Kelly Drummer (Oglala) is the third President of MIGIZI and follows in the extraordinary leadership of Laura Waterman Wittstock and Elaine Salinas. During this time, she facilitated the MIGIZI capital campaign and move to a beautiful new space they lost 8 months later in the civil uprising. Today, she is working diligently on a campaign for MIGIZI's new home at 1845 Lake Street that will be a state-of-the-art Media production and Green Jobs training space. She has been instrumental in building the capacity in MIGIZI programming and development of resources to support the 45-year-old American Indian youth organization. Prior to joining MIGIZI in November of 2018, Kelly served as founding President and CEO of the Tiwahe Foundation for seven years, Tiwahe is an American Indian community foundation which focuses on providing micro grants to American Indian communities, strengthening leadership initiatives and network building. During her 23 years of philanthropy and non-profit work, Kelly has worked with the Minneapolis Jewish Community Foundation, The Family Partnership, Headwaters Foundation for Justice, and New Foundations – a Project for Pride in Living program. Kelly currently serves on the Saint Paul Foundation Community Impact Committee, The Family Partnership Board of Directors and other projects that benefit American Indian Woman and youth. She holds a M.A. degree in Philanthropy and Development from St. Mary's University and a B.A. in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Minnesota. Kelly currently lives in NE Minneapolis with her husband and is the mother of 5 wonderful children.

Session Description

MIGIZI suffered a total loss of its new building during the civil unrest a block from the third precinct. In July 2019, following a $1.7 million dollar campaign, MIGIZI purchased and renovated our sacred space only to see it smothered between the 7 fires surrounding our block on May 28, 2020. This was just the start of our journey in navigating this loss with our insurance. This is MIGIZI story and many other small minority-owned businesses in Minneapolis that have had to navigate the insurance system. Today, MIGIZI is still dealing with acquiring our claims for our business expense loss, increased insurance costs by 50% increase and fear of rising rates as we rebuild on Lake Street.

Speaker BIO and Description of Presentation - AIAN Liaison Cmte

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