

# Biography of Kayce Womack



**Kayce Womack** is a member of the Klamath Tribes located in Southern Oregon near Crater Lake National Park, one of the Klamath Tribes' sacred sites. Kayce's pronouns are she/her/hers and they/them/theirs and further identifies as a Two-Spirit person. Kayce also goes by her Klamath Tribal name "Shuina Sko" meaning "Singing Spring," which was given to her by tribal elders when she was around three years old. Kayce's maternal great-great-great grandfather, Chinchallo MukHas, was one of the signers of the Klamath Tribal Treaty in the 1860's.

Kayce is currently an ICWA Caseworker within the Social Services Department at The Klamath Tribes. Prior to her current position, Kayce was a Screener at the Oregon Child Abuse Hotline, worked with youth and families while at the Native American Youth and Family Center, and had been in similar case management and advocacy roles for the past 10 plus years. Kayce has a Bachelor of Science in

Applied Psychology from the Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech), graduating with honors. Kayce has working knowledge, understanding, and increased insight in areas involving relationship and rapport building, trauma informed care, child development and parenting practices, child abuse and neglect and risk factors, severe mental health diagnoses, crisis management, dynamics of intimate partner violence/domestic violence, substance use disorder, and much more.

Kayce is a champion of culture and continuously strives to restore tribal sacred ways of living by being a role model to tribal children, embracing the responsibility of passing on tribal traditions and knowledge, and consciously taking steps to address cycles of generational trauma. Kayce's perspective of what tribal culture looks like is primarily based on personal experience with the Klamath Tribes. Kayce was raised in her tribal community and participated in many culturally related activities such as hunting, fishing, gathering, powwows, beading, honoring elders, caring for the earth and nature, smudging, sweat lodge, hearing stories and songs, and taking care of sacred burial sites.

Kayce is passionate about protecting, encouraging, and supporting tribal children, along with other vulnerable and marginalized populations. Kayce disagrees with false stereotypes about tribal people and strongly believes that Indigenous individuals are STRONG, CREATIVE, INTELLIGENT, ADAPTABLE and RESOURCEFUL people. Kayce seeks to share her culture, tribal and humanitarian perspective, and the trauma tribal people have historically experienced and continue to experience through storytelling (a traditional way of passing on knowledge) and spoken word poetry. Kayce recognizes the influence in storytelling and encourages each one of us to share our story because it is powerful, far reaching, and valuable!