

## District 5 Candidates



## Donovan G. Kyyitan district 5 - Casa Blanca

My name is Donovan G. Kyyitan, and I am a candidate for District Five Council Representative. I reside in the village of Bapchule and come from a deeply rooted family within the community. My parents are Gerald "Wally" Kyyitan Sr. and Jeanette Milda, both from Bapchule. I am also proud to be the grandson of the late George and Dorothy Kyyitan, as well as Jonah and Eulalia Milda. I have six brothers (Loren, Weldon, Reginald, Gerald Jr.), two of whom have passed (Daniel and Wendell), and one sister (Lynette). I speak and understand the O'otham language and am currently employed as a Van Driver at the District Four Senior Center.

As a candidate, my focus is on listening to and working with the six villages in District Five: Sweet Water, Bapchule, South Casa Blanca, West Casa Blanca, Wet Camp, and Sacate. Listening to community concerns and bringing them to the district and community levels is critical. With ongoing changes at the tribal, state, and national levels, it is essential that we unite as one voice and ensure we are heard.

Our community faces numerous challenges, especially in the areas of education, health, and social services. These are issues that impact us all, both locally and on broader levels. I believe it is essential to continue advocating for our water rights and the importance of education. As a former educator and current school board member, I understand the state testing systems our schools face. Unfortunately, many of our students are struggling with comprehension, reading, and math skills. We need to work together-students, parents, and schools-to address these gaps and ensure every child receives the necessary instruction.

Another significant issue is the growing number of children running away from group homes in our surrounding communities. We must also ensure that tribal youth transitioning to adult services are well-informed about the resources available to them. Are they being properly directed to the services they will need in the future?

My experience spans 14 years in education, including six years serving on two school boards, as well as work in the Health & Social field. I have cared for children at RPY and supported adults in recovery at Horizon Health. Additionally, I have worked in various positions at the Gila River Casinos, which has provided me with valuable insights into both community and organizational dynamics.

With this knowledge and experience, I am committed to being a strong voice for our community. I ask for your vote on May 6th, 2025, to represent District Five. If elected, I will work tirelessly to ensure that your voice is heard, and together we will shape a bright future for our district. "Representing You: Your Voice, Your Future, Our Commitment."