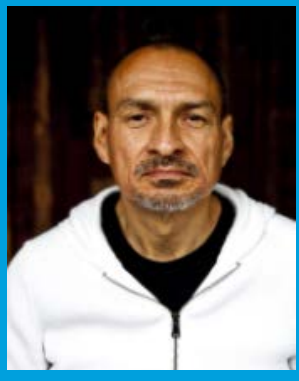


DAY ONE SPEAKER BIOS

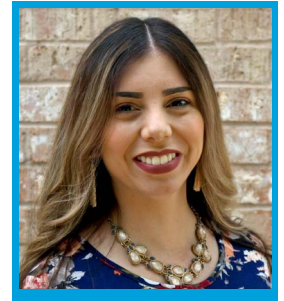


Ricardo J. Salvador is Director and Senior Scientist of the Food & Environment Program at the Union of Concerned Scientists, in Washington DC. He leads a team of scientists, economists, policy analysts and organizers to make the case that modern, sustainable practices can be highly productive while also protecting the environment, producing healthy food, and creating economic opportunity for all. His undergraduate degree in agriculture is from New Mexico State University, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in crop production and physiology are from Iowa State University. He is a member of the Board of Agriculture and National Resources of the National Academy of Sciences, and of the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food. He has advised a range of leading organizations in sustainable and equitable agriculture, including the Food Chain Workers Alliance, the Fair Food

Program of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, The Land Institute, FoodCorps, National Farm to School Network, Center for Good Food Purchasing, Food System 6, and the HEAL Food Alliance.



Marina Gallardo is a Community and Food Systems Lead, and she has been with the AZ Health Zone SNAP-Ed program at the UArizona Cooperative Extension for the past eight years. Her work has centered around developing a garden program that provides technical assistance, resources, and education to gardens across Maricopa County. Recently, her role shifted to food access work. Her passion for helping families live healthier lives led her to obtain a Masters degree in Obesity Prevention and Management with a public health focus. Marina enjoys spending her free time outdoors with her husband and two young sons.



Katie Christopher is a Program Coordinator with the AZ Health Zone – Cooperative Extension Nutritional Sciences in Pima County, where she educates K-12 students on the importance of eating healthy and being active. She also provides trainings to teachers on ways to incorporate wellness into their classrooms, acts as an advocate for free summer meals, and supports schools in implementing their Local Wellness Policy. Katie graduated from the University of Arizona in 2019 with a Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Sciences (Nutrition and Dietetics), and hopes to become a Registered Dietitian one day.



Alexander Meyer is the Community Programs Manager at the Arizona Food Bank Network (AzFBN), where he manages Hunger Solutions programs. To pursue this goal, he curates programs that create wraparound anti-hunger support systems for disadvantaged and undeserved populations, including children, college students, seniors, and minority populations. To bolster these programs, among others, he also manages AzFBN's AmeriCorps VISTA program, a food pantry training and grant-making program, and community outreach, all of which support AzFBN's vision of a hunger-free Arizona. When he isn't combating food insecurity, Alexander can be found training for his next backpacking adventure, pondering his most recent nonfiction read, and partaking in anything music related, such playing a traditional Irish folk instrument, searching for innovative artists, or practicing his dance moves at home.





Andrea Golfen is a Community Nutrition Program Specialist at the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), Health and Nutrition Services. She spent a decade in health care writing before completing a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition (Dietetics) at Arizona State University. She began her nutrition career at Maricopa County WIC as a Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered (NDTR), working with families to improve prenatal and early childhood nutrition. In her current role, she is part of a team administering the Summer Food Service Program and the Child and Adult Care Food Program. She is passionate about her public health role in supporting child nutrition, as well as providing excellent customer service to child nutrition program operators.



Jenn Parlin is the lead for Pima County Cooperative Extension's The Garden Kitchen program. The Garden Kitchen is a seed-to-table whole health program, located in the city of South Tucson. Jenn has been with Extension for over 10 years and has a Master of Public Health degree. During the pandemic, she had the opportunity to partner with state agencies and facilitate supplies distribution to Pima County early childhood centers.



Hope Wilson, RDN, is an Area Associate Agent for Family, Consumer and Health Sciences at University of Arizona Cooperative Extension. In this role, she oversees multiple health, safety, and nutrition programs in Yavapai County with an emphasis in nutrition and food safety education from seed to table and early childhood health and education. Hope is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, holds a Master's of Public Health, and has over 15 years of experience working in public health at the national, state, and local levels.



Noelle Harden has worked on food systems change for over ten years as an educator, farmer, and food policy council leader. She works on food justice and participatory grant-making initiatives with the University of Minnesota Extension SNAP-Ed and other programs. Noelle owns White Rabbit Urban Farm in Moorhead, Minnesota, where she lives with her son Berry.





Jamie Bain is a natural weaver, connector, and collaborator working on food justice. Jamie believes that through authenticity, imagination, playfulness, and deep connectivity we can find the solution to life's wicked problems together. Jamie has an undergraduate degree in nutrition, a Master of Public Health, and is a lifelong learner in the areas of joy and love.

Stephanie Heim is committed to Extension's mission to leverage community wisdom with University resources to create a healthier, more just food system. Stephanie finds it powerful to normalize discomfort, remain vulnerable, assume positive intent, and manage her ego in her work. Stephanie values relationships as transformational and works in collaboration with others to ensure more systems work for more people.



Chef Nephi Craig, BHT, ACRPS, has 23 years culinary experience and provides training, workshops and lecture sessions on Native American cuisine for health to schools, restaurants, universities, treatment centers, behavioral health agencies, and tribal entities from across America and abroad. Nephi Craig is an enrolled member of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and is half Navajo. Chef Craig is also the founder of the Native American Culinary Association or NACA, an organization/network that is dedicated to the research, refinement, and development of Native American Cuisine. During his recent nine-year tenure as Executive Chef of the Sunrise Park Resort Hotel, Craig and his White Mountain Apache culinary team achieved many national and international benchmarks in establishing a culture of Indigenous Foods across North America. Executive Chef Nephi Craig is currently the Nutritional Recovery Program Coordinator and Executive Chef at the Rainbow Treatment Center and Café Gozhóó on the White Mountain Apache Tribe in Arizona.

Shaandiin Parrish, Miss Navajo Nation 2019-2021, serves as the ambassador for the Navajo Nation and represents the Navajo people's values, culture, traditions, and history in the modern world. Ms. Parrish is from the community of Kayenta, Arizona, located on the Navajo reservation. In 2018, she graduated from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a minor in Educational Studies. Prior to her role as Miss Navajo Nation, she was appointed as Arizona State Treasurer Kimberly Yee's Public Information Officer. Ms. Parrish also has prior governmental experience working for the Arizona State Senate, the Town of Gilbert, Arizona, and the Navajo Nation legislative branch.





Mary Frances is Red Running Into the Water clan, born to the Edge Water clan. Her maternal grandfathers are of the Reed People Clan and her paternal grandfathers are of the Manygoats clan. Her matriarchal roots start from Inscription House, Arizona but raised in Coppermine, Arizona. Mary brings 20 years of work and community advocacy. She leads our K'é Kinship Care Package Program. She enjoys spending time with her family.



Ethel Branch is the Founder and Interim Executive Director of Yee Ha'ólní Doo. In order to do COVID-19 relief work, she is on a leave of absence as a member of the law firm of Kanji & Katzen, PLLC. She is an enrolled Navajo tribal member and previously served as the 11th Attorney General of the Navajo Nation. She is a graduate of Harvard Law School, Harvard Kennedy School, and Harvard College.



Cassandra Begay engages in transformational organizing with Native communities in Utah and across the country to protect ancestral lands and elevate Native voices and issues. She is the Founder of Defend the Sacred Consulting, which seeks to close the gap of social inequality by building relationships to each other and our environment. Cassandra is also Co-Founder and former Tribal Liaison for the Native Advocacy organization, PANDOS, a Native led nonprofit that advocates for basic human rights and the protection of our shared.



Theresa Hatathlie-Delmar is Deer Springs clan, born for Salt clan. Her maternal grandfathers are Edgewater clan, and her paternal grandfathers are Rock Gap clan. She is from Coalmine Mesa, Arizona, and has worked for 20+ years in positive youth development strategies for communities within western Navajo. For the past nine years, she has served on the Diné College Board of Regents, she currently serves as the vice president, and has a Bachelor of Science of Business Administration from Northern Arizona University. She leads our Navajo Seamstresses United COVID-19 Dooda sub-initiative and responds to the needs of hospitals, first responders, police departments, and care facilities to meet PPE shortages.





Shandiin Herrera is a Lead for America Hometown Fellow working in her home community of Monument Valley on the Navajo Nation. She received her Bachelor's degree in Public Policy from Duke University. She is dedicated to advocating for policies that directly impact Indigenous communities. As a staff member, she leads the Kinship Care Package and PPE Distributions for the Navajo Nation communities in Utah. Shandiin leads the initiative for the winter clothing drive and kids coloring contest through the youth program. Her work has been instrumental in advocating for her community of Monument Valley, UT.



Vanessa Tullie is Kinyaa'áanii (Towering House) born for Ta'neezahnii (Tangle). Her maternal grandfather is Tótsohnii (Big Water) and paternal grandfather is Tó'aheedlínii (Water Flows Together). These are the clans that identify her as a Navajo woman. Vanessa is the owner of Ahehee' Shidine'e Homecare LLC. In addition to being a board member of Yee Ha'ólnii Doo, she coordinates distribution sites and food deliveries across the Navajo communities in New Mexico. Her office staff manages the toll-free hotline and sew face masks whenever time allows.

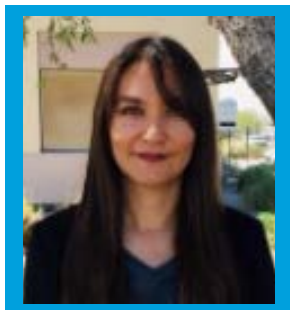


Wendy Atcitty is a Navajo Nation tribal member, born for the Bitter Water clan and Salt Clan. From 1996 to 2007, she conducted various research projects in Earth and Environmental Science and Chemistry. Since 2007, she has been an educator in schools on and nearby Native American reservations teaching cultural-based science curriculum. Most recently, she completed a Master of Business Administration in Sustainable Business to establish an entrepreneurship journey in education, environmental, and indigenous pathways.



Suzanne Cooper has been active in the field of public health for over 23 years at Yuma County Public Health Services District, spending those years learning about and from local residents – their needs, strengths and aspirations. Currently a Program Coordinator for Yuma County's SNAP-Ed Local Implementing Agency, she designs, plans, and leads the program with a skillful and highly-engaged team. Professionally, she receives a great sense of fulfillment in building and nurturing successful community partnerships, creating lines of communication, and coordinating collective approaches to address community needs. Personally, she enjoys her quiet life with her husband and best friend of 34 years, traveling, reading, music, gardening, and spending time with family and friends. Her favorite destination to relax and de-stress is Sedona, Arizona!





Francis Herrera is a Yuma Native with 17 years of experience working with the Spanish speaking population, 11 of those in public health doing outreach and community engagement. She is currently on the Yuma County Public Health Services District's AZ Health Zone Team. She applies PSE approaches and education in both English and Spanish to improve the quality of life for people at low-income housing sites, early childhood centers, schools, and other community locations. She loves to learn and interact with older adults and cherishes their experience. She also loves cats and dogs, walking and running with her family's puppy Beylita, writing letters, traveling, and living in the sunniest place on earth!

Chris Bachelier earned her Bachelor of Science from Washington State University in Physical Education/Athletic Training and her Master of Science from University of Arizona in Exercise Science/Athletic Training. She worked at the college level traveling with football, women's volleyball, basketball and soccer, and in various sports medicine clinics. A move to Arizona brought new opportunities with University of Arizona Cooperative Extension and the SNAP-Ed program. Chris' passions include demonstrating how to use physical activity as a teaching modality, and encouraging people of all levels to be more active.



Kevin Bawden is currently the Community Outreach Manager for the AZ Health Zone program in Pinal County. He has worked with AZ Health Zone in various counties for over five years. He is a returned Peace Corps volunteer who served two years in Albania and speaks the language fluently. Kevin holds an undergraduate degree in Public Health and graduated with a Master's in Social Work in April 2021. He finds human behavior and social environments fascinating and believes the way that we as a society interact with our built environments is crucial to our health and happiness.
