



Mission

To alleviate the unequal burden of cancer among Native Americans of the Southwest through research, training, and community outreach programs in collaboration with the communities we serve.

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The Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention (NACP) is a partnership of Native American communities, Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona Cancer Center, and the National Cancer Institute to address cancer health disparities in Native Americans.

Greetings!

This month we are grateful for the people who are encouraging and supporting the next generation. First, we recognize and thank all mothers. Then we thank the faculty members who have mentored the NACP trainees who recently completed their degrees. Finally, we thank those who serve as role models, including Dr. Tara Chico-Jarillo who is featured this month. We hope you enjoy this issue!

Jani Ingram

Francine Gachupin

Jason Wilder

Margaret Briele

Welcome Tia Gramzinski



NACP is thrilled to welcome Tia Gramzinski to our NAU team as our Research Education and GUIDeS Coordinator and Academic Success Coordinator, Sr. Recently, Tia worked as the Indigenous Engagement Specialist for the Chandler Unified School District where she oversaw the Title VI and Johnson O’Malley grants, led the Indigenous Education Program, and worked with community partnerships/programs, district leadership, faculty, and staff to provide academic and cultural supports for Indigenous students and families K-12th grade. She has a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Northern Arizona University and is certified to teach K-8th grade in Arizona. Tia is Navajo, Salt clan, with her family originally from Kayenta, Arizona. She likes to drink coffee, watch and play basketball, and practice learning Navajo. She will be a great resource for our NACP students and staff as she starts this May. We are so excited to have Tia back at NAU and on our NACP team!

My Journey by Dr. Tara Chico-Jarillo



On April 7, the Research Education Core at UACC hosted Dr. Tara Chico-Jarillo in the My Journey speaker series. Tara is a member of the Tohono O’odham Nation and is the Executive Director of the Department of Health and Human Services for her Nation. She obtained her Bachelor of Science in Family Studies and Human Development, and her Master’s and Doctorate degrees in Public Health from the University of Arizona, with a focus on Maternal and Child Health. Tara has extensive experience working with Native American families and communities throughout Arizona. This experience includes working for a tribal child protective service agency that reunites families – a job that became a defining moment in her academic and professional career.

Tara took us on an inspiring journey through her graduate schooling, the dissertation process and her current research. To see a video or Tara’s My Journey story, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QITV1TuRq0k>.



Spring 2022 NAU & UA Graduates

NACP congratulates the NAU and UA graduates on their accomplishments.



Skylar Bordeaux, NAU

Rosebud Sioux

Master of Public Health

Mentor: Dr. Naomi Lee



Janet Yellowhair, NAU

Navajo

Master of Public Health

Mentors: Dr. Nicky Teufel-Shone
& Dr. Dirk de Heer



Chrissa Duncan, NAU

Navajo

BS- Biological Sciences

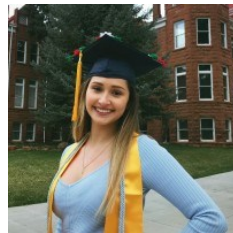
Mentor: Dr. Dirk de Heer



Emyly Fernandez, NAU

MS- Biological Sciences

Mentor: Dr. Naren Rajasekaran



Crystal Morales, NAU

MS- Biological Sciences

Mentor: Dr. Naomi Lee



Ashley Lazaro, NAU

Master of Public Health

Mentor: Dr. Nicky Teufel-Shone



Elijah James Keeswood, UA

Navajo

BS- Biomedical Engineering

Mentor: Dr. Anne E. Cress



Emile Saad, UA

Osage

BS- Physiology

Mentor: Dr. Julie Armin



Darien Fuller, UA

Prairie Band Potawatomi

MS- Epidemiology

Mentor: Dr. Robin Harris

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UA: <https://cancercenter.arizona.edu/researchers/collaborative-research/nacp>

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