



Presentation to the Interim Indian Affairs Committee

Indian Affairs Department
Lynn Trujillo, Cabinet Secretary

November 17, 2022



INTRODUCTIONS

- **Lynn Trujillo**, Secretary, Indian Affairs Department
- **Kalee Salazar**, Indian Affairs Department, Taos Pueblo/Santa Ana Pueblo
- **Alysia Coriz**, Kewa Pueblo
- **Kaiya Brown**, Diné
- **Mathis Quintana**, Jicarilla Apache Nation

NM Indigenous Youth Council Background



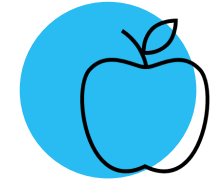
January 2021



February 2021



June 2021



August 2021

The IAD held two virtual listening sessions with Indigenous youth.

Youth desired more mental health resources and to share and celebrate their culture and language with other Indigenous youth.

The IAD establishes the inaugural Indigenous Youth Council.

The IYC partners with IAD and Honoring Native Life to plan the virtual Indigenous youth wellness summit.

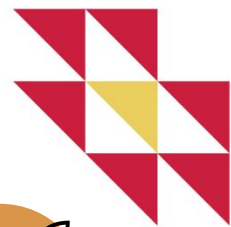
IYC webpage and social media account developed.

The IYC convenes 50 Indigenous youth aged 16-25 years old at the Indigenous Youth Wellness Summit “Community Resilience: Nurturing & Protecting Youth Wellness”

The IYC drafts report with guidance from HNL partners.

IYC presents the final report and recommendations to state and tribal leadership at the 2021 State-Tribal Leader Summit.

NM Indigenous Youth Council Current Activities



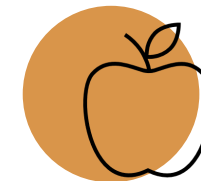
Winter 2022



Spring 2022



June 2022



Fall 2022



IYC sees importance of investing in activities that support cultural revitalization, cultural preservation, and authentic representation and youth member's host:

- + Winter Storytelling Series
- + Native Voice Series

The IYC begins planning of 2nd Youth Wellness Summit.

IAD starts recruitment process to expands membership of IYC.

The IYC hosts the first in-person Summit convening 65 youth at the 2nd Annual Indigenous Youth Wellness Summit "Being A Good Relative."

New Cohort attends networking session to kickoff work of the expanded council.

Post Summit, IYC expands on 2021 report by providing tangible examples of how to make report recommendations a reality.

IYC writes and receives signed proclamation recognizing November as "NM Indigenous Languages Month"

Background Indigenous Youth Wellness Summit

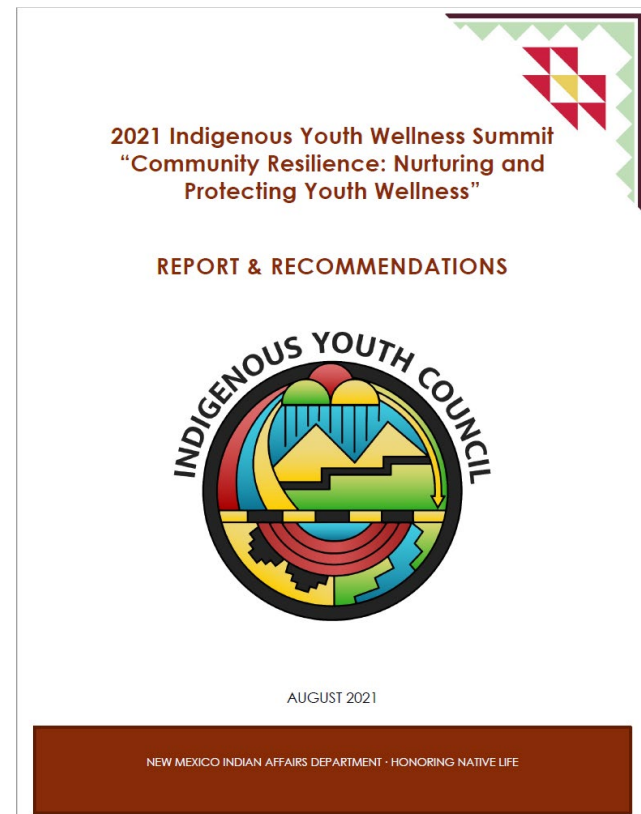


Being A Good Relative YWS



2021 and 2022 Report & Recommendations

- Organized into four priority areas grouped under the holistic view of health and well-being (e.g. physical being; mental being; social & emotional being; and spiritual & cultural being) and two other priority areas.
- Organized into target timelines:
 - Short-term (Less than 2 years)
 - Mid-term (2-5 years)
 - Long-term (More than 5 years)
- For complete list, please see:
[IYC Report & Recommendations.](#)



PHYSICAL BEING

"To promote movement and physical health."

Short-term (> 2 years)

- To provide regular education and outreach on interactive movement, such as walking and hiking clubs, yoga, etc. at tribal wellness centers.

Mid-term (2-5 years)

- To invest in tribal seed-sharing programs, communal gardens, plant nurseries, fields, and especially tribal wellness centers and spaces that encourage holistic wellness.

Long-term (5+ years)

- To further protect and defend Indigenous peoples' religious freedoms and access to sacred sites and natural and cultural resources.
- To allocate land and water to tribes outside tribal areas, especially protecting water from contamination.

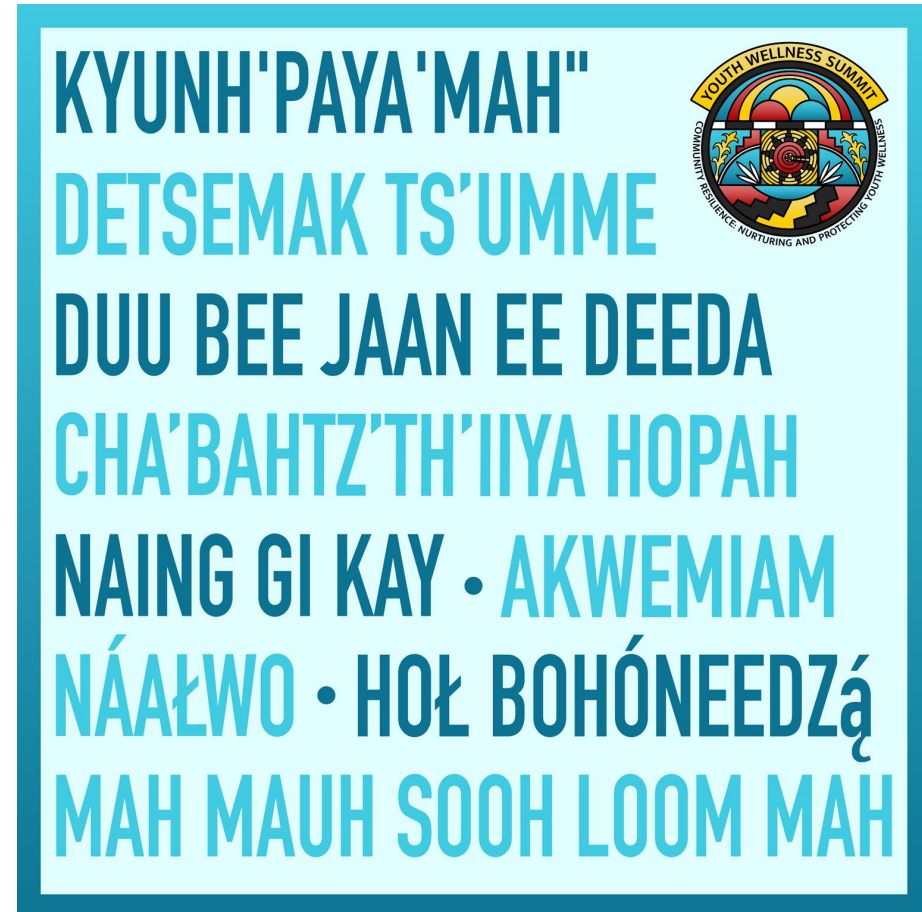


Image translations of "resiliency" or "to be strong"

MENTAL BEING

“To nurture mental health through self-care strategies.”



Image translations of “resiliency” or “to be strong”

Short-term (> 2 years)

- To promote and fund Indigenous youth and elder-talking circles, community wellness events, and health and fitness challenges.
- To transform physical education classes in public schools to classes that integrate holistic wellness approaches with an emphasis on mental health.

Mid-term (2-5 years)

- To fund the construction and/or maintenance of adequate tribal community facilities for community behavioral health programs, nutrition programs, and community centers.

Long-term (5+ years)

- To educate and normalize the concept of self-care and self-care strategies in and outside tribal communities.

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEING

"To increase understanding about healthy relationships, healthy boundaries, and strengthening self-confidence."

Short-term (> 2 years)

- To provide elder mentorship opportunities for Indigenous youth, young adults aged 25-30+, and those living in urban centers.
- To encourage access to workshops and training on the prevention of alcohol and substance misuse.

Mid-term (2-5 years)

- To fund and conduct educational programming for youth on healthy relationships in tribal and urban Native communities.
- To invest in pre-professional and educational opportunities in behavioral health to increase Indigenous workforce.

Long-term (5+ years)

- To provide access to behavioral health services and resources to Indigenous youth on and off the reservation.
- To fund training and educational initiatives for state and tribal leadership on healthy relationships to address systemic gender discrimination stemming from colonization.

SPIRITUAL & CULTURAL BEING

"To grow and invest in activities that support cultural revitalization, cultural grounding, and traditional healing."



Short-term (> 2 years)

- To advocate for a statewide multiagency proclamation supporting Indigenous language revitalization in New Mexico.
- To recognize all Indigenous languages of the 23 Nations, tribes, and Pueblos as the first languages of New Mexico.
- To provide an annual Indigenous culture week (e.g., Native Language Day, Indigenous Peoples' Day, statewide Day of Prayer, etcetera).
- To implement a land acknowledgement standard for New Mexico, including an intertribal land acknowledgement for major cities in the state.

SPIRITUAL & CULTURAL BEING

“To grow and invest in activities that support cultural revitalization, cultural grounding, and traditional healing.”

Mid-term (2-5 years)

- To invest in the revitalization and preservation of Indigenous languages in ways that respect and promote tribal data sovereignty.
- To ensure that all state employees tasked with the care of public lands that contain tribal cultural sites are adequately educated on tribal nations’ ties to and continued access to these lands.

Long-term (5+ years)

- To fund, educate staff, and support technology and infrastructure of tribal libraries and the development of language revitalization programs.
- To advocate for digital preservation and protection of data at the tribal level, developing tribal-informed archive systems.



COVID19 PANDEMIC

“To integrate lessons learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic and its impact on tribal communities.”



Short-term (> 2 years)

- To support a tribal convocation to review lessons learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic, discuss emergency management planning, celebrate the return to traditional practices and communal gatherings, and provide a space for Indigenous youth perspectives on how to build back better.

Mid-term (2-5 years)

- To develop Native-specific hotlines and warmlines for mental health crisis response.
- To provide technical assistance to tribes on the use of social media as a means of information sharing during emergency response.

Long-term (5+ years)

- To support the continued development of emergency management, emergency communication systems and crisis response planning for tribal communities.



YOUTH VOICES

"To elevate Indigenous youth voices and representation in critical decision-making."

Short-term (> 2 years)

- To establish a permanent fund for the Indigenous Youth Council that will be used to fund activities like annual/bi-annual Indigenous youth summits, in-person events, and Indigenous youth scholarships.
- To designate a youth representative on boards, commissions, and task forces ensuring our voice at the table.

Mid-term (2-5 years)

- To expand leadership roles for Indigenous youth, particularly for Indigenous women and girls.
- To create a New Mexico tribal youth policy fellowship in partnership with tribal and state organizations similar to the Santa Fe Indian School Policy Institute.

Long-term (5+ years)

- To implement youth workshops within tribal communities on the holistic frameworks of well-being.



Language Proclamation

WHEREAS, language resiliency thrives from the tremendous efforts of our Indigenous language educators, teachers, and community members to keep Indigenous languages alive for generations to come is treasured and valued; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Indigenous Youth Council supports the preservation of Indigenous cultures and languages as an urgent priority and recommend government support through the necessary and appropriate allocation of resources and awareness for Indigenous languages in New Mexico; and to recognize all Indigenous languages of the Nations, Tribes, and Pueblos as the first languages of New Mexico;



Southwest Healing Circle

Dec 10-11, 2022
at the University of New Mexico



Native Leadership
Development Training
Open to the FIRST

100

Youth to Register



Scan to RSVP

Saturday Night Social
is Open to the
Community

*Culture
Night*

Proudly hosted by the New Mexico Indigenous Youth Council
www.unityinc.org 480.718.9793 la.buford@unityinc.org

IYC & UNITY Collaboration

- In Collaboration with the United National Indian Tribal Youth Inc. (UNITY) the IYC is hosting the regional event prioritizing youth from New Mexico nations, tribes, and pueblos.
- How to rebuild a youth council and build community support after the global pandemic.
- Gain youth feedback on the best ways to remove obstacles to community safety.
- Teach youth to facilitate town halls, focus groups, talking circles, or difficult discussions on how to identify community challenges.
- How to create a safe place to encourage help-seeking behaviors for youth who may need support.
- Encourage young people to become powerful advocates for the transformation of the spaces in which they live.

LOOKING FORWARD

- Additional funding to expand programming
 - Regional listening sessions
 - Other forms to capture and include youth voices in the work
- Opening your network
 - Internships at legislature or state departments
 - Provide mentorship opportunities for youth
 - Young adults 25-30+
 - Sharing our work with your communities
 - Encouraging youth from your area engage and/or join IYC
 - To promote development and funding of spaces, programs, and classes that encourage cultural engagement and revitalization
- Advocate for inclusion and elevation of youth voices on statewide task forces, commissions, and boards



CONCLUSION

- The IYC hopes that the Summit's recommendations and current activities
 - Serve as a catalyst in making instrumental change for Indigenous youth and their holistic wellness.
 - Reach state and tribal leadership and organizations from a sincere place of wanting to contribute to the well-being of our communities and tribal members.
- The IYC asks for hope and trust in the vision that we have laid throughout these priorities and recommendations.



THANK YOU!

Iheedn, Ahé'hee, Ny'tra/
Hoo'eh/Dawa'eh/Ta-
ah/Tay'ko'nom'bah/Elahkwa

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Follow us on Instagram at:
[@NMIndigenousYouthCouncil](https://www.instagram.com/NMIndigenousYouthCouncil)