



May 5, 2022

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Awareness Day

Since colonization, Indigenous people have faced many forms of violence. While there have been significant changes to the manner and efficiency of law enforcement investigations and policing, justice continues to elude Indian Country.

Almost every Indigenous person will experience some form of violence in their lifetime. Indigenous women and girls face the possibility of being murdered at ten times the rate of all other ethnicities. This crisis is the result of undervaluing Indigenous lives, underfunding, inaccurate reporting, misidentification, lack of media coverage, and jurisdictional dilemmas on reservations.



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The Southern Ute Indian Tribe proudly supports Colorado legislation that would recognize, prioritize, and bring justice for our Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR). The establishment of the Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives in the State of Colorado is a true demonstration of support for our communities.

Today, and every day, we remember the lives that have been lost and the families who have been impacted by violence. The Southern Ute Indian Tribe remains committed to tackling this crisis and prioritizing protection for all Indigenous people.

We pray the Creator continues to watch over the loved ones who have been lost and the families of those effected by this violence.