



# Office of the Executive Director

Navajo Division for Children and Family Services



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## DCFS TO HOST DINÉ ACTION PLAN QUARTERLY MEETING

The Navajo Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) is hosting the Diné Action Plan quarterly meeting at Twin Arrows Navajo Casino and Resort Conference Center on September 25-27, 2025.

Navajo Nation service providers and community partners are invited to join.

The DAP provides a road map for the Navajo Nation to address its biggest challenges, nayéé or modern-day monsters, including suicide prevention, substance use disorder, violence, and missing and murdered Diné relatives. The DAP utilizes the strengths of the Navajo people by drawing upon cultural teachings and methods to defeat the nayéé.

“I’m looking forward to our partners attending the Diné Action Plan. This work is a collaboration between the three-branch government to address nayéé that impact our people. As the Navajo Division for Children and Family Services Executive Director, I’m committed to getting the plan implemented,” Thomas Cody, DCFS Director, said.

The first day of the meeting will be hearing from speakers and presenters, including the DAP’s evaluator to get a report on the status of the DAP and the Navajo Epidemiology Center on data. The DAP’s task forces on each of the nayéé will also report on their progress, plans and goals during the meeting.

The second day will be the DAP Advisory Group quarterly meeting. There are 19 members of the Advisory Group from each branch of the government. On the Advisory Group are representatives from the Office of the President and Vice President; Chief Justice; Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council; Peacemaking Program; and Navajo Government Development; members of the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee; Naa’bik’iyáti’ Committee; Law and Order Committee; Navajo Nation Youth Council, Navajo Nation Women’s Commission; and Aging Council; directors of the Office of Public Defender; Navajo Department of Public Safety; Criminal Investigations; Division of Behavioral and Mental Health Services; and Division of Social Services (now Division for Children and Family Services); and the Chiefs



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of Police, including Ramah; Chief Prosecutor; and Superintendent of Department of Diné Education.

The final day of the session will be a Victim Advocacy Summit, which will be a public event. The summit will focus on missing and murdered Diné relatives and on violence prevention. Topics include family violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, abuse and neglect, bullying, harassment, school safety, victims of crime, victim advocates, violence prevention, alcohol and substance abuse, suicide prevention, Diné cultural practitioners, community involvement and public safety service providers.

The Division for Children and Family Services has emerged as the lead in implementing the DAP for the Navajo Nation due to its dedication to addressing the social ills associated with the nayéé. Chair of the DAP Advisory Group is Michael Henderson, Division of Public Safety Director, and Co-Chair is Sonlasta Jim, Deputy Director of the DCFS. The programs and offices of the DCFS are also members of the task force. Anthony Begay, Navajo Treatment Center for Children and Their Families Program Manager, is the lead for the suicide prevention task force.

The Diné Action Plan was approved by the Navajo Nation Council and signed into law through Resolution CS-51-21.

For more information, please contact Sonlasta Jim at [sonlasta.jim@ndcfs.org](mailto:sonlasta.jim@ndcfs.org).

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