

## The Navajo Nation Division for Children & Family Services Office of the Executive Director

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## Navajo Division for Children & Family Services presents accomplishments and highlights services at Western Agency Council

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. – Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Division for Children and Family Services (DCFS), formerly Division of Social Services, Thomas Cody, presented community outreach and accomplishments within the division's six programs under DCFS at the quarterly Western Navajo Agency Council meeting held at the Coconino Community College in Flagstaff last Saturday.

Director Cody provided an overview of the programs, detailing the wide range of essential human and social services available focusing on preserving the Navajo culture, language, and celebrating heritage by promoting K'e, traditional songs, dances, prayers, ceremonies, teachings, and community healing.

In alignment and support of the vision and priorities of the Office of the President and Vice President, DCFS executes its wrap around services and programs with the utmost care, timeliness, and delivery to our most precious assets, our elders, children, and families.

The programs under DCFS below are 99% externally funded, and operate with budget in federal, state, tribal grants, and donations making for faster turnaround times for funding and faster deployment of services to the Navajo community.

- •Navajo Treatment Center for Children and Their Families
- Navajo Indian Welfare Act Program
- •Department of Childcare & Development
- Department for Self-Reliance
- Department of Family Services
- Developmental Disabilities Program/Arizona
- Long Term Care Services

DCFS was instrumental in the joint efforts with Navajo Police Department and Missing Persons Unit during Operation Rainbow Bridge, providing support and aid to urban relatives in the Phoenix area that were affected by fraudulent activities and practices in sober living homes.

Furthering outreach on a broader scale, DCFS hosted The Dine Action Plan (DAP) quarterly meeting earlier this month addressing social ills of violence, alcohol/substance abuse, and coping strategies. Domestic Violence, MMIP, suicide prevention, drug & alcohol education, healthy relationships, Talking Circle, self-care, foster care, residential care and emergency shelter services, long term care for those with disabilities, education, and career services, CDL licensing, adult education in various fields and trades.

In October, DCFS was approved by the BIA to allow DCFS to consolidate federally funded employment, education training, and related and serves into a single comprehensive plan to align priorities, reduce administrative burdens, and significantly enhance and streamline services prompt and effectively throughout the Navajo Nation.

DCFS consistently seeks out donations of clothing, coats, blankets, school supplies, food distribution, and other resources to provide to the community.

With offices located throughout the Navajo Nation, Director Cody encourages those who would like support to contact DCFS and speak with one of the 416 trained and dedicated staff committed to providing empathetic, educational, and empowering experience.

If you would like to learn more about programs and resources, please visit our website at <a href="https://www.ndcfs.org">www.ndcfs.org</a> for more information.

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