

Sustainable Nations'

Tucson Indigenous Adobe Initiative

Culturally Directed Design



Dr. PennElys Droz pennelys@sustainablenations.org

Indigenous Communities

- ❁ **Tied to Land, Each Other, Value Systems, and often spiritual practice and cosmology**
- ❁ **Cultures of Responsibility**
- ❁ **Endemic poverty, with much being done to address it**
- ❁ **Profound resilience**

“Land-based knowledge, inextricable from community relationship building, creates Indigenous resilience”

-Dr. Patricia McGuire



Culturally determined future-making

People know what they
need

Tucson Indigenous Adobe
Initiative:

Well-built relationships/
Context of trust

Asking Questions/Offering
Examples from Experience,
with Humility



🌸 CONNECTING

with peoples' land, interests, experiences



Intergenerational Outreach

❁ TIAI Indigenous Knowledge Exchange and Community Feast

Small roundtables

Dialogue



Feast and Party!

And filmmaking



Hands-on and In-class Training and support for community leaders



Doing something Real!



Follow up and Development

- ❁ **Business/project development with localized, diverse, enriched economy in mind.**
- ❁ **Large scale tribal interest engaged**
- ❁ **Continued relationships and organizing on grassroots scale.**
- ❁ **Engage with external partners (Universities, private funders, local SBDC, etc..).**
- ❁ **Always circling back to the center.**

