

Melody Lewis
(Mojave/Tewa/Hopi):

Melody is driven by a strong desire to help create a vision to find educational, career or entrepreneurial opportunities for students, individuals seeking personal growth, communities, and employers. She was born and raised in Mohave Valley, AZ. Upon completion from University of Arizona, Melody entered into employment as a Human Service Worker. She remained in Human Services for three years and transitioned into Workforce Development. For the past ten years she has remained in the industry implementing an array of workforce and education initiatives as a consultant. Current initiatives fall within the areas of Maricopa County Community College District, Local School Districts, Employers, and Nonprofits across Arizona, California and Nevada. She regularly volunteers for Indigenous Community Based Nonprofits and often participates to showcase education and employment trends, such as workplace skills development, supervisor competency builders, and employer-driven career pathway systems. Melody currently serves as a board member and advisory council.

Founder of Indigenous Community Collaborative and Co-Founded CahokiaPhx (2021-2023). Melody is a member of the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe. Melody is a community advocate and Indigenous entrepreneur who is dedicated to revitalizing Indigenous perspective and amplifying Indigenous voices. Through her organization, Indigenous Community Collaborative (ICC), Melody consults with various organizations to promote workforce development, economic growth, cultural capacity building, and education. The motivation and driving force behind her business is to provide Indigenous-Inclusive programs and services to Tribal communities and Organizations that impact Indigenous Communities. Her work targets Tribal economies/entities, workforce systems, educational institutions, and nonprofits to create forward-thinking solutions to solve problems that empower the Indigenous Voice. Melody Co-Founded CahokiaPhx, the first women-owned collaborative space in downtown Phoenix that supports emerging entrepreneurs and creatives for Indigenous communities. CahokiaPhx utilizes place keeping and solidarity economy model concepts to be a platform to launch ideas that amplifies Indigenous voices.