

MEETING NOTES

Arizona Adverse Childhood Experiences Rule and Indigenous Community Committee (AZ ACEs RICC)

Session Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2026

Duration: 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Facilitator: Cassandra Stouder

OPENING REMARKS AND MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Cassandra Stouder greeted attendees, including newly joined participants, and facilitated introductions across the committee. During this process, she proposed utilizing the shortened form AZ ACEs RICC (Arizona ACEs Rule and Indigenous Community Committee) to simplify communication, acknowledging the organization's extensive official title.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: RANDY BEGAY

Presenter: Randy Begay, Student Services Support Coordinator, San Carlos Unified School District and Tribal Member of the Navajo Nation

Randy shared a compelling 50-slide digital presentation highlighting his partnership-driven initiatives and independent efforts in educational support services. Key elements included:

Dynamic multimedia content demonstrating instructional methodologies and program implementation

Photographic documentation of his trauma-sensitive, culturally-aligned success coaching initiative

Recognition of Indigenous traditions including ceremonial practices, customary attire, and rites of passage for adolescent girls

Elder mentorship initiatives connecting youth with tradition-bearers who transmit ancestral songs and cultural knowledge

Adverse Childhood Experiences framework tailored to Native populations, exploring intergenerational trauma and strengths-based intervention strategies

Randy's contributions demonstrate culturally-rooted methodologies that foster restoration and strength within Native communities. His address underscored the necessity of preserving cultural heritage while integrating research-supported wellness approaches.

PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

Committee members voiced considerable enthusiasm and gratitude for Randy's contribution. The concluding 5-minute discussion period generated affirmative remarks recognizing the significance and effectiveness of his initiatives.

ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

Cassandra gathered current participant details to ensure committee membership records remain current:

Email address

Full name

Professional position and organizational affiliation

Geographic location (municipality or county)

UPCOMING SESSION

Scheduled Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Timeframe: 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Guest Presenter: Chucho Ruiz, Pascua Yaqui Tribal Community

Chucho will discuss his involvement with A Call to Men, a Native-centered initiative emphasizing masculine guidance, restorative practices, ancestral teachings, and holistic support systems for men.

Session Recording:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/XRR4KqSnyt6u1Gdz2WXzDvN88ON9mmHlaDOMxaX-RFDkkrCkHGVtF_vLkV2IOMTE.ac2BoZ1HkC9gkYI9?pwd=DEE_WUIqbr1veDdrrQAAIAAAAKsC1wUv3IFguDgjGCwKbYnrWrGy2M6-GnWO-LPLkxLzB67c3tlNzCb83Tw-uygfyZAwMDAwNA