

# National Prevention Town Hall

**"WE ARE EACH OTHER'S  
HARVEST"**



SEPTEMBER  
**24-25**

1-3pm Eastern  
12-2pm Central  
11am-1pm Mountain  
10am-12pm Pacific



National Resource Center  
on Domestic Violence

**preventIPV**  
tools for social change

# MEET THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Special thanks to our partners from the Mountain region for the time, energy, and care they have poured into this event!

## **Nish Newton**

(they/them/their)

*Organizer, Idaho Coalition  
Against Sexual and  
Domestic Violence and  
Gender Doula, Black  
Liberation Collective*



Nish is a Black, queer, trans survivor of sexual and domestic violence among a myriad of other identities and lived experiences. They also utilize their background as an educator, historian, sociologist, and creative artist to wage a better world. Their distinct approaches have led them to facilitate social justice spaces alongside Sonya Renee Taylor, adrienne maree brown, Dr. Angela Davis, and other beacons of transformative change. Right now, their soulwork is assisting trans people through their transitions and gender-affirming care procedures. When Nish isn't mobilizing toward a more equitable and just world, they spend their time laughing with friends, cooking with their wife, writing fiction and poetry, and finding innovative ways to be a menace to colonial oppression.

## **Roshan Kalantar**

(she/her/hers)

*Executive Director,  
Violence Free Colorado*



Roshan has served as the Executive Director of Violence Free Colorado since January 2023. Prior to her current role, Roshan had been the Associate Director of the Coalition since 2020, and has been working in the field of advocacy and gender-based violence for over 15 years. Born in Iran, Roshan grew up in Colorado and Arizona. She has lived and worked in Washington D.C., Boston, and New Orleans leading advocacy and education programs. Since returning to Denver, Roshan served as Shelter Program Director at SPAN and as a counselor in community and medical settings. She has also taught in education and counseling programs at Metropolitan State University, University of Denver and Iliff School of Theology. All of this work has been grounded in her training in feminist, Womanist, Post-Colonial, Queer, and Critical Race theories.

## **Tia Bahozhoni** (she/her/hers)

*Diné woman and Policy Specialist, National Indigenous Women's Resource Center*

Tia Bahozhoni is a Policy Specialist for NIWRC. Tia is a Diné woman and grew up in New Mexico. As a Policy Specialist, she helps in identifying and researching policy priorities, as well as providing training and technical assistance regarding policy priority areas. She helps to ensure that the NIWRC's policy work, systems engagement, and resource development is culturally, historically, and legally relevant and supports governmental, nonprofit, and community responses to the immediate crisis needs of Native women victimized by violence and the social change work inherent in ending violence against Native women.

# MEET THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

## **Virginia Pérez-Ortega** (she/her/hers)

*Director of Community Connections on Equity and Inclusion, New Mexico Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs*



Virginia Pérez-Ortega is the Director of Community Collaborations on Access and Inclusion. Prior to this position, she was a Resource and Outreach Coordinator at the National Sexual Violence Resource Center. Locally she has experience coordinating a community-based crime reduction project with the Office of Bernalillo County District Attorney. She is also an independent consultant, provides training, facilitation and coordination of victim advocacy related projects and events on the topics of domestic and sexual violence prevention. Ms. Perez-Ortega is an English-Spanish translator and interpreter. She is an experienced media campaign coordinator, community event planner and a successful community organizer. Virginia is a social and human rights activist with over 15 years working to end violence against all women and girls. In her previous role as Violence Prevention Director for a local NGO, she developed and implemented community-driven gender violence prevention programs; she also pioneered one of its kind prevention program of men against family violence. She is committed to social justice and to improving the conditions of those affected by inequalities. She is about making a better life for each other through family, culture, caring, discipline, fun, collaboration and action. She is the proud mother of 2 beautiful children. Virginia was born and raised in Mexico and has lived in New Mexico since the late 90s. She holds a BA on Community Development from UnADM (Universidad Abierta y a Distancia de Mexico) and an AA on Business Graphics and Communications from Central New Mexico Community College.

## **Jody Sanborn** (she/her/hers)

*Director of Prevention, Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault*



Jody Sanborn (she/her) is the director of prevention with the Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (WCADVSA). With the WCADVSA since 2009, Jody leads efforts for primary prevention and social change advocacy in Wyoming. She has experience as a national, state, and local trainer specializing in rural community education and collective impact for prevention. Jody holds degrees in both psychology and education and considers herself a lifelong learner. When she is not collaborating with communities for social change, Jody tries to spend as much time as possible running miles and miles, climbing rocks, and sharing her love of the mountains with her partner and daughter.



# DESCRIPTION

## “We Are Each Other’s Harvest”

What does prevention look like when rooted in community and culture, outside of systems? As we continue to navigate the impact from COVID and the many related shifts we’ve experienced in the past years, our values have transformed and so must our strategies. The 5th annual National Prevention Town Hall will feature anti-violence prevention approaches in the Mountain region of the United States.

This space will offer a virtual gallery tour of innovative change-making projects, collectives, and approaches that fuel us all forward. This gallery tour can allow us to learn about what’s being mobilized beyond the systems we often work in for violence prevention. A panel will follow the gallery tour so we can weave together meaningful connections and address questions about reconnection, restoration, and re-indigenizing practices in the Mountain region.

Join us in exploring creative, sustainable approaches for advancing social change in the face of uncertainty. Across all aspects of our movement work – from housing rights to survivor healing to restorative justice – each of us plays a critical part in creating the world we wish to live into together. In the words of Gwendolyn Brooks, “We are each other's harvest; we are each other's business; we are each other's magnitude and bond.”

### Audience

Advocates, activists and organizers, those impacted by violence, and others interested in transformative approaches to violence prevention that center racial equity

### Goals

Building community, highlighting regional challenges and innovative approaches, and moving participants to transformative action

### Strategy

Storytelling that centers the voices, experiences, and leadership of those most marginalized



### ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

The Town Hall will feature Andre M. Medina of On the Right Mind as our live illustrator. Andre is a professional visual artist and translator of information into image. They have more than 12 years of experience working with Consulting groups in small, medium, and large businesses and organizations helping leaders to improve company operations and innovation processes. They are adept at developing visuals and tools to optimize learning and love to work with local and global Organizations who are seeking new ways of building a more sustainable and equal world.

# DAY 1

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

1pm Eastern  
11am Mountain

## Opening & Welcome

Featuring Nish Newton, Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence and Black Liberation Collective

1:15pm Eastern  
11:15am Mountain

## Gallery Tour of Programs

Wind River Youth Summit, EquitableCC, DOVE Denver, and Jackson Hole Latina Empowerment Circle

2:15pm Eastern  
12:15pm Mountain

## Panel

Moderated by Virginia Perez-Ortega, New Mexico Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs

## Featured Programs & Speakers

The **Healing in the Wind River Youth Summit** was a two day event held July 17th and 18th. The youth summit centered around tribal lifeways as prevention and healing. Tribal guests, elders, and community members were invited to be speakers for the event, sharing on the topics of Suicide Prevention, Teen Dating Violence, Native History, Healthy Relationships, Circle of Wellness, Strengthening Community, Shoshone Ancestral Foods and Tobacco Is Sacred. The event incorporated story telling, group activities and tribal games, a healing walk, and setting up and taking down a teepee.

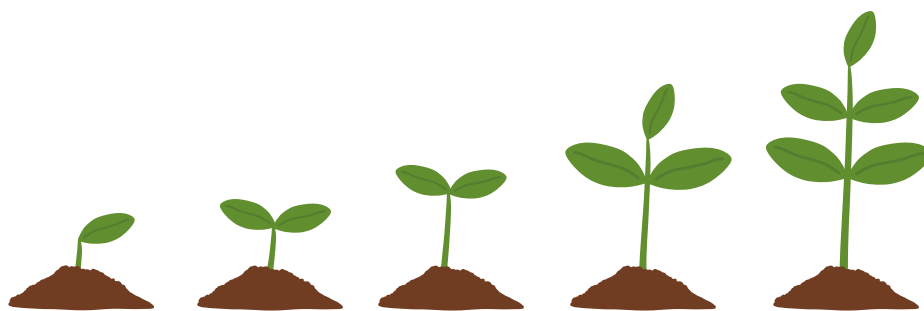


*Featured speakers:*

**Phil Steven** (he/him/his) states: "I'm enrolled in the Navajo Tribe and I love talking about our native ways."

**Celeste Spoonhunter** (she/her/hers) states: "My career has been in the school system for 20 plus years. I currently have been employed with a health

organization for 3 yrs. My experience in my educational career has given me the opportunity to work with youth throughout all my years of employment."



# DAY 1

## (CONTINUED)

**Equitable Counseling (EquitableCC)** offers supportive virtual therapy in the states of Idaho and Michigan to assist in the development of individual problem-solving skills, strengthening of interpersonal relationships, communication skill-building, improved coping strategies, and conflict resolution. While open to all, EquitableCC prioritizes the needs of Black, Brown, Indigenous, Queer and Trans folks and this is shown through services provided, additional education achieved post graduation and participation in community spaces.

*Featured speaker:*

**Gabrielle Davis** (she/her/hers) is the founder and sole counselor at EquitableCC. She has earned a master degree in public health and another in counseling. Outside of the health/mental health care field, Gabby provides consulting services for offices, organizations and institutions looking to add nicotine addiction services or improve equity, belonging, inclusion and accessibility. In her free time, Gabby enjoys reminding people that nicotine addiction is a disease, not a choice, dispelling myths about the definition of allyship and encouraging folks to say 'I don't know' instead of pretending to know. Community is Gabby's love language.



**Deaf Overcoming Violence through Empowerment (DOVE)** is the only Deaf and ASL accessible Domestic and Sexual Violence organization in the state of Colorado. DOVE provides Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind and DeafDisabled (DDBDDHH) victims and survivors with direct advocacy, emotional support, hotline services, as well as educational workshops. DOVE also provides educational training to collaborative organizations across the state, and hosts educational community events for the DDBDDHH community.

*Featured speaker:*

**Marja Possner** (she/her/hers) was born in South Korea and was adopted to the United States as a young baby. Throughout her upbringing growing up in a predominantly white community as a BIPOC and as a Deaf person, she has developed a vast cultural understanding of intersectionality barriers as a BIPOC and a Deaf person. With the lived experience and deep understanding of her intersectionality, she moved to New York and Colorado to advance her education and career in the social services field. With 18 years of experience working in various roles working on multiple projects, working with external and internal teams and maintaining an extensive community network Statewide and Nationally, she is excited to bring her experience and knowledge to her role as the Community Empowerment Advocate to build and sustain community relationships with DOVE and survivors. Outside of work, you will find Marja cooking or baking, taking her dog out on a walk, going on an adventure somewhere new or traveling the world.





# DAY 1

## (CONTINUED)

**Jackson Hole Latina Empowerment Circle** was launched by the Community Safety Network, Teton County Health Department, Teton Behavior Therapy, and Voices JH as a response to needs identified in the Jackson Hole Behavioral Health Community Needs Assessment Survey conducted in November 2021. Together, they developed the Latina Empowerment Circle, a program inspired by Catherine Fuchsel's *iSí, Yo Puedo!* curriculum. Over the course of two years, this program has been conducted twice, offering nine interactive sessions in Spanish each time, covering crucial topics such as identity, self-care, trauma, healthy relationships, consent, discussing difficult topics with children, and accessing community resources. The Latina Empowerment Circle exemplifies the transformative power of social connections and empowerment within Latina communities.

### *Featured speakers:*

**Antuanett Lopez** MA, LPC (she/her/hers) is passionate about health and embraces a balanced life and the importance of changing mindsets. Antuanett's expertise focuses on anxiety, depression, personality traits, complex behaviors, intensive traumas and domestic violence. Antuanett completed her master's degree in Rehabilitation and Clinical Mental Health Counseling at the University of Arizona. Over the years, Antuanett has facilitated individual and group therapy as she values human connection, well-being and personal development. Her bilingual and multicultural experience can meet people where they are and promote a positive change in the client's clinical goals. She enjoys contributing to the community; she hosts a local bilingual radio show named Cultivos de Sabiduria/Crops of Wisdom, that educates the Latine and curious community about mental health, wellness and identity in first language. She is also involved with different local entities to promote diverse cultural perspectives and community development.



**Odalis Avila** (she/her/hers) is a passionate advocate for social equity, LGBTQIA+ rights, and women's empowerment. Currently serving as the Director of Immigrant Leadership at VoicesJH, she has a strong background in community health outreach and program facilitation. She is pursuing a Bachelor of Social Work at Metropolitan State University of Denver and hopes to continue creating programs to empower minorities. With a focus on culturally sensitive approaches, she is dedicated to improving access to mental health and human services, reducing stigma, and promoting wellness.



# DAY 2

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

1pm Eastern  
11am Mountain

## Opening & Welcome

Featuring Tia Bahozhoni, National Indigenous Women's Resource Center

1:15pm Eastern  
11:15am Mountain

## Gallery Tour of Programs

Featuring Black Liberation Collective, Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico, Enlace Comunitario Youth Leaders, and Tewa Women United

2:15pm Eastern  
12:15pm Mountain

## Panel

Moderated by Nish Newton, Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence and Black Liberation Collective

## Featured Speakers & Programs

**Black Liberation Collective** is a collective of Black trans youth dedicated to generating support, cultivating thriving, and sustaining aliveness for our kinfolk in the Pacific Northwest. Their mission is guided by values rooted in ancestral wisdom, youth-led innovation, and reclaimed power from healing-centered liberation.

*Featured speaker:*

**Paradise Newton** (she/they/theirs) is a dedicated advocate for Black trans aliveness, organizing with the Black Liberation Collective (BLC) of Idaho. One of the most remarkable aspects of Paradise's role is her unique combination of activism and culinary expertise. She provides nutritious, delicious meals to genderqueer individuals who have recently undergone gender-affirming surgery, ensuring they receive the care and support needed throughout their recovery process. Paradise's efforts not only nourish the body but also uplift the spirit, embodying the true essence of community care.





# DAY 2

## (CONTINUED)

**Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico (TGRCNM)** is a statewide agency serving, uplifting and empowering transgender, nonbinary and gender nonconforming (TGNC) people in New Mexico and their loved ones through advocacy, education and direct service.

*Featured speaker:*

**T. Michael Trimm** (he/sir pronouns) is a native Ohioan now calling Albuquerque, NM home. He serves as Executive Director at the Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico with 20 years of advocacy and community service experience in his native Ohio, Arizona and now New Mexico.



**Enlace Comunitario Youth Leaders** is a core program of Enlace Comunitario's intergenerational leadership development work. Enlace believes that domestic violence survivors, including youth witnesses and survivors of domestic violence, are the most equipped grassroots anti-violence advocates to lead our community-centered work. Through the Youth Leaders program, Enlace trains Latine and immigrant youth witnesses and/or survivors of domestic violence to become peer educators.

*Featured speaker:*

**Maribel Garza** (she/her/ella) is Enlace Comunitario's (EC) Associate Director of Prevention & Outreach. Maribel has been with EC for over 15 years, and coordinated both of EC's intergenerational leadership programs, starting with the Youth Leaders; Youth Leaders trains teens (13-17), the majority of whom were former child witnesses or survivors of domestic violence (DV), to become peer educators to mitigate DV-affiliated behaviors in youth. Maribel later worked with the team to scale the Promotora program, to support the leadership development of former adult EC clients who transitioned through EC's intervention services and volunteered to become community health educators with the prevention department. This past year, Maribel oversaw the expansion of our prevention team and programs into six area schools, through the provision of our two prevention classes: Incredible Years and Healthy Relationships—the latter of which has a Teen Healthy Relationships corollary, which the team successfully piloted in the summer of 2024. In FY24, the prevention team reached 3,501 individuals through 88 presentations/info tables (in partnership with 8 Promotoras and 14 Youth Leaders), 40 sessions of our non-therapeutic support group (Voces Unidas), and 67 prevention classes.



# DAY 2

## (CONTINUED)

**Tewa Women United (TWU)** started in 1989 as a support group for women from the Pueblos of the northern Rio Grande concerned with the traumatic effects of colonization, religious inquisition, and militarization leading to issues such as alcoholism, suicide, domestic/sexual violence and environmental violence. In the safe space TWU created, they transformed and empowered one another through critical analysis and by embracing and reaffirming their cultural identity. Located in the ancestral Tewa homelands of Northern New Mexico, Tewa Women United is a multicultural and multiracial organization founded and led by Native women. Through Relational-tivity, they embody courageous spaces that center Indigenous women and girls to connect with ancestral knowingness, healing strengths, and lifeways for the wellbeing of ALL.

*Featured speaker:*

**Nathana Bird**, M.A. (she/her/hers) is an Ohkay Owingeh and Kewa Pueblo the life partner of a skilled chef, and a mother of four. Nathana is currently serving as the Interim Executive Director of Tewa Women United, based in Northern New Mexico and was previously serving as the Associate Director of the organization. Nathana has served as a community organizer in Northern New Mexico and across the region for over 18 years, working on environmental justice and education issues. Her holds a MA in Language, Literacy, and Socio-Cultural Studies with an emphasis on American Indian Education and a BA in Integrated Studies in Psychology. On a personal level, she loves taking care of her houseplants, spending time with her family, and being in community with others.

