team was invited to attend the "Wishes for Teachers" event



### AZ BOWL COMMUNITY VILLAGE

NAFFA was invited to participate in the Snoop Dogg AZ Bowl Non-Profit Community Village and Parade to raise awareness for the services and programs we provide.

We hosted a booth promoting Fatherhood and Motherhood is Sacred with an axe throwing game titled "Sacred Aim." We were also recognized on field at the game in a non-profit parade.

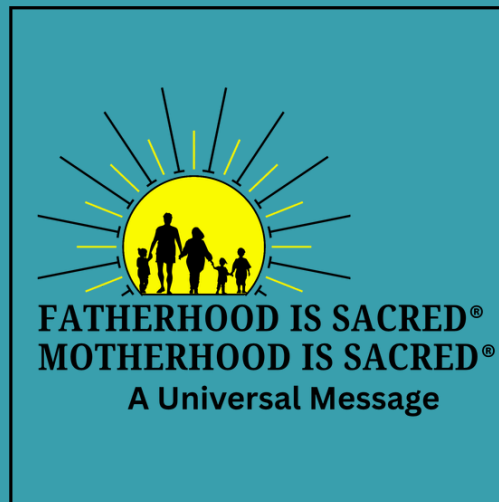


---

# OUTREACH



VALERIE HOLLOBAUGH  
OUTREACH COORDINATOR



NEIL TIFT  
FAMILY RESOURCE SPECIALIST

By the end of 2025, NAFFA changed our focus from International Association of Families to promoting Fatherhood is Sacred® Motherhood is Sacred® A Universal Message.

As we move forward, the International Association of Families will be discontinued so we may fully dedicate our efforts to promoting Fatherhood is Sacred® and Motherhood is Sacred® – A Universal Message.

This new direction reflects our deepest values: honoring parents, strengthening families, and restoring goodness, decency, and honor across generations. Together, we invite communities everywhere to embrace this shared responsibility and help shape a brighter future for our children.

---

## NETWORK COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

NAFFA's Community Networking Breakfast on February 13, 2025 was well attended by many local agencies in criminal justice, behavioral health and education.

There were six presentations throughout the NAFFA Plaza. Albert Pooley presented NAFFA's Wellness Modalities, Cheryl Honnie with Malcolm Redhair presented NAFFA's Training, Neil Tift presented NAFFA's S.A.F.E Parent Resource Center, Cheryl Curry presented on NAFFA Wellness, Valerie Hollobaugh presented NAFFA's sister organization the International Association of Families and Jill Mendoza presented on NAFFA's new youth program: Transforming Tomorrow's Youth.

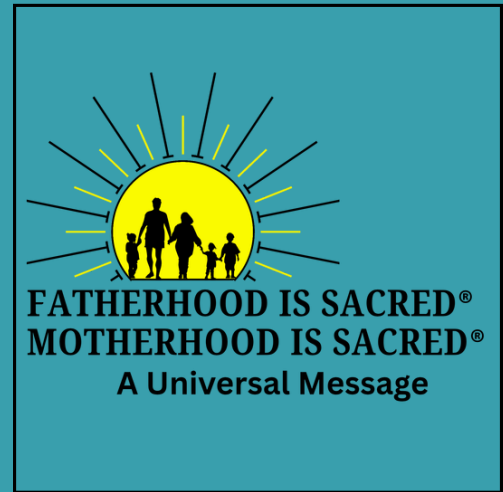


# OUTREACH

## MULTICULTURAL EXCHANGE EXTRAVAGANZA

NAFFA and the Uganda Community of Arizona came together on Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at the NAFFA Plaza to share cultures from 6pm-8pm.

Food, music, dance and ceremonies were shared between both groups which was greatly appreciated. The Uganda Community shared their country's flag with NAFFA.



## 2025 SNOOP DOGG ARIZONA BOWL RAAVOLUTION

On December 27, 2025, our team at NAFFA was honored to be invited to participate in the Community Village at the Snoop Dogg Arizona Bowl pre-game event.

We hosted a booth centered on the powerful message that Fatherhood is Sacred® and Motherhood is Sacred®.

Through our interactive axe throwing activity, themed Sacred Aim, attendees were invited to connect with this message in a meaningful way.

Participants also received NAFFA promotional materials and fun hand clappers to cheer on their teams during the bowl game.

This event provided a wonderful opportunity to represent NAFFA in a vibrant community setting, while also introducing our mission and values to members of the non-Native community.



Above: NAFFA staff stands together in front of our booth.

Below: Snoop Dogg gets ready to shoot a T-shirt into the crowd.



---

## NAFFA INTERNS 2025



EDDIE KIRUMIRA  
BROWN SCHOOL AT WASHINGTON UNIV.  
ST. LOUIS MISSOURI  
MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK



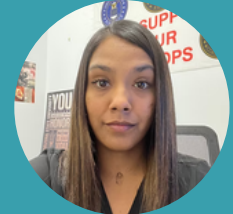
MICHELLE ROAN  
AZ STATE UNIVERSITY  
MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK



GRACE BEAUDRY-GRENIER  
GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY  
MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK



KELLY VOTAW  
AZ STATE UNIVERSITY  
MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK



SONIA CARRASCO  
AZ STATE UNIVERSITY  
MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

---

## NAFFA GRANT FUNDING 2025

- Cook Native American Ministries for TTY youth curriculum scholarships Jan-25
- AZ Dept Vet Services, for veteran reentry and housing services Feb-25
- Season for Sharing for youth mentoring, extension of TTY Mar-25
- California Evidence-based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare, for Evidence-based designation: “Not Able to be Rated” Apr-25
- Arizona Attorney General’s Office Sober Living Home Support Programs for Sober living/ IOP services Apr-25
- Communities Talk Stipend from SAMHSA for Transforming Tomorrow’s Youth community event Apr-25
- Catholic Campaign for Human Development Diocese of Phoenix for TTY mentoring, May-25
- Fiesta Bowl Foundation for TTY mentoring 25-Aug
- Gila River Prop 202 Gaming Grant for TTY mentoring 1-Sep
- Native Voices Rising For General operations 6-Nov



JANE MCCORD  
GRANT COORDINATOR

# NAFFA SEMINARS AND OTHER CONFERENCES 2025

## STRENGTHENING FAMILIES SEMINAR

*Honolulu, Hawaii*

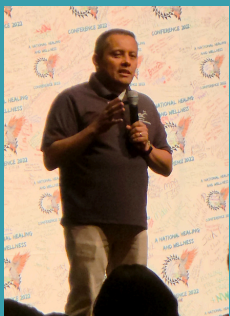
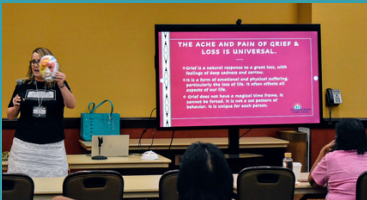
NAFFA once again sponsored the Strengthening Families Seminar at the Ala Moana By Montra Hotel in Honolulu, Hawaii on January 9, 2025. The day was filled with inspiring presentations of the importance of strengthening families.



## HEALING TOGETHER CONFERENCE

*Ignacio, Colorado*

For the past 4 years, five Native organizations have planned and implemented a Healing Together Conference for all who wanted to participate in healing and a positive emotionally transformative experience. NAFFA was a part of this conference on June 18, 19 and 20, 2025. There was cultural healing, resilience coaching and connecting with all the participants. NAFFA provided two presentations and two activities for the Healing Village.



**Jill Mendoza** shared her presentation about the Transforming Tomorrow's Youth program and

**Mark Pooley** shared his work in MMIP. NAFFA Healing activities were Healing Through Family History and Art.



# NAFFA's National Conference 2025

## Fatherhood is Leadership National Conference

### Day 1

A new addition to our opening day is the chance to give appreciation to our veterans. John F. Scott II, director of the Arizona Department of Veteran's Services spoke of the work done to help veterans in Arizona and give their appreciation for the service rendered in our country's behalf.



The Gila Valley Veterans Association posted the colors.



Michael Pooley gives the opening prayer to the conference.



Mark Pooley from the Center for Human Identification, presented his work in DNA testing used to identify missing and unidentified Indigenous relatives.

Mark Pooley



**Keynote Speaker:** Mr. Al Pooley spoke this first day of the conference on NAFFA's Wellness Modality. This presentation focused on NAFFA's recovery and re-entry programs which takes a unique approach in that individuals become good, decent, honorable and courageous people regardless of their past. The goal of the Wellness programs is to help individuals truly live and not just merely survive.



Audience stands as the flags are posted.

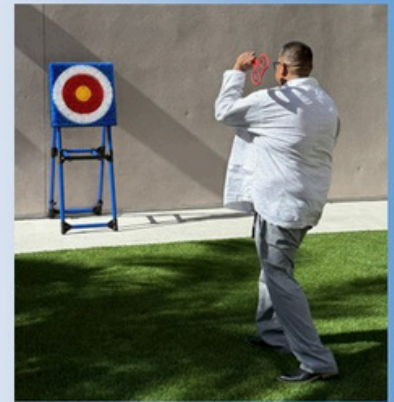


NAFFA's contribution of door prizes was significantly increased this year with many more businesses donating to our door prize program. Karra Papa (NAFFA's Executive Director) and Mike Duncan sit at the door prize table ready to call numbers for attendees to pick a door prize.

# Family Village

In our 21st year of NAFFA's national conferences, our committee decided to try something our staff had attended at other conferences. This new idea transformed into our "Family Village".

Our Family Village was a place for conference participants to experience different activities for healing. It was a great success and the conference committee decided to continue the tradition for all our national conferences.



Axe Throwing with Malcolm Redhair



Writing to Heal with Morgan Brooks and Falon Torrez



The Masks We Wear with Jill Mendoza



Friendship Bracelets with Vickie Young



Feather Weaving with Ashleigh Rogde-Berryman



Chinle Youth Archery Club with Adrian Thompson



Rooted Fathers Healing from the Earth with Kalli Kamauoha-Wilson



Creative Meditation: Art Healing with Valerie Hollobaugh



Nat-Su is Medicine with Odessa Shoyo and Christopher Sherman Sr.



Positive Discipline and Coaching with Dodi Blomberg

# Family Village Continued:



Learn to Find Your Ancestors: Family History with Emerson Mose



Family History Maps. Participants had the opportunity to find where their families were from and mark with a pin.



Two participants (above) find where their family came from and marked the map.

## National Conference Sponsors

Our National Conference committee would like to thank all of our sponsors for their generous donations as well as Cheryl Honnie as Conference Chair and everyone at the Wrigleyville West Conference Center for all of their assistance in making this conference a wonderful event.



**Bumblebee Health**



*Williams Express*

480-967-1014

430 S. Rockford Drive #109, Tempe, AZ 85288  
www.williamsexpress.com



# Fatherhood is Leadership

## Day Two

**Keynote Speaker:** Myron 'Mylo' Fowler who is an ambassador, National Geographic Photographer and Contributor spoke on "We Are Each Other's Medicine". Mylo shared his guide to life from what he learned from his great-grandmother on how we as a people can help heal each other. He shared his Navajo culture, language and skills which enabled him to work behind the camera in places like Tahiti, Iceland, Alaska, Norway and Hawai'i. His spirit filled presentation with his PowerPoint was heart felt and his storytelling approach helped the audience understand that being a healing medicine for others by spending time with each other can be applied to any profession,



## Youth Panel Discussion

On day two, our Youth Program Director Jill Mendoza, organized a Youth Panel Discussion for the youth who attended the conference and youth educators. This was a great opportunity to hear the concerns and challenges they face. Discussed were the resources and tools Native youth need and the positive changes they want to bring to their communities. Sponsorship for the panel to attend was by Tohono Ood'ham Community College.



Dayshon Dalgai  
1st Attendant  
Mr. Indigenous



Kaitlyn Yazzie  
Ms. Indigenous ASU  
1st Attendant



Paige Thomas  
Jr. Miss Gila River



Gavrielle Garcia  
Miss Gila River

Dayshon Dalgai  
1st Attendant  
Mr. Indigenous



Tonana Ben  
Ms. Indigenous  
ASU



Sialik King  
Miss Indian  
Arizona

# Entertainment Day 1

This year, NAFFA tried something new for the entertainment during lunchtime. Hands Lopez, a hip-hop artist and created Finest Feathers which is a line of Indigenous clothing. Youth and adult volunteers modeled these wonderful creations on our runway at the conference center.

After the fashion show, Hands Lopez entertained the audience with some of his hip-hop music. Mr. Lopez is grounded in his role as a father and balances his business ventures with a deep commitment to his community and the belief that "We shine better when we shine together".

Fashion Show Models: Colin Kaye, Kami Pooley, Levanna Honnie. Abi Papa and Karra Papa. (below) Malcolm Redhair, Melody Billy, Starr Kaye, Felicia Kaye, and Louveah Honnie. (Right)



Hands Lopez sings his hip hop songs to conference attendees.

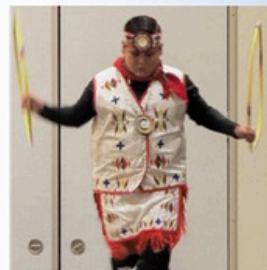


# Day 2

## Phoenix Youth Hoop Dancers

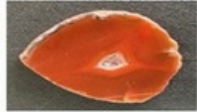
The Phoenix Youth Hoop Dancers entertained our conference lunch time on day two. These young dancers range in age from 7 to 17 years old. They represent various tribal backgrounds and varying levels of dance experience. All dancers do their best to

learn and practice hoop dancing, an art form that promotes physical, mental and spiritual well being.



# Precious Gem Awards

Wednesday, October 15, 2025  
Wrigleyville West Conference Center, Mesa



**Agate**



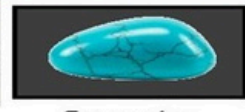
**Malachite**



**Rhodonite**



**Rose Quartz**



**Turquoise**

NAFFA's yearly tradition for our national conference is to sponsor the Precious Gem Awards. This year NAFFA chose to honor local police departments in recognition for courage, determination, integrity and kindness. Four cities ( Apache Junction, Mesa, Gilbert and Tempe) nominated the five awardees for the final five precious gems listed above.



**Heather Burke**  
Apache Junction School Resource Officer

**AGATE Award:** In recognition of her role as an advocate for children, exhibiting calmness of body, mind and a pure heart.

**Malachite Award:** In recognition of her courage and sturdiness to cause of helping others pursue their goals and ambitions as well as demonstrate kindness to others.

**Kelly Beutel**  
Mesa PD Office Supervisor  
Patrol Division Coordinator



**Carlos Lopez**  
Gilbert Police Officer

**Rhodonite Award:** In recognition of his desire to bless others in safety after emerging from adversity with hope and gratitude.

**Rose Quartz Award:** In recognition of his positivity and love for all people, as well as your small and large acts of kindness to others in health and healing.

**Mark Worden**  
Gilbert Police Sergeant



**Daniel Lara**  
Tempe Police  
Communications Supervisor

**Turquoise Award:** In recognition of his selfless service, unwavering optimism and sharing your inspiring influence with others.

# NAFFA'S MEDIA OUTREACH 2025



JORDYN WYMAN  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
SPECIALIST



KRIS JOHNSON  
SOCIAL MEDIA ASSISTANT

NAFFA's social media influence has grown over the year. Our two social media specialists have been working hard to spread the good word of NAFFA to all four corners of the earth.



[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NATIVE-AMERICAN-FATHERHOOD-FAMILIES-ASSOCIATION-203941116285466/](https://www.facebook.com/NATIVE-AMERICAN-FATHERHOOD-FAMILIES-ASSOCIATION-203941116285466/)

LINKEDIN: [HTTPS://WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/GROUPS/13571111/](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13571111/)



[HTTP://X.COM/NAFATHERHOOD](http://x.com/NAFATHERHOOD)

<https://www.pinterest.com/nativeamericanfatherhoodandfam/>  **Pinterest**



[HTTPS://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/NATIVEAMERICANFATHERHOOD/?HL=EN](https://www.instagram.com/NATIVEAMERICANFATHERHOOD/?HL=EN)

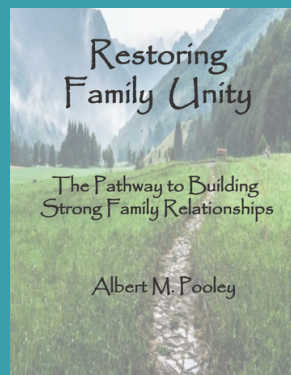
YOUTUBE: [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/@AZNAFFA8/VIDEOS](https://www.youtube.com/@AZNAFFA8/VIDEOS)



## NAFFA ONLINE SHOP:

OUR NAFFA STORE SELLS T-SHIRTS, FRAMED NATIVE PICTURES, COOLER CARRY BAGS AND MORE. SEE OUR ONLINE STORE AT:

[HTTPS://WWW.NATIVEAMERICANFATHERS.ORG/SHOP-1](https://www.nativeamericanfathers.org/shop-1)



Book Sales  
2025  
100 Books

Restoring Family Unity: This book has been published since 2021 and has been a popular gift for many facilitators for those who finished their courses. It offers information of NAFFA's programs and includes stories of those who have changed their lives for the better. A great gift for those who cannot attend classes.

# AL POOLEY'S PRESENTATIONS 2025

2025 was a busy presentation year for Albert Pooley as he traveled around the country addressing many audiences about the many topics listed below:

## AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS SPONSORING:

- INDIGENOUS WELLNESS ALLIANCE INC.
- SAN CARLOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
- ROUND VALLEY INDIAN TRIBE
- APACHE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
- NAT-SU BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
- COALITION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES
- CIRCLING BUFFALO INC.
- SENECA NATION OF INDIANS

Addressing Family Violence and Abuse  
Overcoming Personal Trauma and Adversities

MMIP Crisis Awareness  
Walking With Men in Their Warrior Journey  
Fatherhood is Sacred®/Motherhood is Sacred®

Addressing Family Violence and Abuse  
Re-Entry Wellness  
Elders Wellness and Healing

Below: Intertribal Elders Group gather after seminar.





**FATHERHOOD IS SACRED®**  
**MOTHERHOOD IS SACRED®**  
 A Universal Message

# NAFFA EVENTS 2026

UPDATED 2.3.2026

## Webinars

- Jan. 13
- Mar. 17
- May 12
- Jul. 14
- Sept. 15
- Nov. 24

## Bi-Monthly Buzz

- Jan. 14
- Mar. 18
- May 13
- Jul. 15
- Sep. 16
- Nov. 25

## Conferences

- August 4-6 (Healing Together Conf.)
- Nov. 17-19 (Fatherhood Is Sacred®, Motherhood Is Sacred® National Conf.)

## Other

- Feb. 19, Comm. Networking Breakfast
- Jun. 21, 14th Annual NARF Day

## Recertification


Three ways to recertify:

1. Online via NAFFA's Learning Management System (LMS)
2. National Conference attendance
3. Three-day Training, virtual or in-person

LMS is available online 24/7.

Recertifying has just become easier with more flexibility for your schedule.

 [www.nativeamericanfathers.org/events](http://www.nativeamericanfathers.org/events)

 [info@aznaffa.org](mailto:info@aznaffa.org)



## Training

\* in-person only  
~ virtual only

- Jan. 13-15\*, TTY
- Jan. 20-22\*, Honolulu, HI, FISMIS/ SP/ TTY/ AFVA
- Jan. 27-29, WM/ FISMIS
- Feb. 3-5~, TTY
- Feb. 9-11, LGSR
- Feb. 11-13, AFVA
- Feb. 24-26, WM
- Mar. 10-12\*, TTY
- Mar. 10-12\*, Sacramento, CA
- Mar. 16-18, FISMIS
- Mar. 18-20, SP
- Mar. 24-26, WM
- Apr. 13-15, LGSR
- Apr. 15-17, AFVA
- Apr. 21-23, WM
- Apr. 28-30~, TTY
- May 4-6, FISMIS
- May 6-8, SP
- May 12-14, WM
- Jun. 2-4\*, TTY
- Jun. 9-11, WM
- Jun. 22-24, FISMIS
- Jun. 24-26, SP
- Jul. 14-16\*, Helena, MT
- Jul. 21-23~, TTY
- Aug. 4-6, LGSR, AFVA
- Aug. 11-13, WM
- Aug. 25-27~, TTY
- Sept. 15-17, WM
- Sept. 21-23, LGSR
- Sept. 23-25, AFVA
- Sept. 29-Oct. 1\*, TTY
- Oct. 5-7, FISMIS
- Oct. 7-9, AFVA
- Oct. 20-22~, TTY
- Oct. 27-29, WM
- Nov. 3-5, FISMIS
- Dec. 1-3, WM
- Dec. 8-10\*, TTY
- Dec. 14-16, LGSR
- Dec. 16-18, SP

FISMIS- Fatherhood Is Sacred®, Motherhood Is Sacred®  
 LGSR- Linking Generations by Strengthening Relationships®  
 AFVA- Addressing Family Violence & Abuse®  
 SP- Suicide Prevention®  
 WM- Wellness Modality© (Re-Entry or Recovery)  
 TTY- Transforming Tomorrow's Youth©

All training are held in-person, in Mesa, AZ, and virtually via Zoom unless otherwise stated.

