

# *A Mother's Day Message*

## *The Celebration of Mother's Day*

On Mother's Day May 13th, let us take a moment to reflect on that special person. Each of us are very lucky to have such women in our lives who raised us, nurtured us and intervened countless ways to make sure we stay on the right path. This day reminds us of the extraordinary people in our lives. Let's make sure we celebrate all of those special women on Mother's Day.

Also, many of us have strong and compassionate women who step in to be "Mom" and love us in that special way mothers do. We have many different women who helped raise us and provided support for us. Our biological moms, foster moms, adoptive moms, grandmothers, mother In-laws, godmothers, aunts, and it may be a woman mentor who helped us through difficult times.

I am very encouraged and honored to meet on a regular basis, and know personally many O'otham and Pee-Posh women who are great examples of motherhood by how they are raising their families and are leaders in their communities. Many of our mother figures who reflect our traditional and contemporary values are the bedrock and foundation of our Community.

Let's make sure we express our gratitude and appreciation by being respectful to our mothers every day of the year. Take a moment to say, "Thank You." Give her a hug and even a kiss, make her feel special. A moment can truly last a lifetime.

I extend my heartfelt wishes to all the mothers and gratefully say, "Thank you for making our tribes, nations and America strong. You play an important role in building families, our communities, and you honor our mother earth."

Happy Mother's Day!



"Putting Our People First"  
Stephen Roe Lewis  
Governor of the Gila River Indian Community

