

**2026 Denver March Powwow Workshop**  
Denver Coliseum ~ March 19 ~ 9:30am-3pm  
**SUSTAINING OUR STRENGTH AND HEALING OUR  
COMMUNITIES THROUGH INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE**

Registration Fees Sponsored by:  
Colorado Health Foundation  
Patterson Real Bird & Rasmussen LLC

★★ **Limit: 25 participants** ★★



## Introducing our presenters:



### **Session 1 - Pathways to Resiliency**

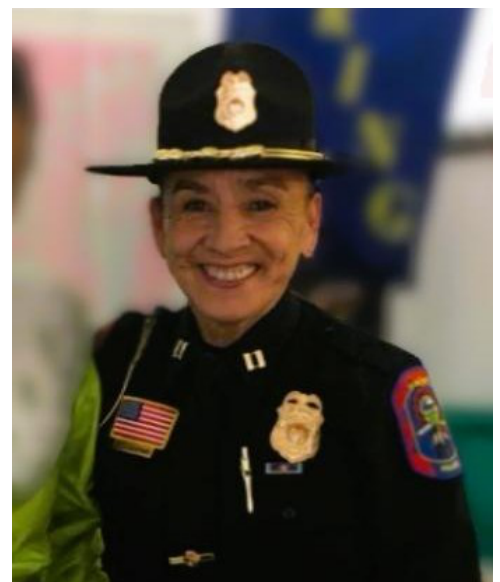
We all want to *Adish-Nawa-Nu* (Live Well) but the Mental, Emotional, Physical, and Spiritual pain and loss caused from *Ashoowas-Wa-Niku* (Wounded Spirit aka trauma) can unconsciously haunt us. Resiliency can help us self-heal, learn and grow from unresolved trauma by returning to the Sacred self.

**Verdell Thunderhorse**, enrolled member of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation has a BA degree in Organizational Leadership from University of Mary, Bismarck ND and a MA degree in Communication Leadership from Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA. He is the Founder of "*Pathways to Health and Wellness: A Grassroots Education Program Focused on Resiliency*".

### **Session 2 - From Resiliency to Empowerment**

Follow Grace as she shares her life as a Catholic, Fancy Shawl Dancer, and one of the most highly trained and experienced law enforcement officers in Indian Country for three decades. In all aspects of her life, the Lakota traditions have been her foundation. She will highlight women in her life who have been her inspiration to succeed. She has lived in two worlds . . . enjoying cultural spirituality and using those tenets to protect and mediate life's complexities.

**Grace Her Many Horses** is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Pine Ridge, SD. She is a dedicated but retired Law Enforcement professional with nearly 28 years of law enforcement experience, specializing in child forensic interviewing and Criminal Investigations. In her career she has had the honor of the being a Chief of Police and a Criminal Investigator for the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Patrol for the Oglala Sioux Department of Public Safety and a Supervisory Criminal Investigator for the Chippewa Cree Tribe, Rocky Boy, Montana.





### Session 3 - Medicine Wheel Model

*Heove ve 'keso (Yellowbird), Chief Phillip Whiteman Jr.*, is a traditional Northern Cheyenne chief, drum keeper and keeper of the horse medicine and songs. He is a champion in the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association (PRCA), and a two times Indian National Finals Rodeo (INFR) World champion in the saddle bronc. He is also an award-winning recording artist and story-teller. His flute playing, traditional songs and stories, inspired the CD Spirit Seeker, which won its category at the Indian Summer Music Awards; and was nominated in two categories for the Native American Music Awards.

It took all his determination and teachings to make it in both worlds. His most important work has been with his community, empowering our children, including through our horse medicine, and by organizing runs that commemorate our Ancestors, including the Fort Robinson Spiritual Run (30 years) and the Little Bighorn Memorial Run. Through these activities he shifts Indigenous children's thinking back to one of resilience and breaking out from oppression. Chief Phillip has been awarded in the traditional pow wow arena, as an old style grass dancer.

He has developed the Medicine Wheel Model based on his lifetime of experience, understanding how Western linear thinking has been impacting Indigenous lives, and based on his ancestral teachings. The teachings he has developed are unique they are universal, genderless, colorless and reconnect us to life. It is a right-brain, holistic teaching tool; and a simple, common sense approach to affect transformation. It can help us reconnect and shift our thinking to tap into our unlimited potential. His teaching model really changes lives, he has been doing this work for decades with Indigenous Peoples across North America and beyond. He has presented at the United Nations (UN) headquarters in New York to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) and other internationally renowned places about this work. Chief Phillip has found that Indigenous teachings carry the counter-remedy to the intergenerational effects of genocide. He speaks about this more in the call to end genocide that he published in one of the world's largest newspapers, the Guardian: <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/jun/17/only-love-can-stop-war-a-call-to-the-world-from-a-northern-cheyenne-chief>. He made this call leading up to the 150th anniversary of the Battle of the Little Bighorn where his ancestors took a stand for the Cheyenne way of life this June 25, when he will host an international peace gathering on his land.

*Together—students, professionals, elders—let us sustain our strength through our own Indigenous Knowledge and create a future for all of us to live and to thrive.*

**Registration Form: Download from [www.denvermarchpowwow.com](http://www.denvermarchpowwow.com)  
Complete and email to [denvermarchpowwow@gmail.com](mailto:denvermarchpowwow@gmail.com)**