



WINTER 2024 • VOLUME 33 ISSUE 1
SUSCOL INTERTRIBAL COUNCIL
Preserving Native American Culture for Future Generations



Staying on the Path with Charlie Toledo...

Oooh, we are deep into cold rainy months. Grateful for the steady rains. Suscol crews have been very busy getting the outside siding done at Suskol House! There were so many uncontrollable construction delays with the series of major disasters, pandemic restrictions, and supply chain delays. Now at last it looks like a house and is closed in dry! So many projects were completed this summer with Spiral Garden design completed and planted with over 100 pollinators and other indigenous plants and trees. Of course, many of the indigenous trees and plants will self-germinate in areas we cleared. There is soaproot, yarrow, coffee berry, yerba sante and lovely stands of beautiful manzanita trees. Suskol House tours and plant identification walks by request.

SITC hosted a most wonderful 27th Annual Open House and art auction. We hope more folks join us next Fall to experiences hands on drumming and beautiful unique Native American art. The workforce training continues with folks learning traditional forest management and cultural, prescribed burns. This is hands-on, starts wet and cold ends up hot, quite the experience! This is a great skill as it has become the norm for forest and land management. Glad to say all the erosion mitigation and straw bales are holding up through the winter's hard rains. The straw cover on baby plants has minimized erosion. It is so wonderful to hear gurgling water in gabillions in the seasonal waterway. The Suskol House mural project has identified the lead artist Paul Stone, Paiute/Washoe and intern artists Barbara Clifton-Zarate, Sal Garcia-Pinola, Point Arena Pomo, Lovela Noel, Pomo/Maidu and Reyna Cruz, Pomo/Lakota/Azteca. This project after design phase is complete will be open to community participant contact us for paint dates. Prayers as always for those loved ones who journey home and the innocent ones being called down to earth. May you walk in beauty and joy until our paths cross again!



Suscol Intertribal Council's primary mission is the preservation of Native American traditions & culture. To further this goal is the development of a Native American land project in Chiles-Pope Valley, California. "Suskol House" is a sustainable, eco-friendly, 23 acre open space. The organization is dedicated to the preservation and protection of Native American sacred sites and the human rights of all indigenous people by networking with other NGOs around the world.



Loving and Nurturing Your Native American Child

A Multi-part Series by Madonna Feather-Cruz

Loving and nurturing Native children is important for many reasons, including addressing the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women. While showing love and support for your child alone may not directly prevent this complex issue, a strong and healthy parent-child relationship can contribute positively to their well-being and safety in several ways: **Emotional Resilience:** When children feel loved, valued, and supported at home, they develop emotional resilience and a strong sense of self-worth. **Open Communication:** A loving relationship encourages open communication between you and your child. This means your child is more likely to share their experiences, concerns, and any potential dangers they might encounter, which allows you to provide guidance and protection.

Empowerment: A child who feels loved and empowered is more likely to make informed choices and decisions that prioritize their safety and well-being. They are less likely to engage in risky behaviors that could make them vulnerable to exploitation or violence. **Building Trust:** Trust is a crucial element in any relationship. By building a strong bond with your child, you establish a foundation of trust. This trust can be essential in helping them seek help when they feel threatened or are in danger. Growing up as a Native American child with a high Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) score can present unique challenges, but with the invaluable support of culture and community, thriving in adulthood becomes a real possibility. The impact of high ACE scores, which may include factors like trauma and adversity, can be mitigated through the strength derived from embracing one's Native heritage. Culturally rooted practices, traditions, and spiritual connections provide a resilient foundation for healing and growth. Engaging with the community fosters a sense of belonging and understanding, creating a supportive network that empowers individuals to overcome adversity. By weaving the tapestry of cultural identity into their journey, Native American individuals with high ACE scores can not only survive but also thrive, drawing strength from the richness of their heritage and the unity found within their community. ~Madonna Feather-Cruz



The Feather-Cruz Family



Outside siding at Suskol House complete



Bay Area Creative Corps Mural Project at Suskol House wall.





Virtual Class Schedule

Meditations led by Charlie Toledo, Join us on ZOOM for meditations classes Tuesday mornings at 9am. Contact email, suscol@suscol.net if you are interested.

To sign up and for more information contact: suscol@suscol.net
or call (707) 256-3561

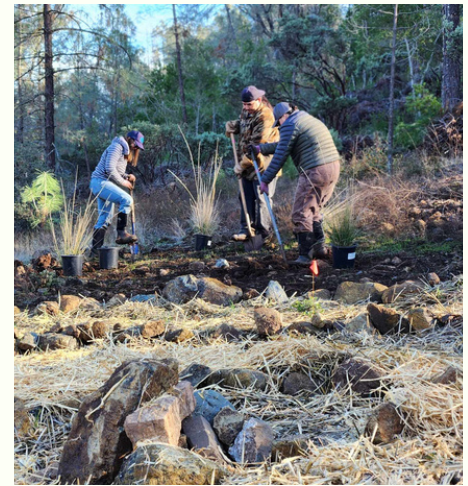
Many Hands, Many Hearts



Your generous donation to Suskol House will directly support vital cultural preservation initiatives, educational programs, and community empowerment efforts, making a meaningful impact on the lives of Indigenous peoples and their traditions.

www.Suscolcouncil.org

Donate on-line or mail a check



Native American Historical Trauma & Traditional Healing Project

We are pleased to announce that the upcoming Cohort #15 of the Historical Trauma & Traditional Healing Workshop series will begin in July 2024. We encourage you to join a Cohort and refer your friends, family, and colleagues. A healing element is included after every presentation. The workshops are open to anyone who wants to understand more about the history and tribes of this region. Via Zoom the third Wed. of every month. Pre-registration is required.

Workshop #1

Topic: "Overview of Native Americans in this region"

Workshop #2

Topic: "Pre-Colonial History of California Natives"

Workshop #3

Topic: "Colonial History of California Natives"



Workshop #4

Topic: "Post-Colonial History of California Natives"

Workshop #5

Topic: "Thrival and Tribal Resiliency"

Contact us to register for Cohort #15

ZOOM at: Suscol@suscol.net or by calling (707) 256-3561



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Forest Managment Cultural Burns at Suskol House

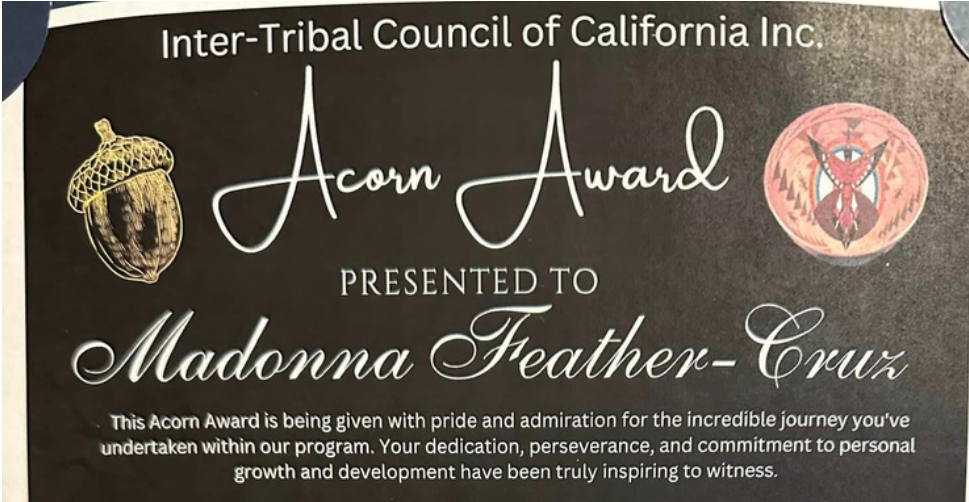
Burn team day #1. 997 piles left to burn volunteers needed, 707-256-3561





News and Announcements

Congradulations Press Democrat 24 to watch in 2024: Madonna Feather-Cruz, Native American liaison,,,,, Madonna was also honored from Inter-Tribal Council of California, Inc. with the “Acorn Award” for over 500 volunteered hours + 14 other certifications.





Important Contacts During Challenging Times * YOU ARE NOT ALONE

The Mending Basket serves Native people living in California in the form of Family Violence Prevention workshops, family strengthening and Wellbriety. MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Trina Fitzgerral, Coordinator
(707) 459-2015 or cell (707) 410-9565

[illegible]

System Navigator Frank Santos (707) 259-8160

He and his team will help people navigate through the Napa County Mental Health System to figure out the best avenue to refer folks to.

Napa County 911 ERT

Emergency Response Team - a trained therapist goes out on every call with the police.

Crisis Services: (707) 253-4711

The Crisis Stabilization Unit is open 24 hours a day.

Adult Mental Health Services / Departamento de Servicios de Salud

Mental: (707) 253-4306

Options for the Medication Clinic, Adult Therapy Services, Adult Case Management Services and Older Adult Full Service Partnership Services, CONREP Services, Mental Health Court, and System Navigators.

Children's Mental Health Services / Servicios para niños: (707) 259-8167

Options for the Medication Clinic, Children's Therapy and Case Management Services, Children and Transitional Youth Full Service Partnership Services, and System Navigators.

**FBI outreach to prevent
hate crimes, MMIW,
cyber-bullying, cyber fraud,
elder abuse, domestic hate
crimes: to file a complaint-
1-800-CALL-FBI**



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Newsletter Production

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Photography

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Suscol Intertribal Council Board Members

Executive Director: Charlie Toledo (Towa)
Chair: Bruce Streblov (Cherokee)
Vice Chair: Makha Blu Wakpa (Itázipcho, Očhéthi Šakówin)
Treasurer: Monica Smith-Braun (Lusineao)
Secretary: Rie Casale (Ojibwe)

Suscol Intertribal Board Members at Large

Randy Foisy (Blackfeet)

Cultural Advisory Committee

Madonna Feather-Cruz (Round Valley Indian Tribes/Lakota)
April Jackson (Upper Lake Pomo)
Coleen McCloud (Kashia Pomo)
Ronald Lincoln (Round Valley Pomo)
Edy Feather Cruz (Round Valley Indian Tribes/Lakota)

Staff

Charlie Toledo: Executive Director (Towa)
Sal Garcia-Pinola: Peer Support/Property Manager (Coast Pomo)

Follow us on:

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<https://www.youtube.com/@SuscolCouncil>



The Suskol House

Suscol Intertribal Council is dedicated to preserving Native American culture for future generations. An integral part of that goal is the construction of the Suskol House, a place of gathering and ceremony for Native and Indigenous people based in sustainable land and water use. The Suskol House property is entirely off-grid and has low impact building development plan. The land was purchased in 1998 in Chiles-Pope Valley, north of Napa. The ultimate goal is to complete construction on the Suskol House and a large shelter for gatherings and ceremony. To complete this decades-long project, funding from the public is crucial. To become a donor, please send a check to:

Suscol Intertribal Council
P.O. Box 5386, Napa, CA 94581

Or go to our website suscolcouncil.org and hit the
DONATE button!