The Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) curriculum was developed between 1990 and 1994 and has stood the test of time as an effective healing and planning model for tribal communities addressing impacts of historical and inter-generational trauma. Impacts include substance abuse, suicide, meth and other drug use, violence, poverty and more. This training will teach people how to facilitate a GONA for your tribe or agency.

Participants will go through the four foundational phases of the GONA - belonging, mastery, interdependence and generosity. A handout packet will be distributed to each participant that can be duplicated for GONA’s that will be implemented in your community.

Who Should Attend

Youth and adults working in the health, social service, youth, recreation, justice, elder and other programs serving community members who want to learn how to facilitate healing through the GONA, gathering of Native Americans.
Training Topics

◊ GONA History and Purpose
◊ Group Norms
◊ Creating a Sense of Team
◊ Importance of Creation Stories
◊ Focusing on Strengths and Traditional Values
◊ Historical and Inter-generational Trauma
◊ Historical Wisdom
◊ Healing and Wellness
◊ Healthy Community Resources, Vision and Needs
◊ Action Planning
◊ How to Organize and Implement a GONA
◊ Facilitation Skill Development

Meet the Trainers

Theda New Breast, M.P.H.  
Montana Blackfeet

Theda is a founding board member and master trainer/facilitator for the Native Wellness Institute (NWI). She is one of the pioneers in the Native training field and an original committee member for the Men’s and Women’s Wellness gatherings. Theda has been a leading authority on Indigenous Cultural Resilience Internationally and has worked with over 500 Tribes in 34 years on Proactive Healing from Historical Trauma, Post Traumatic Growth, Mental Health Healing, and Sobriety/Recovery/Adult Child of Alcoholic (ACOA). She is the co-founder and co-writer of the GONA (Gathering of Native Americans) curriculum, one of the Ten Effective Practices and Models in Communities of Color. Theda has facilitated over 600 GONA’s. She lives on the Blackfeet Reservation in Northern Montana and is a Khan-tso-miitah (Crazy Dog) Society member, herbalist, Sun dancer, Pipe Carrier, and lives as Niitsitapi, like all her Ancestors for thousands of years. In 2013, The Red Nations Film Festival Honored Theda with a Humanitarian Award for her lifetime of healing work with tribes and with a Red Nations statuette for her documentary short called, “Why The Women in My Family Don’t Drink Whiskey.” The Blackfeet Tribal Council has recognized her Leadership skills and appointed her unanimously to The Board of Trustees for Blackfeet Community College for years 2014-2017.

Marcus Red Thunder  
Cree

Marcus was raised on northern Cheyenne reservation in Montana and is a trainer and consultant with the Native Wellness Institute. He has over 20 years of experience in Native wellness with special emphasis on men’s, women’s, and youth leadership, experiential education and training with culture coordinators in therapeutic group home settings, cultural competency training, and healthy relationships training. Marcus is active in cultural, ceremonial and social activities and is a powwow announcer. He is the father of three sons and lives in Billings Montana.
The South Point Hotel Casino is located in the heart of the premiere southwest Las Vegas valley, just minutes away from the famous Las Vegas Strip. Some of the many amenities include a 16-screen Century Theatre movie complex, 64-lane bowling center and a handful of restaurants that cater to all appetites and tastes. This distinctive hotel features spacious rooms and suites with 42-inch LED televisions, Point Plush mattresses and Wireless Fidelity throughout. A unique feature to this property is its Equestrian Center, which is the finest horse facility in the country. South Point also has a fabulous 400-seat showroom that features headliner entertainment and dancing to live bands on weekends.

The discounted room rate is $80.00 per night plus 13% tax. Mention the Native Wellness Institute to receive the discounted rate.

The cutoff date to make room reservations is September 30, 2018. After this date room reservations will be accepted based on availability, and the discounted rate can not be guaranteed.

Registrants who are unable to attend may send a replacement participant at no additional charge. Please provide us with the name of the replacement before the training. If a participant is unable to attend and no cancellation is made prior to the training or replacement is made, the FULL amount of registration will be charged as a no-show fee.
Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) Training of Facilitators - October 23 - 25, 2018 - Las Vegas, Nevada

First Name:       Last Name:       
Address:       City:       State:       Zip:       
Job Title:       Employer:       
Phone:    Fax:    Email:       
Tribal Affiliation:

Registration Fee:  $495
Includes training sessions, wellness activities, and training materials.

Purchase orders accepted. Please visit our website to register and pay online.

Please register me for the Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) Training of Facilitators:

☐ Enclosed is a check, money order or purchase order for $495.
☐ Please bill me (fill out billing information below)

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☐ I will pay $495 by Visa or Mastercard (circle one)

If paying by credit card, please fill out the following information:

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3 Easy Ways to Register:
• By fax
• By mail
• Online at www.NativeWellness.com

If registering by fax, please include copy of check or purchase order.

For More Information:
Shannon Kissinger
Project Director
Call or Text: 503-457-6520
info@nativewellness.com

Send Registration & Payment to:
Native Wellness Institute
50 E. Overlook Pl
Union, WA 98592
Fax: 360-877-4051

Cancellation / No-show Policy:
Registrants who are unable to attend may send a replacement participant at no additional charge. Please provide us with the name of the replacement before the training. If a participant is unable to attend and no cancellation is made prior to the training or replacement is made, the FULL amount of registration will be charged as a no-show fee.

Photo and Video
By registering I grant to the Native Wellness Institute, its representatives and employees the right to take photographs and/or video of me and my property in connection with the above-identified subject. I authorize the Native Wellness Institute, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use and publish the same in print and/or electronically. I agree that the Native Wellness Institute may use such image(s) of me with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and web content.