

11th N-NURSE Symposium



Bits'i' yishtlizhii sáanii dóó alchini bah á' dahwiizaágo bits'íís bah'ahá yqh:

Indigenous Pathways to Maternal and Child Health

The symposium offers a unique opportunity to engage in meaningful dialog bridging Indigenous and Western perspectives on maternal and child health wellness. Participants will embark on a transformative journey along the Pathway of the Sun guided by Indigenous leaders who excel in clinical care, environmental stewardship and policy advocacy.

Guided by Din4 Native Medicine Leaders;
Roland Begay and Sheila Goldtooth

November 5-7, 2025

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Join N-NURSE!!

Learn from our featured speakers,

Celebrate Regional native student scholars and a new Living Legend Awardee at the Honoring Banquet,
Engage and Network with speakers, participants and authors,

Practice self care.

SYMPOSIUM AIMS

- * Examine social, environmental and structural determinants of maternal and child Health
- * Strategize to leverage practice, cultural and policy approaches to achieve cultural safety and justice in maternal and child health.
- * Engage in dialog and mentorship to understand justice imperatives for improving indigenous health.
- * Reflect and evaluate pathways to reconciliation in health for indigenous families and communities

REGISTER NOW



N-NURSE ELEVENTH SYMPOSIUM AGENDA
Preliminary Program

November 5-7, 2025 Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Bits'i' yishtlizhii sáanii dóó alchini bah á' dahwiizaágo bits'íis bah'ahá yq̄h:
Indigenous Pathways to Maternal and Child Health

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

7:30 AM Registration



East: Nitsáhákees Beginning; Thinking in more ways than one; Awareness

8:00 – 8:30 am Opening Prayer and Song, Roland Begay, Native Medicine Coordinator, Chinle, AZ

Opening Remarks, Ursula Knoki-Wilson, MSN, MPH, President N-NURSE, Inc
Welcome, Dean Rosario Medina, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, ACNP, CNS, FAANP, FAAN
University of New Mexico, College of Nursing

8:30 – 10:00 am Keynote: *Respectful Maternity Care*
Saraswathi Vedam, PhD, RM, FACNM, Sci D
Professor of Midwifery and Birth Place Lab Principal
University of British Columbia

10:00 – 10:30 am Health Break

10:30 – Noon East: *Birth of White Shell Woman*
Sheila Goldtooth, BA, MA, Native Medicine Coordinator, Gallup, NM

Noon – 1:00pm Poster Session and Box Lunches



South: Nahat'á Planning; Expectations; Finding one's voice/expression

1:00 – 1:30 pm *Puberty Rite of Changing Woman*
Sheila Goldtooth, BA, MA, Native Medicine Coordinator, Gallup, NM

1:30 – 3:00 pm *Understanding Navajo Children's Developmental Trajectories, Risks, and Actions to Maximize Potential through the Navajo Birth Cohort Study*
Johnnye Lewis, PhD
Professor Emeritus and Founder & current co-Director of Navajo Birth Cohort Study
University of New Mexico

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Poster Session and Break

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm *Living Life Powerfully:*
Johanna and Waylon Pee Pahona
Native Lifeway

5:00 PM – 6:00 pm Poster Session

REGISTER NOW

Thursday, November 6, 2025



West: Diné

Bring improvement to life; Application based on values

- 8:00 – 8:30 am Welcome – Traditional Prayer
Sheila Goldtooth, BA, MA Native Medicine Coordinator, Gallup, NM

Living life, Warrior Twins and Peaceful Living
Roland Begay, Native Medicine Coordinator, Chinle, AZ
- 8:30 am – 10:00 am *Achieving Health through Truth and Reconciliation*
Margaret Moss, PhD, JD, RN, FAAN, FADLN [Hadatsa/Dakh0
Professor and Associate Dean for Nursing and Health Policy
University of Minnesota
- 10:00—10:30 am *Health Break and Breath Work*
Johanna and Waylon Pee Pahona, Native Lifeway
- 10:30—Noon *Navajo parenting education and doula study*
Jennifer Richards, PhD MPH
Assistant Professor, Center for Indigenous Health
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- 10:00 am – 1:00 pm **Student Luncheon;** Regina Eddie, PhD, RN and Vanessa Tahe, DNP, RN, CPNP-PC, facilitators
- 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm *Panel Discussion: Living Mentorship and Cultural Safety*
Moderator: Regina Eddie, PhD, RN
Vice President, N-NURSE, Inc
Associate Professor, Northern Arizona University
- 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm *Break*
- 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm *Medicine Bundle for Living Life: Engagement and application* led by Margaret Moss, PhD
- 4:30 pm **Honoring Banquet and Silent Auction**

[REGISTER NOW](#)

FRIDAY, November 7, 2025



North: Siihasin

Reflecting; Silence; Being rather than doing; Wisdom; Self efficacy

- 8:00—8:30 am *Traditional Prayer*
Roland Begay, Native Medicine Coordinator, Chinle, AZ
- Elders and Opening Door Cane*
Roland Begay, Native Medicine Coordinator, Chinle AZ
- 8:30 am – 10:00 am *Beyond the Birth Room: Sustainability through relationship building, policy, and politics*
Nicolle L. Arthun, BSN,MSN,CNM.FACNM. CEO, Transcending Strategies, LLC
Founder, Changing Woman Initiative
- 10:00—10:30 am *Health Break and Breath Work*
Johanna and Waylon Pee Pahona, Native Lifeways
- 10:30 am 11:30 am *Reflection Panel*
Ursula Knoki-Wilson, MSN, MPH, President, N-Nurse, Facilitator
- 11:30 am *Closing Session: Sacred Mountains and Journey Song*
Roland Begay, Native Medicine Coordinator, Chinle, AZ