



RURAL ARIZONA ENGAGEMENT

State: Arizona

Core Constituency/Target Audience:
Rural Arizona communities



ABOUT

Rural Arizona reflects the dichotomy of beauty and bitterness. A sprawling area that includes both isolation and fellowship, natives and newcomers, growth and decline, our communities are hungry for leadership with the ability to navigate our unique duality. Rural Arizona Engagement's vision is to build and engage their BIPOC civically engaged communities to cultivate pragmatic leadership committed to advancing responsible, responsive, and rural values and policies for the well-being of our communities and residents. RAZE's mission is to educate, advocate, and coordinate in rural communities so they may gain access to civic education, engagement opportunities, and voter registration, independent of metro-area influences.

WEBSITE: raze.org/

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/RuralAZEngage

TWITTER: [@RuralAZEngage](https://twitter.com/RuralAZEngage)

INSTAGRAM: [@RuralAZEngage](https://instagram.com/RuralAZEngage)

TIKTOK: [@RuralAZEngage](https://tiktok.com/@RuralAZEngage)

DONATE: secure.actblue.com/donate/sd003-az-raze

LEGISLATIVE WORK

RAZE focuses on strengthening legislative engagement by empowering rural communities and fostering civic participation. RAZE prioritizes youth leadership development by involving young leaders from rural communities in legislative advocacy efforts, including participation in advocacy days at the Capitol, where critical issues aligned with their mission take center stage. RAZE educates residents on legislative developments and provides resources that equip community members with the tools and knowledge needed to actively participate in the legislative process.

Throughout the year, RAZE in collaboration with its sister organization RAZA, shares legislative updates and celebrates key policy advancements that benefit rural communities.



In 2024:

- RAZE supported and helped pass Proposition 139 to enshrine abortion access in the Arizona State Constitution.
- RAZE gained a defensive victory in opposing Proposition 137. This proposition would have eliminated judicial retention elections and term limits for judges.
- As a part of their work on immigration justice, RAZE took a position against Proposition 314 that criminalizes immigration and empowers state law enforcement to engage in racial profiling, however the proposition passed.
- RAZE achieved significant progress in advocating for groundwater conservation and regulation in Arizona, particularly in the Willcox Basin, where the Arizona Department of Water Resources recently proposed establishing an Active Management Area—the state’s primary tool for regulating groundwater use.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2024, RAZE made significant strides in empowering rural Arizona communities through a series of impactful initiatives. The following accomplishments reflect their unwavering commitment to advancing equity and representation for rural communities across Arizona.

- The RAZE Leaders program has made significant strides in Pinal and Yuma counties. Since its inception RAZE Leaders has supported over 200 high school students in leadership development and civic engagement activities. In 2024, a key milestone was the establishment of “Building Healthy Futures for Youth,” a rural-focused youth mental health forum in Pinal County, drawing 48 attendees, including youth, parents, and professionals, to address this critical issue.
- Deepening their work with Elections Protection from 2022, in 2024 RAZE mobilized 79 poll monitors on election day in 6 different counties and 24 polling locations for a combined total of 611.5 hours.
- RAZE’s environmental justice team collaborated with stakeholders and activists to promote groundwater regulation legislation, engaging 12,026 new voters through mail, phone banks, canvassing, and social media.
- From Fall 2023 through July 2024, RAZE focused on engaging Arizona's most rural and often overlooked or suppressed communities. These efforts resulted in registering 7,630 rural voters and knocking on 178,695 rural doors.

ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

RAZE’s community trust programming is designed to better address and combat the disinformation detrimental to the New American Majority and engage rural communities in civic participation. They accomplish this while expanding the human infrastructure through strategic and engaging programs:

1. Youth and Community Education
2. Voter Registration
3. Community resource and protection
 - Community Give/Get Fund
 - Immigration Justice
4. Census Base Building
5. Environmental Justice
 - Rural Electric Co-Ops
 - Water Policy and Organizing
 - Storytelling for Clean Energy Initiatives



STATE BRIDGES SPEAKER



Pablo Correa

Pablo Correa is the Co-founder and Co-Executive Director of Rural Arizona Engagement (RAZE) and Rural Arizona Action (RAZA). At age 17, Pablo began his career of public service in the Marine Corps and later settled in his hometown, raising a working-class family. Having always been passionate about the communities that raised him, Pablo sought the knowledge-based

resources available to make a difference in his community. Pablo became a graduate of Leading for Change, Arena Academy, and the Monzon Fellowship, an 8-month program dedicated to building capacity and community-based power. From a diverse working-class background, Pablo brings his knowledge and life experience to his organizing work, marrying his background with the knowledge-based resources critical to organizing. Pablo now focuses his knowledge and energy on raising his two daughters and making a difference in the rural communities where they reside.

ARIZONA FAST FACTS

- **Current Control:** Divided Government
- **Gubernatorial Election:** 2026
- **Length of State Senate & House Term:** 2 years
- **Redistricting:** Congressional and state legislative lines drawn by the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission

