

Meet Our Team



Serrine S. Lau, PhD
SWEHSC Director

Indigenous Stewards Leadership



Marti Lindsey, PhD

SWEHSC Outreach Director

Indigenous Stewards Leadership



Gilbert Lujan Rivera, Jr.

SWEHSC Tribal Liaison

Indigenous Stewards Publisher



Amanda Bahe

SWEHSC Outreach Specialist
American Indian Environmental
Health Stories Project

Letter From the Editor

Yá'át'ééh! [Greetings!]

Welcome to our inaugural issue of *Indigenous Stewards*! We are greatly appreciative of your interest in our publication. Whether you are a student, community member, or professional, it is our hope that this magazine helps to bridge conversations concerning environmental health topics within Indigenous communities.

The idea for creating an environmentally-focused publication arose from a desire to communicate more effectively and properly with Indigenous communities. We wanted to understand ways that we could be more useful to Indigenous communities – what could we learn regarding the environment, and what might we be able to share in return? *Indigenous Stewards* is the product of dialogues with Indigenous leaders, professionals, and students dedicated to answering these questions.

We hope you are inspired by stories like that of Sicangu Lakota rap artist, scholar, and activist Frank Waln, whose music raises awareness about environmental ills faced by people within his community. “If you see a problem or something that needs to be done, go do it. Don’t wait around,” he says, summoning Indigenous youth to work alongside their elders as advocates for environmental justice.

The content within our pages is meant to raise awareness, foster discussions, spark ideas, and provoke questions. What are some of the environmental issues within your community? How can you be an agent of positive change to help combat such issues, like Selso Villegas has been for his whole lifetime? Ultimately, it is our goal to use our magazine to help cultivate future generations of Indigenous stewards.

On behalf of our entire SWEHSC team,
Ahéhee'! [Thank You!]

Amanda Bahe (Diné)
Indigenous Stewards Managing Editor