ASC Area Office Renovation Projects

By Tiauna Begay

A head start building located in Baca, NM wasn’t occupied for two – three years until the Administrative Service Center (ASC) decided to renovate the building. The initial planning and renovation began in early November 2017. ASC was able to put up roughly $20,000 toward this project. Other organizations also contributed toward this project. The Baca contact that was most involved was Sharon Francisco who is...
Baca's Chapter Manager. Mr. Carl Smith, DCD Executive Director, alongside Construction Supervisor Anderson Lynch and his team were able to get 75% of the renovation done including restoring electric power. The DCD construction crew did a professional job with the renovation. The purpose of the renovations was to establish an Area Office for ASC's Region 8 service area. They will be servicing the southeast area of Eastern Navajo Agency. ASC looks forward to providing technical assistance to Region 8 chapters (both LGA certified and Non LGA certified).

While waiting on materials for the Baca, NM renovation, the DCD construction crew started renovating the ASC area office building in Fort. Defiance, AZ. The work that has been done already includes a roof replacement, heaters fixed and replaced, old carpet/ tiles being stripped, and boxes/ office materials being moved out of the building to get the walls prepped and ready for fresh new paint.
By Tiauna Begay

On the 20th of December, 2017, the Division of Community Development staff had their Christmas Banquet at Hilton Garden Inn in Gallup, NM. The Banquet started with Roger James, Master of Ceremony, greeting everyone and giving the welcome address. An appearance was made by Crystal Littleben (Miss Navajo Nation), Wade Adakai (son of DCD’s Program and Projects Specialist James Adakai), and James Junes (Motivational Speaker/Comedian). Miss Navajo gave a very informative speech on how to stay healthy mentally, physically, and emotionally. Wade Adakai gave a very good performance playing guitar and singing Christmas songs. James Junes (made possible by donations from Real Time Solutions and Casey Begay) had us laughing as usual, but he also gave us the most vulnerable and motivational speech of how he had a rough start in life but turned his life around to better himself and others by making them laugh. After our special appearances, it was time to eat a very good meal where the Hilton Garden Inn served Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables, Salad, and Desert. When everyone was just about done eating, various employees drew names and exchanged presents with other employees.
On Monday, December 18, 2017 members of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) came to the Navajo Nation to meet with some of the chapters and Navajo Nation officials on new regulations regarding the Universal Service Lifeline program. The Lifeline program provides discounts to eligible customers for the cost of basic phone service and has been heavily used on the Navajo Nation.

The Federal Communications Commission recently passed some new regulations governing the Lifeline program that changes how the verification process works for Lifeline customers. Before, the phone companies could do the verification themselves. Under the new regulations, a national verifier must now provide the verification. USAC will be administering this national verifier role. The USAC team made the visit to the Navajo Nation to see how chapters were progressing with rural addressing. The team was able to visit St. Michaels Chapter and Oaksprings Chapter to get an understanding of how the chapters distribute information. They met with St. Michaels CSC, Donna Whitehair, and Vice President, Alfred M. Mike, Sr.

Later at NDOT Conference Center, USAC also met with various Navajo Nation departments administering social service programs to talk about partnering and data sharing. Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye was also present and spoke to how this might affect customers on the Navajo Nation.
Former Bennett Freeze Home Improvement

President Russell Begaye turned over responsibility for the FBFA housing project to Division of Community Development several months ago. Since then, DCD has been working with the Navajo Housing Authority, Navajo Hopi Land Commission, and the 9 Chapters surrounding the FBFA to get homesites assessed and ready for construction. DCD contributed help in terms of Home Assessments, Compiling Housing Material, and with the Procurement Process.

A ground breaking ceremony for the first group of 36 modular homes was held recently. The Navajo Nation set aside more than $3 million for construction and renovation of FBFA homes. Project Managers Carl Smith (DCD’s Executive Director), Casey Begay (DCD’s Department Manager), NHA’s Construction Supervisor Ernest Franklin, and all 9 FBFA chapters Community Service Coordinators have been working closely with NTUA, Arizona Public Service, and Cholla Electric to get the FBFA project on its way to success.

Rural Addressing Training

On December 21, 2017, Navajo Nation Division of Community Development's Administrative Service Center (NNASC) and Navajo Nation Addressing Authority (NNAA) held a Physical Address Verification Training for NN chapters, where 35 people attended the morning session and 12 during the afternoon session. The Real ID Act that took effect in November 2016 for the state of New Mexico required private citizens to provide two forms of proof of residency. So, both NNASC and NNAA joined alongside the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) to initiate a process that would be simpler, yet informative, called Physical Address Verification (PAV). This document would serve for purposes such as getting your license renewed. This simplified PAV process is provided to NN Chapters so the chapter can generate the second residency verification. The training focused on web resource mapping tools for providing these documents.
Talks expected after override of veterans fund veto

In a swift and unanimous vote, the Navajo Nation Council made a defiant decision to override President Russell Begaye’s veto of changes to the Veterans Trust Fund.

Begaye vetoed the bill in November.

https://navajotimes.com/respolitics/talks-expected-override-veterans-fund-veto/
Upcoming

2018 Product Calendar

The U.S. Census Bureau has posted anticipated release dates for each regular and recurring statistical product scheduled for release in 2018. These products are listed in the Census Bureau's online product calendar, which is updated as needed throughout the year.

Learn What Surveys Are Being Conducted in Your Community

See which of our 130-plus annual surveys are being conducted in your community. In a variety of surveys and censuses, evolving from the first census in 1790, the Census Bureau provides official information about America's people, businesses, industries and institutions. See surveys currently being conducted in each Census Bureau region:

Atlanta (https://www.census.gov/about/regions/atlanta/surveys-programs.html)
Chicago (https://www.census.gov/about/regions/chicago/surveys-programs.html)
Denver (https://www.census.gov/about/regions/denver/surveys-programs.html)
Los Angeles (https://www.census.gov/about/regions/los-angeles/surveys-programs.html)
New York (https://www.census.gov/about/regions/new-york/surveys-programs.html)
Philadelphia (https://www.census.gov/about/regions/philadelphia/surveys-programs.html)
All Surveys (https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/are-you-in-a-survey/survey-list.html)

Census Bureau Emergency Management Data and Tools

When disaster strikes, look to the U.S. Census Bureau’s Emergency Preparedness page. The Census Bureau produces timely local demographic and economic data that are important to emergency management efforts. Find data, tools and links to reports on recent emergency events.

2020 Census

2020 Census Local Update of Census Addresses Operations (LUCA)

The 2020 Census LUCA registration deadline was Dec. 15, 2017. The LUCA registration deadline for areas impacted by the 2017 natural disasters has been extended to Jan. 31, 2018. These include the California wildfires and Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, and Nate as noted on the Emergency Preparedness website. See here for more information.
American Community Survey

2012-2016 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample, Variance Replicate Tables and Results for the Puerto Rico Community Survey

The U.S. Census Bureau has scheduled for the release of the 2012-2016 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample, the 2012-2016 variance replicate tables and the Puerto Rico Community Survey. The Public Use Microdata Sample files provides a 5 percent sample of the U.S. population to users to create their own tabulations. (Scheduled for release Jan. 18.)

Demographic

National, State and Puerto Rico Total Population Estimates on American FactFinder

Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017 will soon be available for the Nation, States and Puerto Rico through American FactFinder. (Data available Jan. 18.) These estimates were released on December 20, 2017 on the Population and Housing Units Estimates Web page: https://www.census.gov/program-surveys/popest.html.

Census Bureau Updates the Response Outreach Area Mapper Web Application

The U.S. Census Bureau will update the Response Outreach Area Mapper web application (formerly known as Low Response Score). This interactive tool identifies areas at the tract level that have historically been hard to count. It provides users with data visualizations that can be used to assist with planning, targeting and allocation of community resources. (Tentatively scheduled for release in January.)

Custodial Mothers and Fathers and Their Child Support: 2015

This report shows national-level trends of child-support income received by parents for children whose other parent(s) lived elsewhere. The Census Bureau collects detailed information about child-support agreements or awards, such as the reported amounts due and received, as well as other socio-economic characteristics about custodial parents and their families. (Tentatively scheduled for release in January.)

READ MORE AT: https://www.census.gov/newsroom/tip-sheets/2018/tp18-01.html
Levels of Education

Percentage of the Population Completing High School, Bachelor’s or Higher

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>High School Completion or Higher</th>
<th>Bachelor’s Degree or Higher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25-29 years</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and</td>
<td>89.6%</td>
<td>34.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and</td>
<td>55.2%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Limited English Speaking Households as a Percentage of County Total

Note: A “Limited English-speaking household” is one in which no member 15 years and over speaks only English or speaks a non-English language and speaks English “very well” in other words, all members 14 years and over have at least some difficulty with English.

Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey

U.S. Census Bureau
www.census.gov
DCD OPEN POSITIONS

Chapter Community Services Coordinator:
Lukachukai, AZ
Blue Gap, AZ
Rough Rock, AZ
Crystal, NM

Chapter Accounts Maintenance Specialists:
Tsaile, AZ
Alamo, NM
Standing Rock, NM
Nahodishgish, NM
Tsayatoh, NM
Tohatchi, NM
Jeddito, AZ
Crystal, NM
Kaibeto, AZ
Navajo Mountain, AZ

ASC Administrative Service Officer:
Dilkon, AZ
Baca, NM

For the most up-to-date personnel info, please visit DPM’s website at http://www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov/jobs.html

New Rural Addressing Staff

DCD welcomes their newest hires, Darlene Watson and Gloria Gray, to the Navajo Nation Rural Addressing team. The two new temporary staff will be helping with the Rural Addressing efforts.

DCD Suffers Staff Reduction

DCD had to let go of six temporary employees due to insufficient funds. The hard working men that were let go were instrumental to DCD’s Special Housing Projects. They were helping with President Russell Begaye’s community housing projects, veterans’ housing projects, Former Bennett Freeze Area housing renovations, and the ASC office renovations.
WHAT ARE PLUS CODES?

A plus code is like a street address for people or places that don’t have one.

Plus codes give addresses to everyone, everywhere, allowing them to receive deliveries, access emergency services, register to vote – and more.

Plus codes are short, simple, and easy to use: X4HP+M5, Cairo, Egypt, for example. These codes can be used on Google Maps to get directions to a home or business.

HOW IT WORKS

857G  MXJ2+54

area code  local code
EASY TO USE

Places that are close to each other have similar plus codes. This makes it easy to work out if you are near to, or far away from your destination.

IDENTIFIABLE

The “+” symbol in plus codes helps identify them for people and computers, ensuring Google Search and Google Maps recognize them.
WHAT MAKES PLUS CODES UNIQUE?

FREE
Plus codes are free. There are no licensing fees or other costs. The technology is open-sourced.

ACCESSIBLE OFFLINE
You don’t need a network connection: Plus codes work whether you are online or offline.

NON-EXCLUSIVE
Plus codes can be printed as a grid on paper, posters, and signs. This makes them useful also for people without access to mobile phones or computers.

INDEPENDENT OF BORDERS
Plus codes work in places that haven’t been mapped. And they don’t use country codes so they can even work in disputed territories.
The DCD Newsletter, "Community Info", is produced monthly by the Division of Community Development and is a resource for division staff and chapters.

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Tiauna Begay, Contributing Writer