

# Native Ways Program

Highlights in July 2023

Meet Sandra Preston

Native Ways Residential Therapist



Sandra Preston is a Tohono O'odham Nation member from the Schuck Toak District, Comobabi village. She is a two-time graduate of Arizona State University, receiving her bachelor's and master's degrees in social work. Sandra is currently the Native Ways therapist in residential. Sandra has been working in the Behavioral health field for five-plus years. She is in recovery and passionate about helping people, specifically the Native American community. She would like to apply what she has learned to help strengthen tribal communities. Her experience has helped her relate to the women at the Haven as a social worker. She has a strong desire to advocate for and empower

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people from all walks of life. She enjoys spending time with her family and volunteering with her church and community.

## Highlights from July

### Movie Night at The Loft

7/11/23

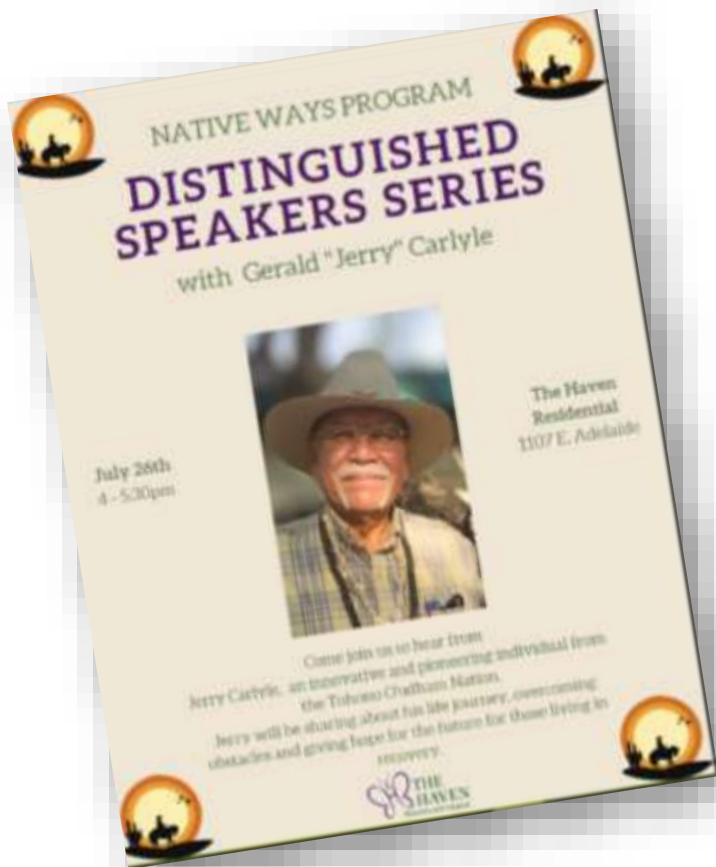
Our Native Ways Alumni and current Native Ways IOP clients met at the Loft theater to watch the movie *Smoke Signals*. A coming-of-age story that centers on the Native American perspective and explores themes regarding the impact of intergenerational trauma, grief and loss and uses humor to convey serious topics in Indian Country. Although it is an older movie (1998) the relevant topics and focus on fathers was endearing and made for serious conversations. Our alumni ladies were present and



came out to support as well as volunteer for the Indigenous Overdose Awareness Event next month.



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## Distinguished Speaker

This month's Distinguished Speaker was not promoted due to late minute confirmations and our humble speaker that did not give us a bio! Gerald "Jerry" Carlyle has been a pioneer in the

Tohono O'odham community and gave the blessing for Butterfly's open house. Jerry has held prestigious positions such as Teacher and then Director of Operations for the Baboquivari Unified School District as well as Legislative Council Vice Chairman at San Xavier District, Tohono O'odham Nation.

Jerry shared about his life journey, overcoming obstacles and gave hope for the future for the women at our residential site. Jerry will continue to be a resource and presence here at the Haven.

Nati, Jerry, Amber and Sandra







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## Successful Completions

### Residential

#### Yolanda V.

Successfully completed 91 days of residential treatment on 07/07/2023. She was committed and determined throughout her time in treatment and taught other clients how to crochet. Yolanda will be continuing in IOP Native Ways.

#### Aurora A.

Completed 88 days of residential treatment on 07/17/2023. She was able to reconnect with her children and grandchildren while in residential. Aurora will be continuing in IOP Native Ways.

#### Brandi K.

Successfully completed 91 days of residential treatment on 07/17/2023. She initially struggled but was able to improve over time and resolve issues in her treatment episode. Brandi will be continuing in IOP Native Ways.

#### Veronica B.

Successfully completed 47 days of residential treatment on 07/25/2023. She completed was focused on learning skills to be successful in her recovery and was appointed Community Leader. Veronica will be continuing in IOP.

### IOP

#### Connie R.

Successfully completed IOP on 7/26/2023. Connie has stable employment at Target Warehouse and plans to return to college for a master's degree. Connie will continue with Native Ways OP SUD and will continue with Individual Therapy.