YAQUI TIMES

MARCH 2020
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THE PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE/ HEALTH DEPARTMENT EFFORTS IN MITIGATING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

By: Reuben Howard, Executive Director of Health Department

In an effort to ensure the most effective response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, The Pascua Yaqui Tribe has implemented the following preventative and proactive measures for the health and well-being of the Pascua Yaqui tribal communities;

1. Chairman Robert Valencia issued a travel restriction on March 6, 2020, updated on March 12, 2020 to suspend all travel in US and abroad until further notice to protect the safety and welfare of tribal employees.

2. The Health Department issued a Public Health Alert informational update COVID-19 on January 30, 2020 and on March 5, 2020.

3. The Health Department issued instructions to all tribal staff on the Virus Symptoms and what to do. Front Desk Internal Protocols were issued on March 6, 2020.

4. Health Department Safety Officer and Indian Health Service Environmental staff are working with Casino Del Sol Resort management on proactive measures on how to protect customers and casino staff.

5. The Health Department is working with the Tribe's KPYT radio station to inform the tribal community and the public on how to protect themselves through public service announcements and Q & A sessions.

6. The Health Department Nursing Program is providing outreach and educational materials on the COVID-19 and preventative measures to the community and tribal programs.

7. The Tribal Council passed Resolution C03-55-20, a comprehensive Public Health Code Ordinance 13-20,

7. The Tribal Council passed Resolution C03-55-20, a comprehensive Public Health Code Ordinance 13-20, which provides the Health Department and Law Enforcement Authorities with the authority to address infectious disease outbreaks.

8. The Health Department is meeting with the Tribe's Facilities department regularly to increase cleaning in tribal buildings.

9. The Health Department has met with the Public Safety, Fire Department/EMS and Police Department to address coordination of services, communication and information.

10.The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator will coordinate information with the Capitanes to address any concerns during cultural ceremonies.

The Pascua Yaqui Tribal Health Department is in regular communication with state and county Health Departments, El Rio Community Center and Indian Health Service for COVID-19 updates, technical assistance and guidance.

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe governmental planning and organization preparation relating to appropriate measures will continue to be monitored and appropriate action will be taken to protect the health and safety of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

For information regarding our services, please go to our website: www.pythealth.org or call our Help-Line for programs and services information:

PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE AWARDS GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

By: Abbie S. Fink, HMA Public Relations

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe – State of Arizona Tribal Gaming Compact provides the opportunity for the Tribe to donate 12% of its annual contributions required by the Compact to cities, towns, or counties in Arizona for government services that benefit the general public. The Tribe endeavors to fund programs that address significant community needs.

At its 12% Recognition Breakfast, Chairman Robert Valencia, Secretary Mary Jane Buenamea, Councilwomen Rosa Soto Alvarez and Antonia Campoy, and Kim Van Amberg, Casino del Sol general manager, on behalf of the Tribal Council and the Tribe's Casino Operations, awarded grants totaling $437,935 to the following organizations:

- South Tucson Police Department – Policing Assistance
- Town of Guadalupe
- Tucson Police Department
- Yoeme Tekia Foundation
- San Ignacio Yaqui Council
- Southwest Folklife Alliance
- Taking Up Space
- Compadre & Tempe High School JAG Program
- Johnson Primary Elementary School
- Guadalupe Learning Lab
- Maldonado Elementary School
- Marine Corps League, Tucson Detachment #7
- Herencia Guadalupana Lab Schools

The grants will be used by the organizations for capital improvement projects and various educational and social programs and initiatives.

"The Pascua Yaqui Tribe is committed to helping improve our community and the surrounding communities," said Chairman Valencia. "We are thankful that we are able to help support so many important projects in Tucson and Guadalupe."

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The Lenten season is upon us. This 40-day long ceremony is one of the most important occasions for the Pascua Yaqui community. This holy time reaffirms the Yaqui way of life and our commitment to the Christian doctrine, where the Yaqui people feel united with Christian people everywhere.

On behalf of the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Council, we wish you a blessed holiday season.

For a listing of Lenten activities, please visit https://bit.ly/3cxatNT.

THE YAQUI WORK ETHIC GUIDES THE TRIBE'S CULTURAL SERVICE STANDARDS

By: Daniel Morales, HR Training Manager

The Yaqui work ethic can be seen in the line drawn on the ground by Yaquis to communicate a sacred boundary in Spanish. Encapsulated in that boundary are the Yaqui notions of respect, community and commitment to the Yaqui way of life. From the youngest to the oldest person, male and female, Yaquis have historically been recognized for their exemplary work ethic.

These core values derived from the traditional work ethic of the Yaqui people dating back thousands of years are now serving as the Tribe's Cultural Service Standards. The purpose of this is to tap into the Yaqui truth or Itom Luturia, which translates to "Our Truth."

Throughout the next few issues of the Yaqui Times, we will share each of the six core values.

We Will Respect
Yeete Yo'orine (yeh-eh-the yoh'oh-ree-neh)

Respect is the foundational element that builds trust and relationships that foster an excellent teamwork approach during day-to-day accomplishments of goals and the occasional challenges presented.

PASCUA YAQUI COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES PITCH-IN FOR COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

By: Abbie S. Fink, HMA Public Relations

Martin Luther King Day 2020 was more than just a day to remember the good works of Dr. King. It was an opportunity for community members and employees to pitch in for the Pascua Yaqui Community Day of Service.

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP PHOTOS

SEWA U'USIM COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROVIDES INNOVATIVE HEALTH PROGRAMS

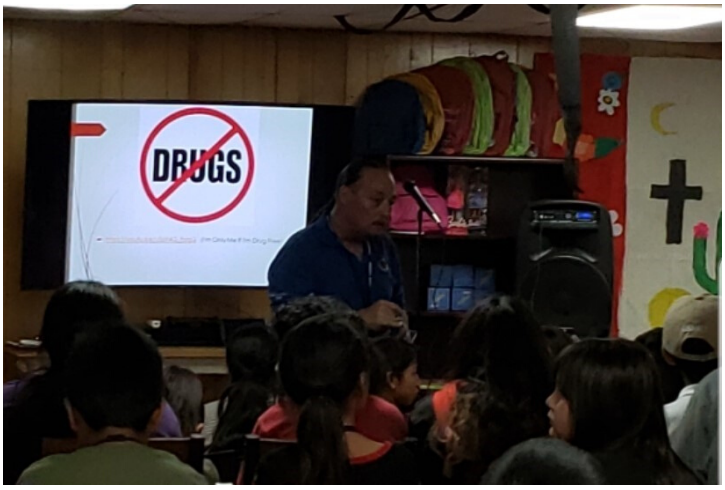
By: Dennis Noonan, Director of Health Services

The philosophy of Sewa U'usim is grounded on the principles of providing a comprehensive array of quality care tailored to the diverse needs, individual preferences, cultural uniqueness, spirituality, and strengths of the Hiaki child and family. We promote services that are youth-guided and family-driven in order to empower families and celebrate their independence.

Programs include:
The Clubhouse – Where Technology Meets Imagination
Tortuga Ranch – Equine wellness for groups or individuals
Tortuga Greenhouse Activities – Hydroponics and Aquaponics, growing herbs and plants
Ili U'usim Hiaspsi (Little Children's Hearts) – Fatherhood and Motherhood is Sacred
Life In Balance (ages 14 – 24)
Circles of Care - Offers Youth M.O.V.E (ages 13 – 17)
Pathways – Transitional young adults program (ages 18 – 24)

What is Tribal Opioid Response (TOR)

Sewa U'usim program secured funding from the Department of Health and Human Services and SAMSHA to expand services for a two-year project for an opioid abuse prevention project. The goal of this project is to educate the community about the level of the opioid drug issues and how to fight it.



Mr. David Butler, child and family therapist, presented two sessions on Opioids 101 for more than 32 youth per session at the Pascua Yaqui Boys and Girls Club.

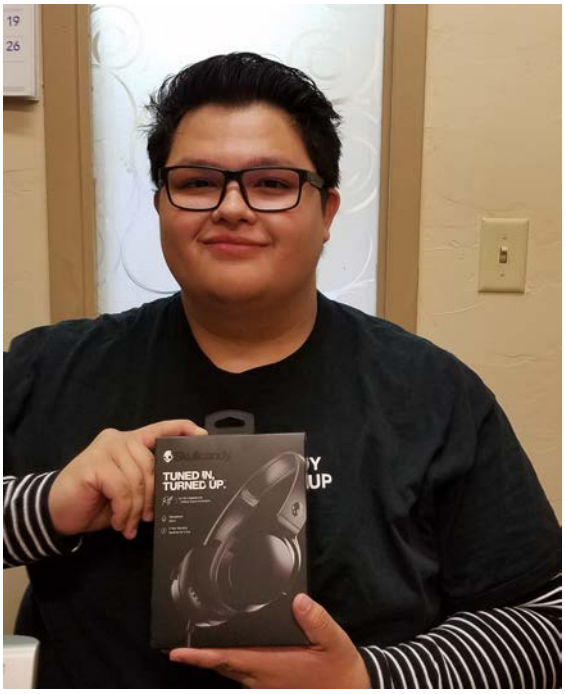
SUCP
Sewa U'usim Community Partnership
Feeling Out of Balance?
Would You Like to have More Family Engagement?
Having Trouble Sleeping, Eating, or Being with Friends?
Are You Being Bullied by Peers or on Social Media?
Have You Been Through a Loss?
Have You Had a Big Change in Your Life?
SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES
(520) 879-6181

TOR grant funding assisted with the purchase of two automated external defibrillators (AED) machines and upgraded first aid kits located at our Tortuga Ranch. Narcan application kits will also be included.

What is Narcan?
Narcan can stop an overdose until emergency help arrives, you can get Narcan free of charge at the Nursing Annex or the HIV/Hep C office.

What is Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) Grant?
This is a five-year grant to expand services to develop a wide ranging prevention model to address the use of alcohol and underage drinking among persons ages 9 to 20 on and off the reservation by tribal members and their families, and other drugs in the tribal community.

Sewa U'usim had a contest to come up with a hashtag for underage drinking and drug prevention, won by Joseph Rodriguez. The purpose of this contest is to add the hashtag to our marketing materials, and help educate the community about the opioid drug use and underage drinking.



Congratulations to our Hashtag Contest Winner Joseph Rodriguez. He created #Soberrez and received prize head-phones from Sewa U'usim

Chairman Valencia with community member J. Castro Youth (11) created an amazing poster board to display the consequences of drinking and driving.

We look forward to many great things from Sewa U'usim with culturally based curriculums, community education, Narcan/Naloxone training, and prevention programming with youth, and community outreach. #Soberrez

EARLY COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY FOR TRIBAL YOUTH FROM GUADALUPE

By: Vanessa Mori, Education Assistance Specialist

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Higher Education Assistance Program partnered with South Mountain Community College (SMCC), Guadalupe Center recently to host our inaugural Hoop of Learning (HOL) class, which is a bridge program specifically tailored to meet the academic and cultural needs for American Indian students within the Maricopa County Community College District. Hoop of Learning is an opportunity for tribal high school students from the Tempe Union High School District to get a jump-start in college.

Early college schools, like those within the Tempe Union High School District, are committed to serving students underrepresented in higher education. These schools do so by a collaborative partnership created and sustained by a local education agency, a higher education institution, and the community, all of whom are jointly accountable for student success. Early college schools, their higher education partners, and community jointly develop an integrated academic program so all students earn one-to-two years of transferable college credit leading to college completion. The early college schools engage all students in a comprehensive support system that develops academic and social skills, as well as the behaviors and conditions necessary for college completion.

The early college schools engage all students in a comprehensive support system that develops academic and social skills, as well as the behaviors and conditions necessary for college completion. The higher education and community partners of the early college schools work as intermediaries to create conditions and advocate for supportive polices that advance the early college movement.

[Front, l-r]---Angelina Uriarte, Lorena Uriarte, Jesus Higuera, Elyanna Valenzuela, Delilah Gee, Lucero Valencia, and Analeeza Laguna [Back, l-r]--- Jimmy Matuz, Manuel Alvarez, David Uriate, Wilfrido Avitia, Juan Ayala, Eric Ayala, and Joshua Matuz

The Fall 2019 cohort of Pacua Yaqui Tribe students successfully completed Strategies for College Success (CPD150), a three-credit college course through the Hoop of Learning Program. We are thankful for the SMCC staff for its continuous support and dedication and to the Tempe Union Indian Education Program for all of its support.

Please contact the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Higher Education Program for more information on how your child can get a jump start in college at (480) -768-2039.

"The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow"
- Nelson Mandela

PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE BREAKS GROUND ON ASSISTED LIVING AND RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT HOMES

By: Shanna Ioane Tautolo, Interim Associate Director

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe recently broke ground on three homes designed to provide residential treatment programs as well as assisted living services for tribal members. The men's and women's Path Homes will offer residential alcohol and drug treatment services.

The assisted living home will be for individuals requiring 24/7 nursing care. Each of the homes will have a 10-bed capacity and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The architect on the project is VINT & Associates Architects Inc. and the contractor is BFL Construction Inc.

The programs will be administered by the Tribe's Health Services Division.

The expected square footage of the men and women's Path Homes is 4,500-square-feet each. The assisted living facility is expected to be approximately 5,112 square-feet. (Photo courtesy of VINT & Associates Architects Inc)

NACTEP BCT (BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY) TRAINEES NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

By: Cheryl Bakari, Director, PYT NACTEP Career Center

The 15 trainees were treated like star athletes as they signed their commitment to their training program in front of Pima Community College leadership and their friends and family.

The trainees attended the events and were presented with Pima Community College hats, work gloves and safety glasses courtesy of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe NACTEP Career Center.

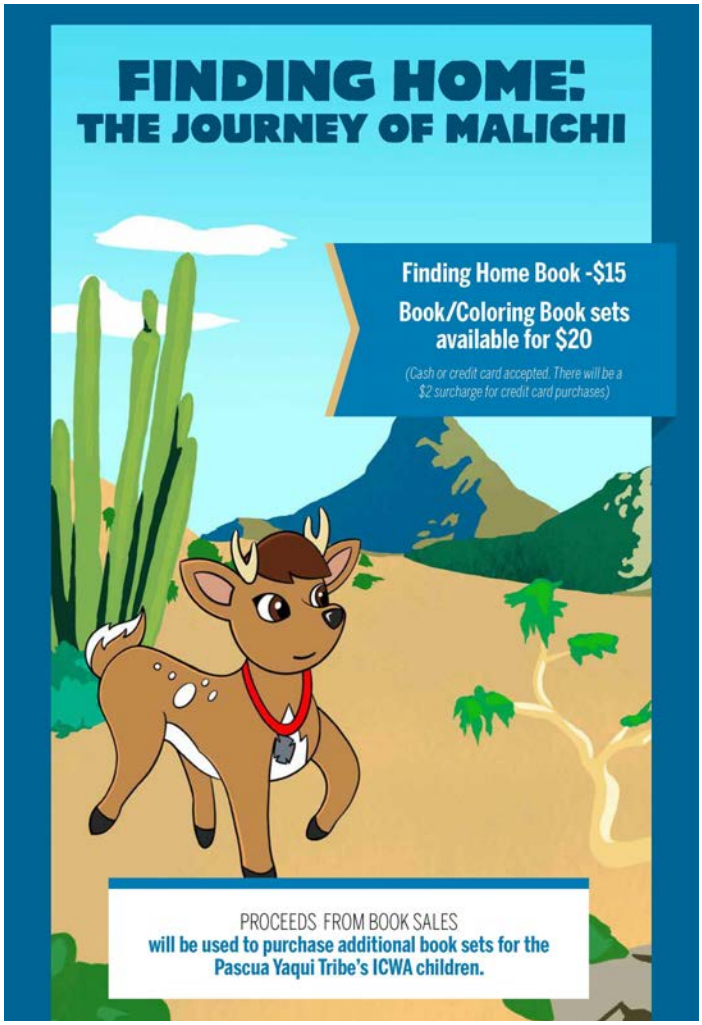
The dean of applied technology, Greg Wilson, presided and the event was coordinated by Gayle Bell, executive assistant to the Pima Community College chief of staff. The event took place on Saturday, Feb. 8 in the education building.

The trainees are training for careers in electrical, plumbing, HVAC or carpentry.

SECOND EMT TRAINING COHORT GRADUATED JANUARY 21ST, 2020

By: Cheryl Bakari, Director, Supervisor, PYT NACTEP Career Center

On the evening of January 21st, nine EMT training graduates were recognized for successfully completing six months of intensive hands-on training to prepare to certify as professional first responders.



The cohort was comprised of six women and three men. All members of the cohort were employed and raising families while participating in the training.

The training was offered thanks to an innovative collaboration that included Pima Community College, Pascua Pueblo Fire Department, Casino Del Sol, WIOA (Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act) and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe NACTEP (Native American Career Technical Education Program) Career Center.

Attending the ceremony to recognize the graduates were over 150 guests, friends and family members. Pima Community College's chancellor, Lee Lambert, was among the attending dignitaries as well as Pascua Yaqui Tribal Council Member Rosa Soto Alvarez and Tribal Treasurer Raymundo Baltazar. Other distinguished guest included Pima Community College governing board member Luis L. Gonzales, who is also a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Pascua Pueblo Fire Department Chief Carlos Flores and Marcus Diaz, director of training for Casino Del Sol.

Graduates were presented with certificates of completion, graduation gifts and brand new Emergency Medical Service kits that include lifesaving supplies and equipment to handle crisis situations.

In addition to completing over 160 hours of training, the graduates are certified in advanced CPR and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Administration).

The ceremony was held at the Pima Community College, 29th Street Coalition Center which houses the college's Public Safety and Emergency Services Institute.

Two of the nine graduates plan to continue their training by entering the PCC Fire Academy. Two others are planning to advance into paramedic training and the remaining five plan to seek employment that will utilize their EMT training.

The EMT training cohort graduates are:
Aliza Yrigolla
Aulee Castro
Christina Mesquita
Eucario Mendez
Francine Valencia
Israel Romo
Larissa Alvarez
Maritza Castillo-Rivera
Nia Lopez-Coronado

GED GRADUATION CELEBRATION

By: Sarah Pendergrass, Adult Education Instructor/Supervisor

On January 30, 2020, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe hosted a GED graduation celebration to honor 13 GED recipients from the New Pascua and Old Pascua programs. The class of June to December 2019 filled the Sunset Room at Casino of the Sun in the company of their family, friends, teachers, mentors and others who came out to support and congratulate them.

The celebration started with welcoming remarks from Education Director Ann Parker and was proceeded by dinner. Students and staff were treated to an evening of keynote addresses from three GED graduates: Fernando Ochoa, Elyssa Ramirez and Kodi Tenario. Attendees also heard from community leaders, Chairman Robert Valencia, Tribal Treasurer Raymundo Baltazar and Tribal Council Member Antonia Campoy.

As they waited for the festivities to kick off, the graduates laughed and joked around with their friends and classmates during what would likely be their last informal gathering together. Roughly an hour later, they were marching through the room to “Pomp and Circumstance” as the audience cheered and took pictures. Soon after that, they were graduates.

For Ochoa, coming back to school was challenging “I had to examine who I was, who I wanted to be and how was I going to get there," Ochoa said. "I got up and made the change that I wanted for myself and my children. That moment I chose to move forward.”

Ramirez became emotional speaking about how she dropped out of school to care for her ailing grandmother. “I don’t regret my decision to pause my life to help her but I am proud of myself for being strong enough to go back to school and continue my education to move myself forward in my aspirations and goals," she said.

Tenario became emotional also, explaining that as a single mother of five children she faced extra challenges. However, she never gave up and is now pursuing her dream of becoming an EMT.

The graduates were presented with an Adult Education stole and handed a wood carved gift from Yaqui artist Louis David Valenzuela. The ceremony included encouraging words from not only Education Director Ann Parker, but also Education Deputy Director Serina Preciado, who closed the ceremony.

Preciado thanked everyone for attending and finished with reminding the graduates of their accomplishment and let them know their achievement inspired someone else that night.

Seated l-r: Kodi Tenario, Sandra Valenzuela, Hillary Estrella, Erica Flores, Elyssa Ramirez, Estephan Moraga. Standing l-r: Orlando Vega, Fernando Ochoa, Chairman Robert Valencia, Council member Antonia Campoy, Council member Raymundo Baltazar, Josue Davis

Graduates not pictured: Elizabeth Cocio, Jacob Garcia, Sonia Vanessa Ramirez, Francisco Villegas

Congratulations to June through December 2019 GED Graduates!

SONORAN PUEBLO CONTRACTING MARKS FIRST YEAR IN BUSINESS

By: Antonio Burrola, Sonoran Pueblo Contracting

Feb. 14 marked the one-year anniversary of Sonoran Pueblo Contracting. In our first year, the company – an enterprise of the Pascua Yaqui Development Corporation – awarded $8.5 million in projects across Southern Arizona, most notably the renovations or refurbishments of tribal member homes. Sonoran Pueblo, now with more than 30 employees, both tribal and non-tribal, is adept at commercial, residential, transportation, federal, water, wastewater and environmental projects as well as project management services. The company is developing a trade apprenticeship with Pima Community College and a heavy equipment apprenticeship with Central Arizona College, expected to be in place by Spring 2020.

MEDIATION – A WAY TO CHOOSE YOUR OWN OUTCOME

By: Nicole Casaus, Arizona Mediation Center

Going through divorce or custody litigation can be stressful, time-consuming and have long-lasting negative effects on a family.

Mediation is an alternative process that is available and can reduce overall stress, protect the well-being of children involved, and ultimately allow parties to take control of their own future.

During mediation, a trained, neutral third-party facilitates negotiations. The parties discuss and resolve all matters, such as property, monies and the well-being of any children. The decisions made during mediation are truly those of the parties. This differs from litigation, where an attorney generally will negotiate a reasonable settlement on behalf of an individual and a judge has the final decision.

With litigation, parties also have little control over the overall time and costs incurred. This process can become long and sometimes delayed due to scheduling and time constraints of the others involved.

With mediation, the parties negotiate and make their own decisions. Once an agreement is reached, the mediator draws up a settlement agreement and submits it to the judge for finalization. Not with standing statutory time requirements, unlike litigation, parties who participate in mediation decide how fast or slow they come to an agreement.

When children are involved, protecting their emotional well-being becomes extremely important as well. During litigation, parents are often pitted against each other and children are put in the middle. This can cause long-lasting damage to a child's well-being and self-esteem. During mediation, however, children see their parents remaining positive, communicating, and ultimately working together to resolve issues without conflict. This helps keeps their emotional well-being and self-esteem intact.

The most important thing to remember about mediation is that unlike traditional litigation, there is no winner or loser. Both parties come to conclusions on the issues together. Choosing to mediate gives both parties control over the outcome. As such, mediation should always be considered as a first option when faced with tough matters such as divorce or child custody.

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe's mediation program is free to tribal members and is located at 7777 Camino Huivisim, Building B and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

BWIARAMPO ITOM AETA NOOKI TAEWAI: SI'IME ITEPO HIAKIM TE NAU YAHINE

Provided by the Pascua Yaqui Language and Culture Department

Lios enchim aniavu si'ime yeu tahtia,

Ket chem hiokot allaeaka tua inika taewaita weiya. Over 150 people walked with purposeful reflection on the past, present and future of Itom Hiak Nooki during our Bwiarampo Itom Aeta Nooki Taewai event. The theme for this International Mother Language Day event was ***Si'ime itepo Hiakim te nau yahine***. This was appropriate as our brothers and sisters of all ages carried thoughts and images of their beloved friends and family who spoke our Hiaki language. Take a minute to look at the word-for-word glossed translation below, as it also serves as the title of this article.

Bwiarampo / Itom /Aeta / Nooki / Taewai	Si'ime / itepo / Hiakim / te / nau / yahine
Nations / Our / Mother / Language / Day	All / us / Yaquis / we / together / will arrive

Starting now, we challenge ourselves and our beloved Hiaki community to start learning and utilizing Itom Hiak Nooki in our daily lives. If we make the commitment to learn two to three words every week, we will know 100 more Hiaki words than we have or use now. To start a language shift is to find practical ways to use our Hiaki language in everyday settings. The purpose of our reflective walk was, and is, to spark a language shift within our Hiaki communities, signaling that we will arrive together to meet this challenge. We must do this together because dialogues in any language keep the conversation going. Whether we are novices, experts or anything in between, we need to have the urgency of time not promised to us to keep our elders' truths alive. Today. Any day. Twenty minutes a day. Whatever is possible during our busy days, let's make this commitment and hold ourselves accountable to the gifts that our ancestors left behind for us.

Ian haivu hora. The time is now.

Nattemai Question	Yopna Response	Glossed Phrase	Glossed Phrase
Empo Hiak nokta **mammatte?**	Heewi, Inepo ili aa **mammatte.**	Empo / Hiak / nokta / **mammatte**? You / Hiaki / speech / understand?	Heewi, / Inepo / ili / aa / **mammatte.** Yes, / I / little / can / understand.
Empo Hiak **nooka?**	Heewi, Inepo ili aa **nooka.**	Empo / Hiak / nooka? You / Hiaki / speak?	Heewi, / Inepo / ili / aa / **nooka.** Yes, / I / little / can / speak.

KAPIROTAARAM

Some elders say that the certain ingredients represent elements of Christ's passion. The cinnamon is the cross, the cloves are the nails, the white cheese is the Shroud of Tourin, the syrup is the blood of Christ and the bread is his body.

Ingredients:
1 French bread loaf
2 cinnamon sticks
3 cloves
2 small boxes of raisins
2 piloncillo
4 ounces of cheese - your choice
2 quarts of water
2 bananas
4 ounces of nuts - your choice

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Bring cloves and water to boil. Remove cloves, add cinnamon sticks and piloncillo. Reduce for 5-10 minutes at high heat to desired consistency. Tear French bread into smaller pieces, place onto a cake pan. Slice bananas and mix with bread, nuts and raisins. Pour syrup over mixture, grate cheese and place in oven for 15-20 minutes to desired texture.

*Serves 4; there are many variations for this recipe, this is merely one version.