

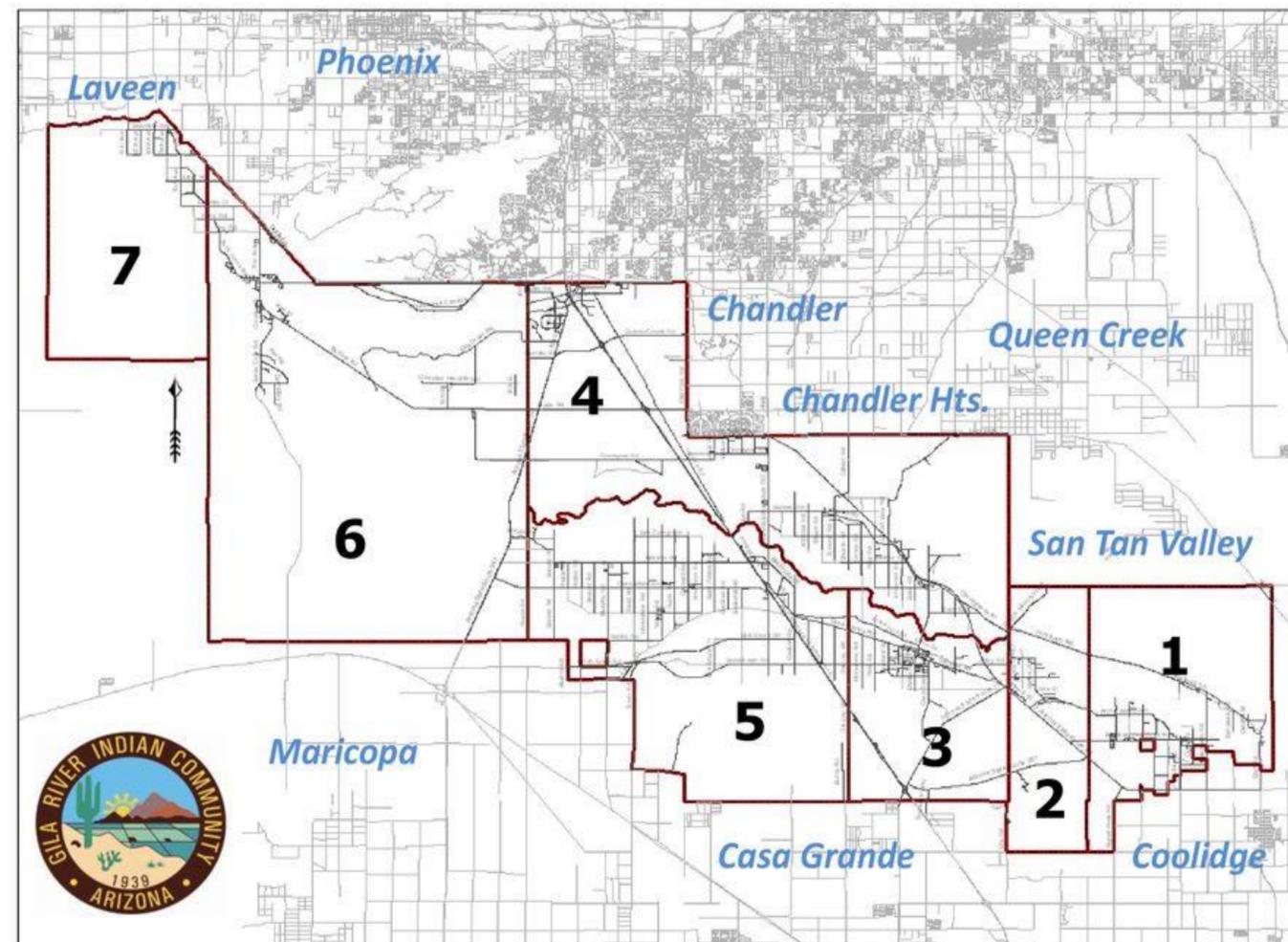


SANE Forensic Services for Victims of Sexual / Domestic / Intimate Partner Violence

SANE Forensic Nursing Department
(520) 562-5151
sane@grhc.org



About the Gila River Indian Community



The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) is located in Arizona and approximately 30 minutes south of the city of Phoenix.

Established by Congress in 1939, The Gila River Indian Community is home to both the **Akimel O’otham (Pima)** and **Pee-Posh (Maricopa)** tribes.

The Gila River Indian Community operates its own tribal government, healthcare system, utility authority, irrigation district, industrial park, telecommunications, and gaming enterprises.

Today, the Gila River Indian Community is in the midst of **extraordinary growth** in its efforts to preserve **tribal culture and sovereignty**.

600 sq miles with 7 districts; Population ~ 22,000

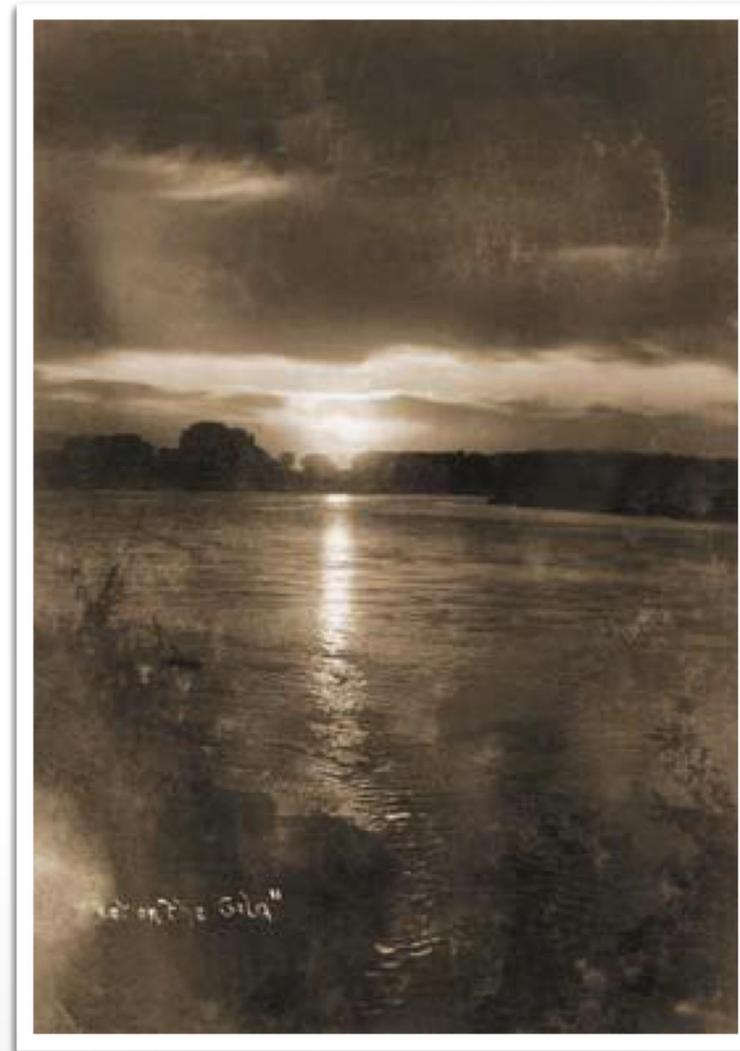
The people of the Gila River Indian Community



O'otham (Pima)

people lived in village clusters along the Gila River that flowed as far east as Florence, Arizona, and as far west as near the base of the Estrella Mountains

They were known as desert farmers with a well-defined irrigation system for growing corn, beans, and squash. Additionally, cotton and tobacco were also cultivated.



The **Maricopa (Pee-Posh) people** migrated eastward from the lower Gila and Colorado Rivers seeking protection from the Yuman and Apache tribes.

Maricopa people mostly populated the western part of the Community near the Estrella Mountains.

They are known for their red clay pottery and making jars and bowls. Eventually they created pottery with geometrical designs.

SANE Forensic Nursing Department



With a charge from the **Gila River Indian Community Tribal Council**, GRHC took initiative to develop a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program to serve the needs of the community in 2019.

Services were first provided beginning in **December, 2019**. These services included sexual assault exams to pediatric patients under 12 years old.

Through natural organic growth over the years, services now include sexual assault exams for all ages, domestic/intimate partner violence exams, strangulation exams, child/elder physical abuse exams, and trafficked persons exams.

Fostering Trust



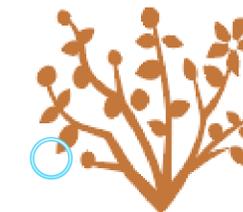
- Regular Stakeholder updates
- Annual Executive and BOD updates
- Updates to Tribal Council as needed



MDT team

- **Gila River Health Care** – Behavioral Health, Emergency Department, Clinics, **SANE**
- **Gila River Police Department** – Sex Crimes Unit, Violent Crimes Unit, DV Unit
- **Gila River Crime Victim Services** – Community Advocates
- **Gila River Office of the Prosecutor** – Community Advocates
- **Gila River DV Shelter** – Provides support up to 120 days

Our Forensic Nursing Team



- Our team is composed of:
 - **Medical Director**
 - **Full time SANE Nurses**
 - **Nurse Manager**
 - **8 ON-Call SANE RN's & FNP**
- This allows for us to have **24/7 coverage**, meaning there is always a nurse available to attend to a patient requiring SANE services. Many times there is an immediate response

Marla



Misty



Amy



Joy



Britany



Rochelle



Jennifer



Coco



Dorcias



Lori



Alyssa



Marlene





Sexual assault

Strangulation

Domestic Violence/
Physical Violence

Abuse and Neglect (Child
and Elder)

Missing persons/
Trafficked Victims exams

Follow-Up Exams

Suspect Exams / Evidentiary
Blood Draws for PD

How we are activated



Police
Department

Advocates

Emergency
Department
/ Clinics

BHS

Self
referrals

What is a SANE/Medical Forensic exam?



- A very detailed **head to toe assessment**, which can include the following.
 - Medical and assault history
 - Documentation as well as photographs of all injuries
 - Evidence Collection
 - Testing / treatment for infections & pregnancy prevention
 - Detailed discharge instructions and safety planning
 - Referrals / Traumatic Brain Injury & Behavioral Health

The **#1 role** of the SANE or Forensic Nurse is taking care of the patient. We ensure our patient is safe physically & emotionally.

We want to see every patient who makes a disclosure regardless if we can collect evidence or not!

Our patients are always in control



- Even if we receive a referral, patients (adults) can decline to see us
- Even after an exam starts, patients can decline any portion of the exam at any time
- We will stop an exam if a child is uncomfortable or does not want to proceed (we can reschedule)

Our Forensic Nurses have the time to proceed slowly and take necessary time



Follow up Exams



Typically 2-3 weeks following initial visit for children and 6 weeks for adults

Assess for new injuries that may have developed, ensure any visible injury noted during initial exam is now healed

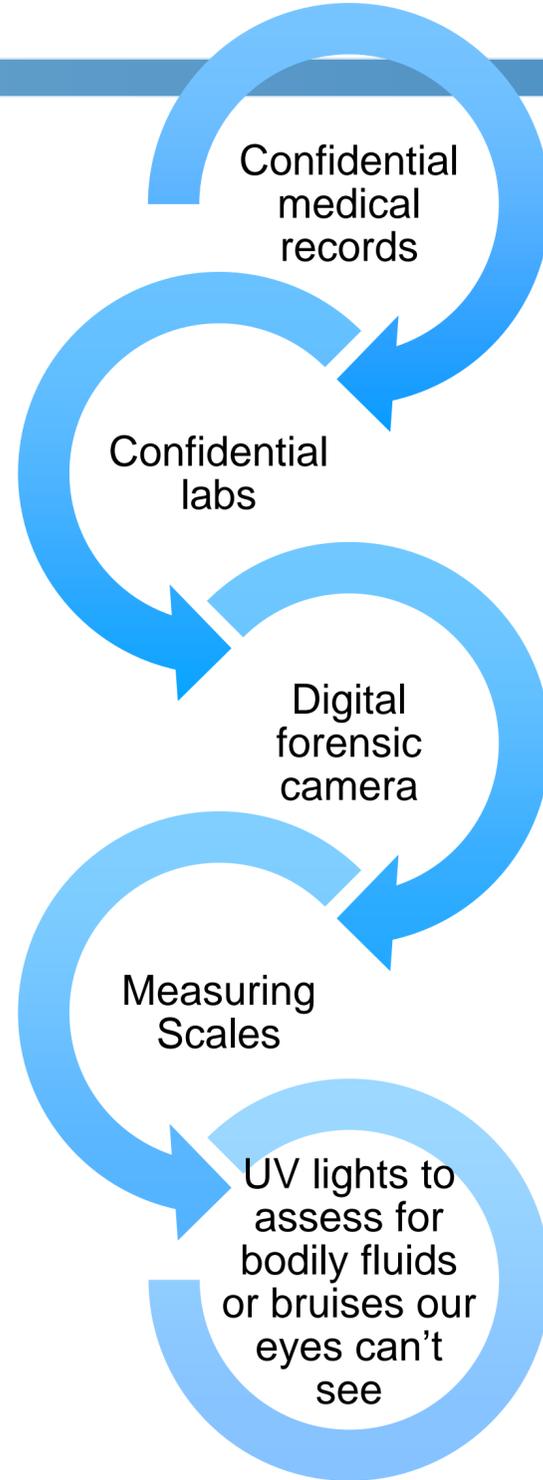
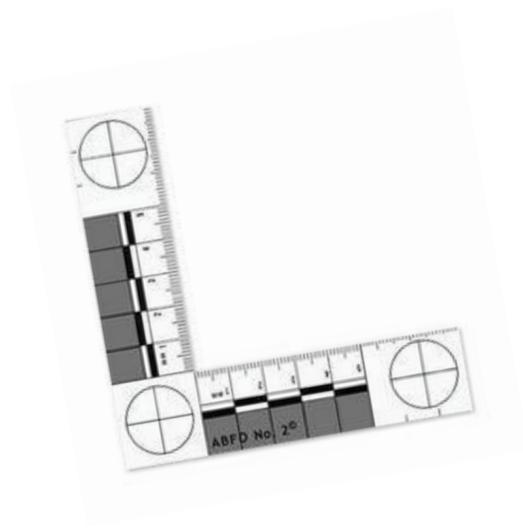
Rescreen for any medical needs

Administer follow up medications and/or immunizations

Assess safety concerns

Assess emotional healing

Exam Tools



Keys to Success



- Fostering trust
- Availability
- Education to partners and community
- Patient follow up
- Collaborative partners
- Support from leaders



To learn more, visit



Gila River Health Care

GRHC.ORG

Gila River Indian Community

mygilariver.com



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