

# ELECTION

## Candidates for Tribal Chairperson

Dagot'ee! My name is Genevieve Malinda Datsi. I am seeking the upcoming term of the Chairperson of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (YAN). My parents are the late Nati and Genevieve Datsi Marquez. My grandparents are the late Robert Datsi and Laura Whitehead, the late Irene Sarah Jackson, and the late Jim Whitehead of San Carlos. My clan is Willows Growing out of Rocks. I have been involved in the community for the past seven years and I am married with six children.



Genevieve Malinda Datsi

I want to start by thanking my Tribal citizens for allowing me the opportunity to serve on the Council since 2017, when I was elected to Tribal Council. It has been an honor to work with, to learn from, and to represent my citizens. I would like to continue to meet you all in person if reelected, but until then here is my background.

In 1988, after gaining a diverse range of experience in law through my employment with O'Connor, Cavanagh, et al., Quarles & Brady Streich Lang, Jennings Strouss & Salmon, Gust Rosenfeld and The Chaudhuri Law Firm as an Executive Legal Secretary/Paralegal/Office Manager, I was challenged to further my education.

In 2002, I earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in Tribal Court Advocacy at Phoenix College. I also studied Political Science at ASU, where Native American professors and attorneys instilled in me the importance of acquiring a thorough understanding of Federal Indian Law, Tribal Law, constitutional law, and alternative dispute resolutions.

As a Tribal Court Advocate, I had the opportunity to practice law

and editing policies, ordinances, and resolutions so that Council have a better understanding in how decisions are made that can help determine which policies might be best for the YAN.

A few highlights of my advocacy resulted in the passage of the 2019 Budget (resulting in a surplus of \$360,000), Budget Policy (no budget policy ever existed prior to 2018), Donation Policy (for YAN citizens only), Eliminate Personal Loans Policy (strict adherence to the Revenue Allocation Plan), Resolution Designating for 2019 the \$1,000 Holiday Bonus (Projected Non-Gaming Revenues fund the holiday bonus), passed a Resolution Segregating Quarterly Santa Ysabel Revenue Sharing Trust Fund (RSTF) (\$275,000 balance), prior to November 2018 these funds supplemented the General Fund.

Through the years that I have been employed, I have learned the importance of strengthening tribal self-determination for the betterment of the YAN as a whole. I appreciate the value of reciprocity and compromise in politics where you have to keep your values even when the adversary paints you as a difficult and unwilling participant; and sometimes that means in order to do the most good for the people you must partner with other organizations. My belief is that those with the ability to help others must do so for the good of the YAN and not for personal gain.

I want to be your voice to engage, inform, and inspire constructive dialogue but most importantly to listen to the people. I will continue to serve all YAN citizens, and advocate on your behalf with the Council to create positive change for all con-

cerned. My passion for the YAN culture and advocacy for improving self-determination, protection of our Tribal sovereignty, cultural revitalization and self-sufficiency will be strengthened.

I want to be part of the Executive Branch that will work together with the Legislative and Judicial Branch that can find common ground and work together. I want to be part of the leadership that can resolve, not only today's problems, but also can plan for the future.

If elected as your next Chairperson, I will implement the following during my first year to include:

**Culture:** Enhance cultural literacy programs by advocating for YAN citizens to become teachers of our language; implement policies that protect our language, ceremonies and customs; enhance funding for cultural activities. Our cultural language defines kinship relationships that are unique and are the sole means by which indigenous peoples can speak to their people. And they express the beliefs on which cultures are anchored. In other words, a native language does not just reflect a culture; in a functional sense it is the culture! That is why preventing the loss of our sacred language(s) is so important. When a language dies a piece of humanity/culture dies with it.

**Safety:** Enhance policing of our communities to deter criminal activity, prevent violence & illicit drugs; enhance Victim Rights Ordinance to ensure victims have access to services; advocate for funding for the creation of a safe home for victims of domestic violence. YAPD will have to conduct regular wage comparison studies in an effort to remain competitive to recruit/

retain more YAPD officers.

**Financials:** Team up with Social Services and Human Resources to create opportunities for employment, training and education to help our citizens out of poverty; advocate for the creation of a policy to designate a revenue stream to reduce the Nation's debt; participate in community meetings; deliver Annual Report to YAN citizens because Council should be pleased to share activities, accomplishments, and highlights that occur each fiscal year because we are fortunate to have great partnerships with tribal health stakeholders, Housing Program, Agriculture Program, SEO Business Enterprises, and YAN stakeholders.

**Economic Development:** Collaborate with successful economically viable Tribal Nations who have offered to share vital economic generating strategies; be proactive and apply for economic development grants to build our economy; support our Tribal citizens businesses (hair salon, nail salon, catering, auto repair shop, landscape service, legal services, janitorial, tire repair shop, professional consultants, musicians, the list is endless!)

**Education:** Advocate for quality education to include Science, Technology, Engineering & Math; advocate for a funding source for parents and children who desire alternative education; enhance summer youth programs to include financial literacy, workplace skills and entrepreneurship; advocate higher education for all citizens for a sustainable Tribal citizen workforce.

**Housing:** Advocate additional funding for the homeless; advocate for a fair selection process for YAN citizens who are

homeless; advocate for a fair selection process for rehabilitation of homes; advocate for a housing security force to work in conjunction with the YAPD; advocate for the enactment of the Land Use Code to allow Tribal citizens access to land to build their own homes.

**Infrastructure:** Advocate for the creation of a Capital Improvement Fund and designate a revenue stream for maintenance of water and sewer infrastructure; advocate for the development of the Clarkdale community's water and wastewater infrastructure by collaborating with Congressional representatives (Why pay for sewer & wastewater service fees for the next 100 years). (Ref, IGA)

**Water Rights:** Ensure that the Executive Branch adheres to Resolution #100-133, ". . . the Water Rights Negotiation and Oversight Team shall consist of (9) members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation Tribal Council . . . which Team is tasked with managing, negotiating and reaching a settlement of the Nation's Water Rights and Claims . . ." Water is Life!

The above are illustrative examples of the Action Plan that will contain an outline of goals, objectives, measurements, action steps and responsibilities for each step during implementation.

We can and will do this together! There is more work to be done that can only be accomplished by working together for the good of the people! To do this, I humbly ask for your support in voting for me as your next Chairperson of the Yavapai-Apache Nation. Thank you. Please follow me on Facebook at Genevieve Datsi for YAN Chair!

Hello, my name is Jon Huey. I am a candidate in the 2019 Yavapai-Apache Election for Chairman of the Yavapai-Nation. I am currently working with the Yavapai-Apache Police Department as the Chief of Police. I am married and have 5 awesome children with the oldest in college and the youngest in daycare. I am 40 years old and have resided in Camp Verde primarily my whole life besides a brief stint of college in Scottsdale and my previous job in Dewey Arizona. I graduated from high school in 1997 from Camp Verde. My biological mother was Kiki Kaska from the Rimrock Reservation. I was adopted before I was a year old by my parents Harold and Donna Huey. I have never lived on the YAN Reservation but through my work in law enforcement I have come to know



Jon Huey

the community very well.

As a candidate for Chairman of the Yavapai-Apache Nation I would like to bring forth ideas that involve building a safer community in some of the high crime areas. I would like to look into stricter rules and laws within the Nation that may proactively reduce drugs and domestic vio-

lence as well as stronger policies for the YAN Tribal Housing Department that will allow them to better serve the communities. I also have ideas on improving the "Exclusion Ordinance" for non-tribal members by working with the tribal council and the attorney general's office and bring forth the problems that I have experienced through working in law enforcement for our tribe.

There is a current issue of hiring and retention of police officers for the communities. I would like to see the problem addressed more seriously. I am aware of the problems the tribe faces with dealing with this issue specifically but, the problem needs to be addressed and not pushed to the side. Lack of officers in the community and high turnover rates only makes our communities

struggle to be safe for our children more and more each year.

Another strong focus point within the Nation is providing a stable and consistent government by meeting with every department of the tribe and supporting them in their goals and objects as much as possible.

Culture within our Nation should be supported by incorporating culture preservation into our day to day jobs. Because we are a sovereign tribe that can regulate or our own rules and policies to a point, we have the right to make our employees learn the Yavapai or Apache Culture including traditions and language. I believe weekly classes should be made available for either Yavapai or Apache languages and all employees should be required to attend. Our

culture is slowly being loss every day and our teachers are reducing every year so an aggressive stance should be held to save some of the culture that our tribe ancestrally used to make us who we are today.

These are only some examples that I have provided for goals that I would like to see challenged and improved. There are many facets of issues and concerns that Native Communities have to be involved in such as water rights, tribal gaming, congressional concerns, grants, culture preservation, economic development, higher education, land acquisition and the list goes on and on.

Since I started working with the Yavapai-Apache Police Department in 2002 and also being a tribal council member for two consecutive terms, I

have gained a lot of experience and knowledge on how the Yavapai-Apache Nation operates. I have had successes and failures during my service to the Yavapai-Apache Nation which has only strengthened my beliefs, my confidence and my thoughts on how to be an ethical leader.

These are all merely just words and ideas but I challenge each and every one of you eligible voters to give me a chance. Let me know show you what I can do and not just put it in words. I don't take on challenges to lose, I'm competitive by nature and when I have goals presented, I like to see them through.

I wish you all the best in this big decision on deciding who you would like to see as your Chairman and representative for our people.

## Candidates for Vice Chairperson

Dagoteh! My name is Tanya M. Lewis. I am a candidate for Vice Chairperson. I am the daughter of Lyman Lewis and the late Eathel Lewis of Clarkdale and the proud mother of Lance Lewis-Moore and Taylor Lewis-Moore.

I am seeking the position of Vice Chairperson because I feel our Nation is at a crit-

ical time and in need of leadership that is inclusive of our people and our tribal employees for the long-term future for all of our people. These decisions include issues such as land, resources, water, housing and a diversified and sustainable economy to ensure our people and Nation thrive for generations to come.

As a tribal member, it is my perspective our Tribal Government/Council plan and develop a future that addresses the financial, community, cultural and resource needs of our people.

I feel we need to work in collaboration toward the same goals in all our decision-making process to ensure our Tribal Government is a

government that reflects the vision of our people.

Communication is an important function and source to keep our people informed of the progress being made. Through collaboration and engagement of our people and employees it is beneficial to include thoughts and opinions of those who are affected and

execute Tribal Council decisions. Key pillars of priority for me as a candidate regarding communication:

- Executive Office quarterly and annual reports.
- Annual financial report.
- Gahnahvah/Ya Ti' articles.
- Implement working groups as an effort to include the people and employees

perspectives on key issues.

Leadership is an important component of creating a strong tribal government. As a candidate, I believe the Vice Chairperson provide leadership with the Tribal Council and employees. We need to work closely and col-