

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## Division of Community Development Newsletter

March 2024

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### Did You Know...

How's the bunny connected to Easter? According to University of Florida's Center for Children's Literature and Culture, the origin of the celebration – and the Easter bunny – can be traced back to 13th century, pre-Christian Germany, when people worshiped several gods and goddesses. The Teutonic deity Eostra was the goddess of spring and fertility, and feasts were held in her honor on the Vernal Equinox. Her symbol was the rabbit because of the animal's high reproduction rate. Read more at: <https://bit.ly/43LzyQk>

### Events:

#### March: Wóózhch'íid - "Cry of Baby Eaglets"

March 10: Daylight Saving Time Starts

March 17: Saint Patrick's Day

March 20: Spring Equinox (Start of Spring)

March 31: Easter Sunday

#### April: T'ááchil - "Little Leaves"

April 1: April Fool's Day

April 18: Tax Day

April 22: Earth Day

April 24: Administrative Professionals Day

April 26: Arbor Day

## Grand Opening of Becenti Chapter Veterans Center Marks a Milestone in Community Support



In the bustling halls of our organization, amidst the chaos of daily operations, there The long-awaited Becenti Chapter Veterans Center project has reached its culmination, marking a significant milestone in community support for veterans. The center, spanning an impressive 4,000 square feet, boasts state-of-the-art facilities designed to cater to the needs of veterans and their families.



The project was meticulously planned and executed to ensure every aspect of the center meets the highest standards. The design, based on CPMD's conceptual floor plan, includes essential features such as a meeting room, reception area, waiting area, men's and women's restrooms, IT/storage room, electrical/mechanical room, two office spaces, a pantry, a large kitchen, and an outdoor patio.

Arviso Construction Company, known for its expertise in delivering top-notch construction projects, was awarded the contract to bring this vision to life. With the Notice to Proceed (NTP) issued and a 540-day term set for completion (with construction finishing in an impressive 360 days), the project progressed seamlessly under the careful management of the Capital Projects Management Department (CPMD).



Key milestones in the project timeline include the pre-construction meeting held on January 26, 2023, setting the stage for a collaborative effort between stakeholders. The pre-final walk-through on January 23, 2024, ensured that every detail was scrutinized and perfected before the final walk-through on February 21, 2024.

Funding for this vital community asset came from various sources, reflecting a unified commitment to supporting veterans. The CPMD construction budget for 2022-2023 allocated \$2,755,486.16 for the 4,000-square-foot center, equating to approximately \$680 per square foot. Funding sources included NM Capital Outlay, Chapter Match Funding, and NN Legislation, totaling the required amount for the successful completion of the project.

The grand opening ceremony on March 19, 2024, at 9 am marked a joyous occasion for the community, as they gathered to celebrate the dedication of the Becenti Chapter Veterans Center. This facility stands not just as a physical structure but as a symbol of honor and gratitude to those who have served their country.

The long-awaited Becenti Chapter Veterans Center project has reached its culmination, marking a significant milestone in community support for veterans. The center, spanning an impressive 4,000 square feet, boasts state-of-the-art facilities designed to cater to the needs of veterans and their families.

Becenti Chapter currently has thirty-nine (39) veteran memberships, highlighting the importance of this project in serving a sizable portion of the community. Recognition of project partners underscores the collaborative effort that made this project a reality:

New Mexico Governor: Michelle Lujan Grisham

New Mexico State Representative: D. Wonda Johnson

Former Navajo Nation President: Jonathan Nez

Former 24th Navajo Nation Council Delegate: Mark Freeland

24th & 25th Navajo Nation Council Delegate: Vince James - The primary Sponsorship for Resolution CJY-30-22 in the amount of \$2,151,376.00

CPMD Project Managers: Elmer Johnson, Andy Thomas, and Marcus Murphy

CPMD Architect: Ed Preston

NM Indian Affairs Department: Josette Monette, Janelle Frederick. and Lawrence John

JWGA Architect/Owner: James Greene/Project Manager: Robert Harmon

Arviso Construction

Native Pride Office Product

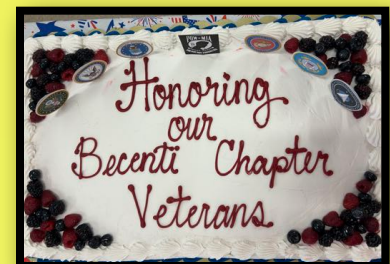
Becenti Chapter Veterans Organization

Becenti Chapter Officials

Becenti Chapter CLUPC

Becenti Chapter Administration

Former Becenti Chapter Community Services Coordinator: Delores Becenti



The project's successful completion reflects the dedication and collaboration of these partners, ensuring that the Becenti Chapter Veterans Center stands as a testament to the community's commitment to honoring and supporting its veterans.



March 2024

## Housing Improvement Program Update

### Two completed homes in Dilkon & Pinon

Community Housing Infrastructure Department  
Fort Defiance, AZ 86504  
Phone# 928.729.4319  
Fax# 928.729.4277  
email: [rbegay@nnchid.org](mailto:rbegay@nnchid.org)  
2nd email: [rmbegay@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:rmbegay@navajo-nsn.gov)



HIP Program Office Chinle  
Google maps location  
5C3Q+8W  
Chinle, Arizona



HIP Program Office Fort Defiance  
Google maps location  
PWPJ+2P  
Fort Defiance, AZ, USA



Irving Shorty, Construction Supervisor; Laverna Peterson, Home Owner; Rita Begay, Housing Improvement Manager

March 2024

# Pinon Key Presentation



HIP staff: Adam Plummer, Emmett Tsosie, Shawnase Yazzie, Augustine Sells Jr., William Nelson



Rita Begay, Daisy Begay





March 2024

## **COMMUNITY HOUSING & INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT** **HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (HIP)**

The Housing Improvement Program (HIP) is federally funded by P.L. 93-638 contracts. The program is to improve the living standards by providing decent, safe and sanitary homes within the territorial boundaries of the Navajo Nation. HIP provides housing assistance through home repairs, renovation, and replacement of existing house or new construction to assist **very-low income families and/or individual**. Eligibility is determined by Income and a Ranking Point system based on Income, Age, Disability, Veterans, Dependent Children, Homeless, Dilapidated house and overcrowded. Eligibility does not guarantee funding for services.

HIP will be hosting a Housing Assistance application intake for Fiscal Year 2025 Housing Assistance Program for the Northern Agency Chapters community members at the Sanostee Veterans Building in Sanostee, New Mexico.

### **DATES:**

**April 9, 2024 to April 10, 2024**

### **Required Documents**

- Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) and Social Security Card; for all permanent household members.
- Income Verification for 2024: Award letters from Social Security, VA, Retirement, Unemployment, etc.
- If claiming disability, provide a Doctor's statement or documents verifying disability.
- If claiming Veteran, provide DD214, Discharge Paper, Veterans ID card.
- Must have a finalized and approved home site lease in the applicant(s) name.
- Cultural Resource Compliance form, Archaeological Inventory Report w/map and Biological Report
- **Legal Guardianship for Grandchildren, Niece, Nephews (Under the age of 18)**

**Household members must reside in the home throughout the year (365 days)**

**Everyone is welcome to attend even if you are from another agency.**

Housing Improvement Program staff will be available to fill out application and answer any questions or concerns.

If you have any questions, you can call the Fort Defiance Agency office at: (928) 729-4017. Please NOTE the qualifications. If reporting report accurately.

# FRF Updates

## CJN-29-22 Section 11 Bathroom Addition Meeting between NECA/ IHS/FRF/NNLD & DCD



By Dawnelle Begay, PPS  
CJN-29-22 Section 11  
Bathroom Addition  
Meeting between NECA/  
IHS/FRF/NNLD & DCD

Progress updates on Work  
Orders 1-4.

**25 total bathroom  
additions completed to  
date since Work Order 1  
was issued on November  
16.**

***DCD ARPA team consists of:  
Paulene Thomas, Dept. Manager II  
Edwin Begay, Admin Services Officer  
Dawnelle Begay, Programs & Projects Specialist  
Ryan Begay, Planner/Estimator***



March 2024

# Spring Clean TECH TIPS

## 10 Spring Cleaning Tips for Your Windows PC

**Uninstall Applications That You Don't Use**

**Remove Browser Extensions That You Don't Need**

**Tweak Your Startup Programs**

**Organize Your Desktop and Files**

**Clean up Your Taskbar and Start Menu**

**Tidy up Your Browser and Its Bookmarks**

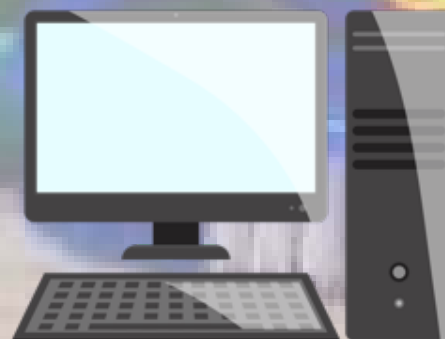
**Run Disk Cleanup to Free up Space**

**Dust out Your PC**

**Clean Your Dirty Keyboard, Monitor, and More**

**Optional: Consider "Resetting" Windows 10**

**Don't forget your computer when you're spring cleaning all your things.**



See more at: <https://bit.ly/4acZLcU>

# Administrative Services Centers

## March 2024 Highlights

In March, the Administrative Services Centers (ASC) across the Navajo Nation were bustling with activity! Through its eight local offices, ASC diligently served the 110 Navajo Chapters, offering a wealth of services and resources. From hosting insightful trainings to facilitating important meetings, ASC provided invaluable opportunities for chapters to stay updated on Tribal government programs and enhance their professional skills.

In addition to organizing enriching events, the ASC department remained steadfast in its commitment to daily technical assistance. Offering guidance in financial management and ensuring adherence to Navajo Nation laws and policies, ASC continued to be a cornerstone of support for communities across the nation. Stay tuned for more updates on ASC's impactful initiatives in the upcoming months!



Wide Ruins, AZ - Ft. Defiance ASC



Chilchinbeto, AZ - Kayenta ASC

Date:	ASC Office:	Location:	Office/Topic/Presenter:
3-18-24	Shiprock ASC	Upper Fruitland	CAP Implementation Review
3-14-24	Fort Defiance ASC	Wide Ruins Chapter	Monthly Staff Meeting
3-8-24	Kayenta ASC	Chilchinbeto	ASC Training: Travel Authorization & Conflict of Interest
3-2-24	Crowpoint ASC	Iyanbito Chapter Hosue	Eastern Navajo Agency Council Meeting; Quarterly meeting for the entire Eastern Navajo Chapters. Topics vary.
3-1-24	Crowpoint ASC	Becenti Chapter	Regional Emergency Plan Meeting with Beacon Bisti Region (consisting of Becenti, Crownpoint, Lake Valley, Littlewater, Nahodishgish, Tse'ii'ahi and White Rock Chapters).
3-1-24	Shiprock ASC	Tse Alnaoztii	New Employee Orientation-FMS
2-29-24	Shiprock ASC	Tse Alnaoztii	District 12 Leadership Amber Crotty, Council Delegate Margie Begay, Sr. Planner, NDOT
2-28-24	Crowpoint ASC	Nageezi Chapter	AMS role plus other chapter functions, day to day activities; role of CSC, AMS and Officials
2-28-24	Tuba City ASC	Tuba City ASC Conference Room	Tuba City ASC/Chapter Staff Meeting Milford Maloney - presenter Birdsprings Chapter CSC & AMS
2-27-24	Shiprock ASC	TwoGreyHills	Emergency Management Planning

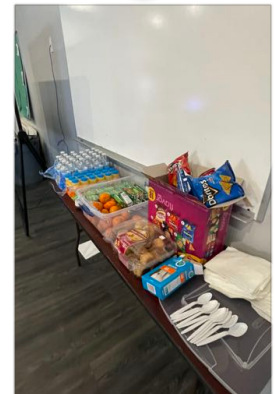


# *Administrative Services Centers*

*Ft Defiance ASC - March 14, 2024 - Wide Ruins Chapter, AZ*



*Kayenta ASC - March 08, 2024 - Chilchinbeto Chapter, AZ*



*Crownpoint ASC - March 18, 2024 - Dine College (Crownpoint)*



# Administrative Services Centers



## The Administrative Services Centers has updated the department website.

We're thrilled to announce that the ASC Department has been hard at work enhancing our online presence!

Over the past few weeks, we've been diligently updating our department's websites to ensure easy access to information about our services, initiatives, and more.

With these updates, we've introduced uniform design elements and added features aimed at providing clear and concise information about each office.

Now, visitors can expect to find calendars, maps, form links, and staff contact information—all conveniently displayed in an appealing format. We're committed to enhancing your online experience and making it easier than ever to engage with the ASC Department. Stay tuned for further updates as we continue to improve our digital platforms!

**COMING MAY 1ST, 2024!**



## Enhancing Transparency & Accessibility!

Exciting news! Alongside improving public access to our department's services, we're ramping up transparency efforts. Now, we're proud to announce our department will be publishing our technical assistance numbers and department event listings—including trainings and meetings—right on the ASC website.

We've diligently tracked our services via the trusted technical assistance form, breaking down performance across crucial areas where ASC supports local governments. Plus, our log of trainings and meetings will keep growing, ensuring you stay informed every step of the way!

Visit our website come 05/01/2024 to explore the latest updates and dive into the wealth of information ASC has to offer!



# Administrative Services Centers

## Staff Updates:

**Cecelia Toledo**  
**Crownpoint ASC ASO**



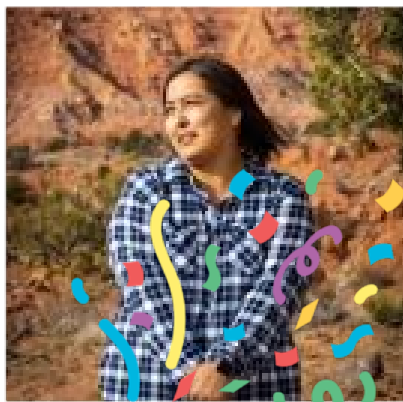
### **Cecelia Toledo, Promoted to Administrative Services Officer at the Crownpoint ASC Office.**

We're thrilled to announce Cecelia Toledo's promotion to Administrative Services Officer position within our Crownpoint ASC team! Starting this Monday, March 25, 2024, Cecelia embarks on an exciting new chapter, bringing her wealth of expertise in chapter financial management to the forefront. With her background as an Accounts Maintenance Specialist at Torreon Chapter and subsequent role as Community Services Coordinator, Cecelia's journey with us has been exemplary.

Previously the department had relied on her expertise to assist nearby chapters within the Eastern Agency. In her new position, Cecelia will play a crucial role in providing technical assistance to chapters assigned to the Crownpoint Administrative Services Center. Her dedication and proven track record make her the perfect fit for this vital role. Join us in congratulating Cecelia as she steps into this new challenge with enthusiasm and skill!

## *Congratulations Cecelia!*

**Marla Sandoval-Redhouse**  
**Lukachukai CSC**



### **Marla Sandoval-Redhouse, Promoted to Community Services Coordinator at the Lukachukai Chapter.**

Let's give a round of applause to Marla Sandoval-Redhouse, the former Accounts Maintenance Specialist (AMS) of the Lukachukai Chapter!

Starting March 11, 2023, Marla embarked on an exciting new journey as the Community Services Coordinator (CSC) at the Lukachukai Chapter House.

Having served as the AMS since September 2022, Marla's dedication and passion for community support have shone brightly. Throughout her tenure, she not only managed accounts but also delved into the intricacies of chapter financial management and local governance, enriching her expertise along the way. Join us in congratulating Marla on her well-deserved promotion! The ASC extends its best wishes as she embraces this new challenge.

*Congrats,  
Marla!*



## *Administrative Services Centers*

### Staff Updates:

### *Welcome New Staff!*

*This month, we're excited to announce the arrival of new team members! Join us in welcoming four (4) Accounts Maintenance Specialists, two (2) Community Services Coordinators, and one (1) Office Specialist. These roles are vital in delivering essential services to communities throughout the Navajo Nation.*

*The ASC Department and chapters are thrilled to have these valuable additions and eagerly anticipate their future contributions under the Division of Community Development.*

<b>New Staff</b>	<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Position</b>
<b>Deanna Yazzie</b>	Round Rock Chapter	CSC
<b>Kemesha Denetsosie</b>	Kayenta ASC	OS
<b>Karen Holiday</b>	Red Mesa Chapter	AMS
<b>Chiffon Harrison</b>	Huerfano Chapter	AMS
<b>Vickilyn Tuni</b>	Teecnospos Chapter	CSC
<b>Myrna M. Hausa</b>	Tolani Lake Chapter	AMS
<b>Janelle H. Tsosie</b>	Navajo Mountain Chapter	AMS



*Let's give a warm welcome to our new colleagues!*

# Bulletin Board

## First Navajo appointed to the Farmington City Council



DH Tri-Cities | By Debra Mayeux Tri City Record  
Published Wednesday, Mar 27, 2024 11:45 AM

Applause erupted throughout the Farmington City Council chambers Tuesday when the first Navajo was appointed to the council in the history of the governing body.

Herman Buck, 50, of Farmington, was appointed to fill the District 2 seat during the March 26 meeting by Farmington Mayor Nate Duckett, who said Buck "represents the type of servant leadership we are looking for."

"There is a historic component to this. It's a historic coincidence - I didn't go into this interview process looking for a race, creed or code. I was looking for someone of service," Duckett said. "It is certainly

historic that we have confirmed Mr. Herman Buck, who is a member of the Navajo Nation. Everyone in this room and community should be excited."

Buck is a Shiprock High School graduate, who speaks Navajo and English. He is a business owner, who took over his father's business, Buck's Tire and Towing, which has been open for 40 years.

Buck applied for the position which opened in December, with the resignation of Sean Sharer, who moved outside the district.

"I put in for City Council to help the city as much as I could - to move the city forward," Buck said, adding that he loves this city.

Buck has lived in District 2 for 15 years with his wife of 26 years, Jennifer Reyes Buck. They have daughters and two grandchildren.

Buck was one of 10 applicants for the council seat.

"I'm thrilled with the 10 people we got to interview," Duckett said, adding that he, Assistant City Manager Shana Reeves and former Mayor Tom Taylor participated in the interview process.

Duckett said he was sure that any of the 10 people who put their names in "would do their due diligence to this community," but Buck offered the council "a unique opportunity" and stood out because "he is serving now in his capacity in many different areas."

Buck is a drummer for the music ministry at Journey Church and provides ministry to detainees at the San Juan County Detention Center.

The Rev. David Flores, pastor of Journey Church, was at Tuesday's meeting. He said Buck would bring a "different perspective" to the council.

"I think he's going to do an excellent job," Flores said, adding he is "a great asset with his community mindedness."

Buck also has been the owner of Punch's Boxing Club, in which he mentors youths through boxing, for 15 years.

Councilor Linda Rodgers brought this up, calling Buck, "Punch" when she congratulated him on the appointment.

"I've known him for a lot of years," she said, adding the two shared a "lengthy discussion" about the council. "I know him to be a man of integrity and honesty. I look forward to serving with you over the next 18 months."

Rodgers made the motion to approve the appointment, and Councilor Janis Jakino seconded the motion.

"The faces in this room have caused a swell of pride," Jakino said, pointing out "the magnitude of this moment" and saying, "I'm very proud to serve alongside Mr. Buck."

The appointment closes out Sharer's term. Buck would need to run for reelection to continue serving on the council.

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3vDQSD9>

## Navajo Nation to receive 2 new food banks amidst 'disturbing' hunger levels

SOUTHERN UTAH NEWS

by: Megan Brugger

Posted: Mar 6, 2024 / 08:04 PM MST

SAN JUAN COUNTY, Utah (ABC4) – Two new food pantries are opening on the Navajo Nation as Utah Food Bank expands its services across San Juan County.

The pantries will open on the portion of the Navajo Nation that occupies Utah, and will "greatly enhance food resources in the area, reducing the remarkable distance that residents have had to go previously to access food," a press release states.

The Navajo Nation is classified as a food desert, as average driving times to food resources can

take up to several hours in just one direction.

Additionally, the pantries will provide much-needed job opportunities, the release states. With that, having paid staff working at the pantries will allow the operating hours to be more regular and reliable.

San Juan County residents reportedly face significantly higher hunger rates compared to the state average, with 17% reporting food insecurity, as opposed to 10% statewide, as stated in the press release.

"Disturbingly, childhood hunger is even more prevalent," the release states. 20% of children are uncertain about their next meal, which is double the statewide average.

Utah Food Bank is aiming to address the specific needs of the people on the Navajo Nation, reportedly committing to distributing culturally appropriate food that can be safely stored and cooked.

Each of the pantries will have a special focus on procuring and distributing foods that fit the Navajo diet and preference, in addition to significantly increasing the amount of fresh produce available in the area, the release states.

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/4ayHJS5>





# Bulletin Board

## Let there be light! Solar panels to provide electricity for rural Navajo families

Residences, ranging from a single child to multiple, may not have running water as well

By Alx Lee Tri-City Record Reporter  
Wednesday, Mar 27, 2024

In partnership with Heart of America and Central Consolidated School District, 24 families from Shiprock to Naschitti will receive electricity from installed solar panels at their residences.

The families are under the McKinney Vento program, an initiative to serve students who qualify as homeless.

Recent data show 750 students fit the federal definition of homeless, according to Elfreda Harvey, social and safety net coordinator. That definition includes a condition in which an individual or family lacks a fixed, regular, nighttime residence or is at imminent risk of losing their housing.

On Monday, California Polytechnic State University students, Central Consolidated administration and Heart of America staff joined together at the district office for introductions, background and cultural teachings before setting out to install the panels.

"You're going to see a lot of things this week with our families, and you're going to experience a lot of things with our families that you probably haven't seen or experienced before," Harvey said, "So I'll ask that you keep an open mindset."

Before arriving on the reservation, a cultural team researched the Navajo Nation to provide the team with knowledge about the region.

Gina Chun, senior in construction management, was a part of the team that researched the political structure and history of the Navajo Nation.

Chun said in her research that the impact of the pandemic was a main focal point and that the team

could go onto the land with that in mind.

However, on a second trip, Chun said her research meant very little compared with the knowledge gained by spending time with the community.

On Tuesday, vehicles were loaded with supplies and snow began to fall as the team partook in a smudging led by Berlinda Begay, bilingual multicultural education coordinator.

The solar team

In Monday's preparation, the team spread across the A Gym in Shiprock to begin with stretches before digging into the parts of the panels.

Spread across the gym, Cal Poly students worked together to compile sets that included four panels, two lights, one battery and a solar-powered lantern.

Each panel generates 100 watts, a total of 400 watts in each set. The battery holds 1,000 watts.

Mylo Fowler of Heart of America explained the battery is also portable once charged. Families have taken the battery to family events including cultural milestones, he said.

Thus far, Heart of America has connected 200 homes with solar power, according to Fowler. The goal is to power every home on the reservation with solar energy.



Heart of America, California Polytechnic State University students, and Central Consolidated administration stand together on March 25 at the Central Consolidated district office before departing for the day to install panels at residences. (Brad Ryan/Special to Tri-City Record)

Solv Energy was a trip sponsor, but students also raised funds during their spring break.

While students prepped sets a team also compiled bags of school supplies and games for the families.

During the pandemic, 10,000 bags were distributed by Heart of America, Fowler said.

Fowler also spoke to an encounter that impacted him. A grandmother living in Shiprock with her grandchildren had no electricity and was burying insulin in the ground with rocks to keep the medicine cold.

After receiving the solar panels, the family made jello using a fridge gifted to them. Fowler described it as game changing.

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/4acCnfn>

## The Buildout: Choice Broadband, Tarana boost speeds for Navajo Nation

Choice Broadband, the wireless broadband arm of the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, has completed the deployment of a fixed wireless network in Tohatchi, New Mexico. Choice Broadband partnered with Tarana to deploy the supplier's next-generation fixed wireless access (ngFWA) technology to reach "nearly 400 previously unreachable locations," marking "the first of many

upgraded networks that will equip residents and businesses of Navajo Nation," the companies said in a press release. With the new network launch, those locations will go from receiving download speeds of roughly 9 Mbit/s to receiving speeds up to 100 Mbit/s, they added.

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/4cEOVxO>



(SOURCE: DPA PICTURE ALLIANCE/ALAMY STOCK PHOTO)



# Bulletin Board

## USDA investing \$76.5M to bring clean energy to Navajo Nation



by: Trevor Myers

Posted: Mar 26, 2024 / 03:57 PM MDT

SALT LAKE CITY (ABC4) – The United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development announced on Tuesday that it is investing \$76.5 million to expand the Red Mesa Tapaha Solar Farm, according to a press release.

According to USDA Rural Development, the expansion is expected to provide clean energy to approximately 36,000 homes, businesses and farms – in addition to providing more than 200 local construction jobs.

According to Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, the Red Mesa Tapaha Solar Farm is a 500-acre project that is expected to bring power to nearly 20 communities across Utah.

Over the life of the project – which is scheduled to last about 25 years – NTUA said the solar farm is projected to bring in more than \$20 million in revenue for the Navajo Nation.

According to USDA Rural Development, the NTUA is expected to use the loan funds to purchase single-axis tracking solar arrays, which would allow for “maximum energy absorption.”

“Projected revenues will help stabilize electric rates, connect

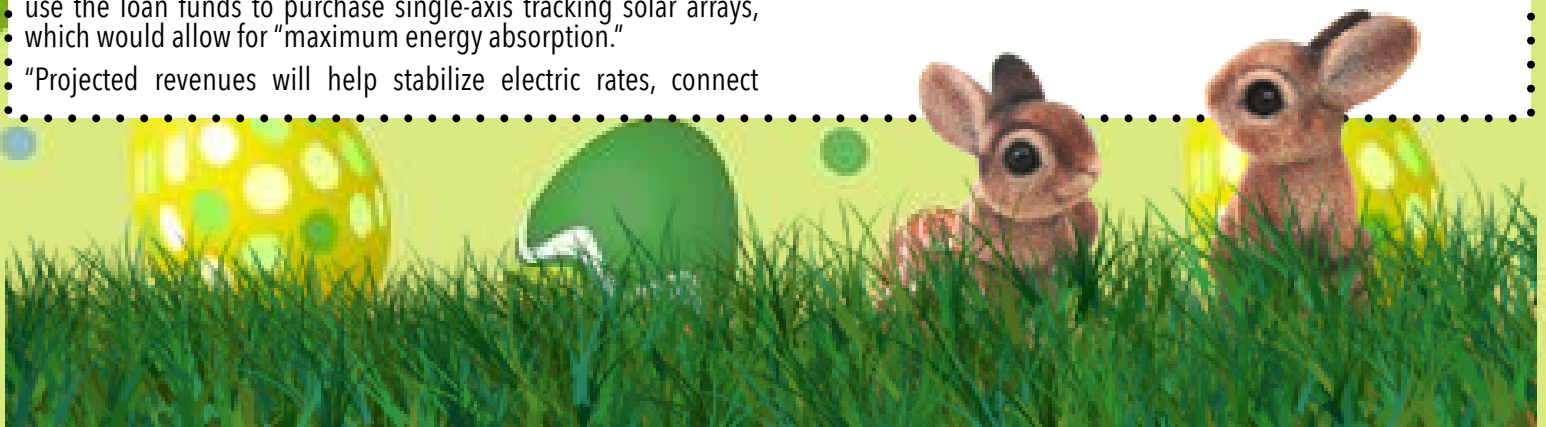
unserved families to electricity, enable broadband access and create permanent employment,” USDA Rural Development said in the release.

USDA Rural Development provides financial support to, in part, “improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas.” It is partnered with NTUA to continue providing financing for utilities as well as improving access to reliable infrastructure.

“Tribal lands are often in remote areas and unable to easily connect to a grid,” USDA Rural Development Utah State Director Michele Weaver said in a press release. “Today’s announcement reinforces President Biden’s commitment to equal opportunity and support for underserved communities through the federal government.”

The USDA investment is part of President Biden’s Justice40 Initiative, which aims to ensure 40% of benefits from Federal investments in areas such as climate and clean energy help cover marginalized communities.

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3TV2t0N>



# Bulletin Board

## MEMORIAL FOR NAVAJO CODE TALKERS, NMI MARINE SCOUTS PUSHED



speech, naming by their full names the stewards of peace in the Battle of Saipan's Operation Forager (Ignacio Reyes Ada, Antonio M. Aguon, Antonio Angailen, Pedro SN. Attao, Santiago Miyasaki Babauta, Antonio Manahane, Benavente, Juan V. Benavente, Daniel T. Borja, Gregorio Flores Borja, Gregorio Camacho Cabrera, Juan Camacho Cabrera,

Office of Insular and International Affairs, the Saipan council leadership underscored the role of the code talkers as pivotal in their enigmatic way of encoding messages that literally confused the Japanese command post on the location of the U.S. soldiers and the direction Operation Forager was headed, and pivoted the manner in which World War II ended in the Battle of Saipan.

For their part, after the major bombardment on Saipan by the combined forces of the U.S. Marines, Army and Navy, a few carefully vetted local civilians were conscripted into the U.S. Marine battalion: their singular duty was to ensure the continuing safety of U.S. soldiers and local civilians following Operation Forager. These civilian marines were chosen by the U.S. Marines because of their insights and knowledge on Japanese military hideouts in tunnels and caves, including the locations of the Japanese gun emplacements, no less their familiarity of the terrains throughout Saipan and fluency in the Japanese language.

February 13, 2024 11:57 a.m

The leadership of the 17th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council recently endorsed the funding request of Gov. Arnold I. Palacios to install a permanent commemorative memorial court of honor for the Marianas marine scouts and the Navajo code talkers, in appreciation for the ultimate sacrifice by these two groups in the Battle of Saipan: Operation Forager from June 15 to July 9, 1944, by the code talkers and from August 1944 to September 1945 by some 50 Chamorro and Carolinian marine scouts recruited by the U.S. Marines.

On Aug. 14, 1982, over 30 years later following the Battle of Saipan, U.S. President Ronald Regan declared National Navajo Code Talkers Day, saying the code talkers played an instrumental role in the Pacific War from 1942 to 1945.

A little over 50 years later, on Jan. 31, 2000, Robert Underwood, who was the Guam delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, stood and eloquently delivered before the U.S. House of Representatives a rousing "At Last America Remembers Marianas Scouts"

Albert S. Camacho, Lorenzo Tudela Camacho, Cristino S. Dela Cruz, Joaquin Duenas Dela Cruz, Bernardo C. Deleon Guerrero, Joaquin C. Deleon Guerrero, Jose S. Deleon Guerrero, Lorenzo Diaz Deleon Guerrero, Serafin Borja Kaipat, Juan Limes, Rafael C. Mafnas, Jose Blas Magofna, Miguel Blaz Magofna, Pedro Mettao, Nicolas Quidachai Muna, Francisco Nekai, Juan Quitugua Norita, Isidro Limes Ogarto, Francisco C. Palacios, Joaquin B. Pangelian, Juan San Nicolas Pangelian, Edward M. Peter, Jose Roberto Quitano, Benigno A. Rabauliman, Antonio T. Rogolofoi, Isidro R. Rogopes, Vicente T. Rosario, Ignacio Mangarero Sablan, Segundo Tudela Sablan, Herberto San Nicolas, Pedro F. Sakisat, Felipe Agulto Salas, Gofredo Aguon Sanchez, Juan A. Sanchez, Guillermo P. Saures, Felipe McGuinness Seman, Juan Malus Tagabuel, Benedicto Satur Taisacan, Antonio Camacho Tenorio, Antonio P. Tenorio, Vicente Olaitiman Taman, Miguel Pangelinan Tenorio, Pedro Peter Teregeyo, and Manuel Seman Villagomez).

In a letter of support to Carmen G. Cantor, assistant secretary for the

The local council leadership is joined by former governor Juan N. Babauta, a former CNMI Washington representative and author-publisher of Now for Then: The Marianas Marine Scouts, who said: "As a former Washington representative and former CNMI governor, I stand shoulder-to-shoulder with...Gov. Arnold I. Palacios' funding assistance for the permanent installation of a well-deserved court of honor for the Navajo Code Talkers and the Marianas Marine Scouts on Saipan at the American Memorial Park or other suitable locations on Saipan."

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/3TE9xxr>

# Bulletin Board

## Voting Rights Win in New Mexico: Navajo Community Gains Equal Opportunity at the Polls



Native News Online Staff

Mon, March 25, 2024 at 8:59 PM MDT.

Native Vote 2024. The San Juan County in New Mexico has settled a lawsuit that challenged the county's 2021 redistricting map, which aimed to dilute the voting power of Navajo voters.

The map packed Navajo citizens into District 1, which had an 83% Native American Voting Age Population (VAP), while reducing the Native American VAP in District 2 below the level necessary to provide Navajo voters with an equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice, as required by Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act. This meant Navajo voters had an equal ability to elect preferred candidates in just one out of five districts, despite Navajo citizens making up roughly 40% of the county's total population.

The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, the UCLA Voting Rights Project (UCLA VRP), the ACLU of New Mexico, the law firm DLA Piper, and the Navajo Nation Department of Justice on Monday announced the voting rights victory. The groups brought the lawsuit on behalf of the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission, and individual Navajo voters in San Juan County.

The suppression of the voting power of the Navajo residents has made it harder to achieve important policy priorities, such as

providing and maintaining critical infrastructure on Navajo Nation land.

The county agreed to settle the lawsuit by enacting a new map negotiated by the plaintiffs which ensures a more equitable distribution of the Navajo population, with 74% Native American VAP in District 1 and 70% in District 2. The new map will remain in place through the 2030 Census, with the two new Navajo opportunity districts first up for election in 2026. The voting rights victory is a testament to the tireless efforts of the Navajo Nation and its allies in standing up against injustice and on behalf of the rights of the Navajo people.

"The settlement we reached with San Juan County, NM, is a victory for the Navajo Nation and the Navajo People," said Ethel Branch, Attorney General of the Navajo Nation Department of Justice. "In exercising our sovereign right, we secured justice for Navajo voters in San Juan County. For decades, and despite being the majority, our people were only able to elect one Navajo Commissioner in San Juan County. Now we have an opportunity to change that through more equal treatment of Navajo votes in the County redistricting process."

READ MORE: <https://bit.ly/4c2App>



# Bulletin Board

## NAVAJO SURGEON, DR. LORI ALVORD SPEAKS ON BLENDING SPIRITUALITY & MODERN MEDICINE

MATTHEW REED – MARCH 6, 2024

Dr. Lori Alvord, the first Navajo board certified surgeon, discussed how she blends modern medicine with Navajo ceremonies and the importance of spirituality for healing at the Grand Soldier Ballroom at the Carnegie Hotel in Johnson City on Monday, March 4.

Alvord is an accomplished board-certified surgeon, Stanford University of Medicine alumni, associate faculty member at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and a published author and avid speaker. She has also been featured in the National Library of Medicine magazine and on a PBS documentary, Medicine Women.

Alvord grew up in the Navajo Nation where from a young age she learned the importance of community, nature and spirituality. She was able to watch the healing power that these things held for her people and today she uses these to help her patients along with her expertise in modern medicine, allowing and encouraging her patients to participate in ceremonies with their community.

Alvord told how she followed a winding path that led her to becoming a surgeon and that it was never her original plan. She had grown up wanting to be a teacher like her grandmother who was one of the first Navajo teachers. However, in high school she began to study and work in a pharmacy. She wanted to pursue this and was talked into attending Dartmouth College, an Ivy league school in New Hampshire, with accommodations for Native American student, only to find out that they did not have a pharmacy program. She decided to pursue medicine for the moment, however at the time she struggled at the time.

She began her lecture with a story of a Night Chant, a Navajo healing ceremony. She told how the entire community had come together to help heal a young woman; however, she highlighted this lady was not her patient.

"She was tall, you could tell by the length of blankets wrapped in front of her. She was lovely, around her head was tied a red sash, but she was not my patient," told Alvord.

She told how she could tell this young woman was clearly ill and how the community had come together in the hogan, a Navajo house. They were there to perform the Night Chant and help this young lady heal.

The songs of the Night Chant tell of the beauty of the Navajo universe, a house made of dawn and another made of evening light and another of dark cloud with jagged lightning.

"Happily may I walk, happily with abundant showers may I walk, happily with abundant pollen of plants may I walk, happily may I walk. May it be beautiful before me, may it be beautiful behind me, may it be beautiful above me, may it be beautiful below me and may it be beautiful all around me. In beauty it is finished," Alvord shared with us a piece of the Night Chant.

She told how magical and powerful ceremonies could be and how she yearned for that for her patients who did not have that. She wished for them to have spirituality and community to support them.

Alvord told about spiral petroglyphs in the mountains of the Navajo Nation that hold ancient wisdom and sand paintings of the Ye'ii, spiritual beings. She tells how patients will sit on these sand paintings and prayer will be said over them for healing.

"In some ways, it [drawing the sand paintings] is harder than surgery," said Alvord while describing the ceremony.



Photo of Dr. Lori Alvord receiving a Pendleton blanket. (Contributed/yakimaherald.com)

Alvord discussed how the Navajo have a belief that illness is disharmony or imbalance in any area of life. Ceremony helps one become more connected to the world and the creator and helps restore balance in life. The Navajo believe that all things are connected and that the mind has a great power to help the body heal.

This is connected to their belief that animals and the environment are directly connected to the people of the land, while that land is sick so will the people be. Alvord discussed how sound ecological practices are also a key part of keeping the Navajo people healthy and connected to the world around them.

"We say that we should live so that five generations down are being protected," said Alvord.

Alvord also pointed out that the belief of the Navajo in positive thought and the modern studies of mind-body medicine in psychological and medical field overlap and are often consistent with each other on the positive healing effects the mind can have for the body.

Alvord highlighted several examples including avoiding stress and negative thoughts during pregnancy and psychological stresses negative affect on the immune system, both of which are supported by Navajo belief and modern medicine.

She also highlighted that there is common use of the senses in healing such as using guided visualizations or sound/music therapy to heal in a similar way to how ceremonies are used for the Navajo. That art, music and poetry can be used to heal emotionally and thus help heal physically just as the sand paintings help the Navajo heal.

Alvord is an accomplished surgeon who has been using her spirituality with modern medicine to help her patients heal in ways that others have not. She described how spirituality and community are important for healing and how Navajo medicine has been implementing techniques that are now becoming widely accepted in the modern medicine world. These techniques and her journey to mastering them are highlighted in her book, *The Scalpel and the Silver Bear: The First Navajo Woman Surgeon Combines Western Medicine and Traditional Healing*.

READ MORE: <https://bit.ly/3PGJC7q>

# Bulletin Board

## Diné [hydrologist] Karletta Chief gets Environmental Leader Award

March 25, 2024

LYONS, Neb. – Eight individuals from across the nation have been recognized by the second annual Environmental Leader Award, including Dr. Karletta Chief, Diné.

Chief, of Tucson, Arizona, is a distinguished outreach faculty and professor and extension specialist in environmental science at the University of Arizona. She works to bring relevant water science to Native American communities in a culturally sensitive manner. As director of the Indigenous Resilience Center, she aims to facilitate efforts of UArizona climate/environment researchers, faculty, staff, and students working with Native Nations to build resilience to climate impacts and environmental challenges.

Chief and the other winners will receive \$25,000 in award funds to honor their past environmental work

The Environmental Leader Awards are an independent project administratively supported by the Center for Rural Affairs and made possible by the Walton Family Foundation.

"We are thrilled to continue to be the stewards of this program," said Anna Johnson, farm and community manager with the Center for Rural Affairs. "Environmental justice is a central focus for the 2023 awards recipients. We are grateful to be able to share this award with them."

Nominees for the 2023 award were identified within the three geographic areas of focus for the Walton Family Foundation Environment Program: the Mississippi River, the Colorado River, and oceans and sustainable fisheries.

Another award winner was Yolanda Badback of White Mesa, Utah.



Karletta Chief pounds a soil sample tube into the Hogback irrigation canal near Waterflow, New Mexico, on the Navajo Nation in 2017. (Photo/UofA)

Badback leads White Mesa Concerned Community, a grassroots group that seeks to end and reverse toxic contamination of her community's water, air, and land

from the White Mesa Uranium Mill and nuclear waste storage.

READ MORE: <https://bit.ly/3Vzo6Fi>

## Tuba City Senior Center has groundbreaking ceremony

March 25, 2024

The new Senior Center in Tuba City officially broke ground Feb. 23. The project was approved in November 2023. Officials thanked the Navajo Nation Division of Community Development, Navajo Nation Office of President and Vice President and the Navajo Nation Office of the Controller for their support, as well as Indigenous Design Studios & Architects and former Tuba City Senior Center supervisor Sarah McCabe. (Photo/To'Nanees'Dizi Chapter)

READ MORE: <https://bit.ly/43It84f>





# PERSONNEL NEWS -- DCD OPEN POSITIONS

POSITION TITLE	LOCATION	PAY RATE	CLOSING DATE
<b>Administrative Service Centers</b>			
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Wide Ruins, AZ	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Oak Springs, AZ	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Crystal, NM	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coyote Canyon, AZ	30,046.32	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Tsayatoh, NM	42,407.28	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Jeddito, AZ	30,897.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Sawmill, AZ	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Tsaile, AZ	30,046.32	OUF
Community Service Coordinator (S)	Low Mountain, AZ	42,407.28	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Round Rock, AZ	30,046.32	3/29/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Forest Lake, AZ	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Alamo, NM	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Lake Valley, NM	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Standing Rock, NM	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Tohajiilee, NM	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Torreon, NM	30,046.32	3/29/2024
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Manuelito, NM	42,407.28	4/15/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Thoreau, NM	30,046.32	4/16/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Teecnospos, AZ	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Red Valley, AZ	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Kaibeto, AZ	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coalmine Mesa, AZ	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Cameron, AZ	30,046.32	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coppermine Mesa, AZ	30,046.32	OUF

## Capital Projects Management Department

Registered Architect Window Rock, AZ 75,585.60 OUF

## CHID/Housing Improvement Program

Carpenter (S) (T) Fort Defiance, AZ 35,642.16 4/17/2024  
 Eligibility Technician (S) Chinle, AZ 30,046.32 3/29/2024  
 Construction Inspector (S) Fort Defiance, AZ 45,288.72 4/9/2024  
 Carpenter (S) (T) Fort Defiance, AZ 35,642.16 4/17/2024

(OUF) Open Until Filled  
 (S) Sensitive Position (subject to background check) Closing Dates may change

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

## Comic of the Month



## Quote of the Month

“The promise of  
 spring’s arrival is  
 enough to get  
 anyone through the  
 bitter winter,”

—Jen Selinsky





## Women's History Month: March 2024

March 06, 2024

Press Release Number CB24-FF.03

National Women's History Month honors the successes and sacrifices of U.S. women. It dates to March 8, 1857, when hundreds of women from New York City garment and textile factories rallied to protest harsh working conditions. In 1909, New York City became the site of the nation's first Women's Day celebration, a year after 15,000 women there marched to demand shorter working hours, better pay, an end to child labor and the right to vote. More than seven decades later in 1981, Congress set aside the second week of March as National Women's History Week. Six years later, Congress expanded the week to a month. As we celebrate Women's History Month, we reflect upon the advances women have made, including increased earnings, educational attainment and job opportunities.

The following facts are possible thanks to the invaluable responses to U.S. Census Bureau surveys. We appreciate the public's cooperation as we measure America's people, places and economy.

### Did You Know?

#### 168 million

The number of females in the United States as of July 1, 2022. There were about 165 million males in the United States as of the same date.

Source: Vintage 2022 Population Estimates

#### 4.2 million

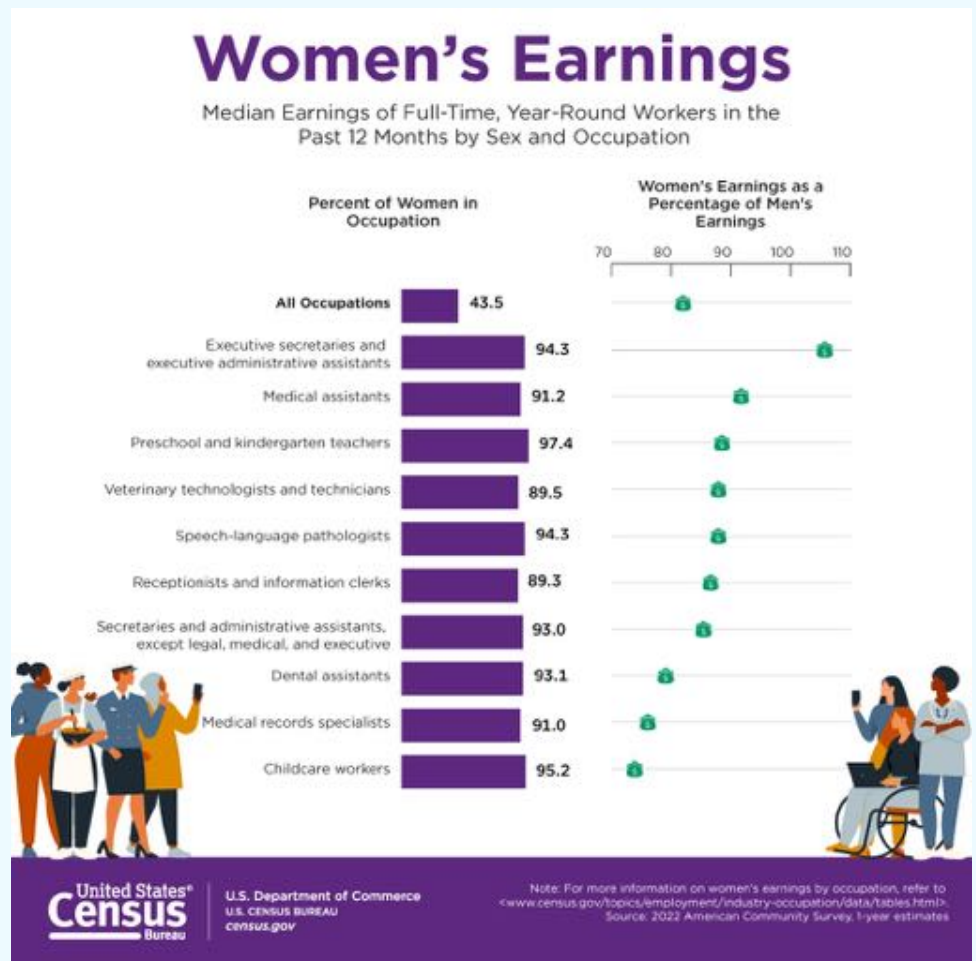
There were about 1.9 million more females age 85 and older (4.2 million) than males (2.3 million) in the United States as of July 1, 2022.

Source: Vintage 2022 Population Estimates

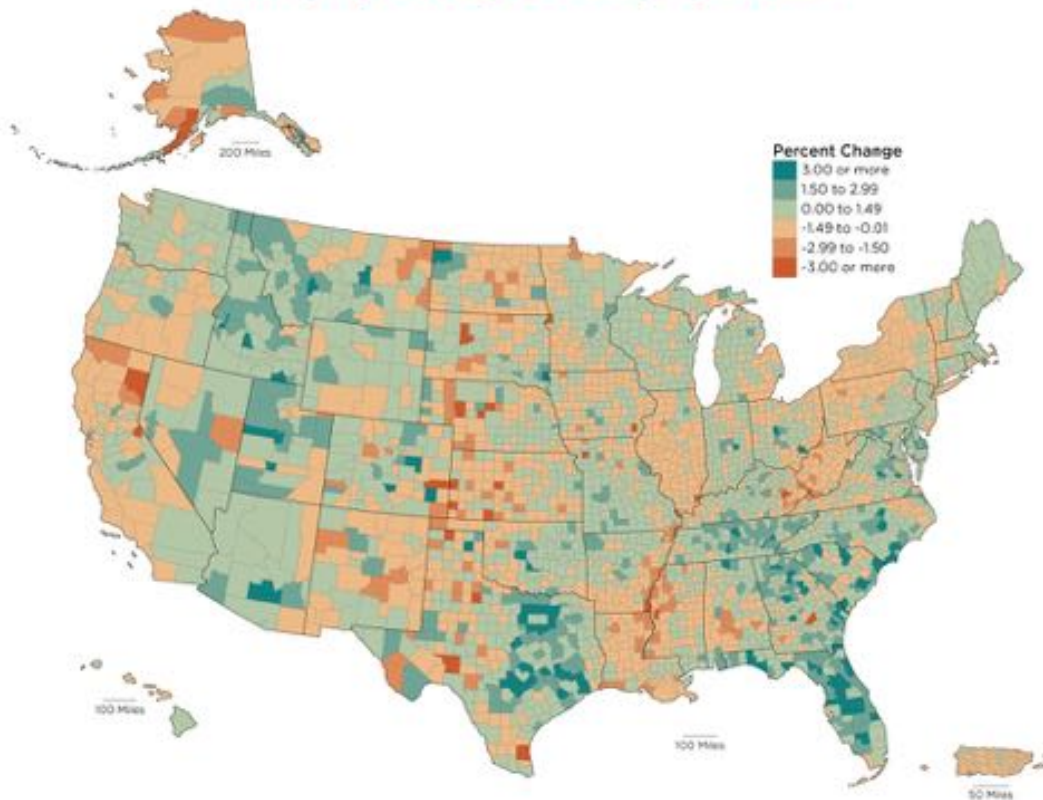
#### 80.3 million

The number of females age 16 and older who participated in the civilian labor force in 2022. This comprises 58.6% of females age 16 and older.

Source: 2022 American Community Survey 1-year estimates



## Percent Change in County Population: July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2023



## Baseball Is Back! All 30 Teams Play on Opening Day, March 28!

MLB has scheduled 15 games for Opening Day. Map your team and compare metro areas by population.



Populations shown below are for each team's metropolitan statistical area (MSA). There are 25 MSAs with MLB teams in the United States—four have two teams (Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco-Oakland)—and one in Toronto, Canada.

### Team Locations

 American League  National League



### West Division

	<b>Houston Astros</b>	7,510,253
	<b>Los Angeles Angels</b>	12,799,100
	<b>Oakland Athletics</b>	4,566,961
	<b>Seattle Mariners</b>	4,044,837
	<b>Texas Rangers</b>	8,100,037
	<b>Arizona Diamondbacks</b>	5,070,110
	<b>Colorado Rockies</b>	3,005,131
	<b>Los Angeles Dodgers</b>	12,799,100
	<b>San Diego Padres</b>	3,269,973
	<b>San Francisco Giants</b>	4,566,961

### Central Division

<b>Chicago White Sox</b>	9,262,825
<b>Cleveland Guardians</b>	2,158,932
<b>Detroit Tigers</b>	4,342,304
<b>Kansas City Royals</b>	2,221,343
<b>Minnesota Twins</b>	3,712,020
<b>Chicago Cubs</b>	9,262,825
<b>Cincinnati Reds</b>	2,271,479
<b>Milwaukee Brewers</b>	1,560,424
<b>Pittsburgh Pirates</b>	2,422,725
<b>St. Louis Cardinals</b>	2,796,999

### East Division

<b>Baltimore Orioles</b>	2,834,316
<b>Boston Red Sox</b>	4,919,179
<b>New York Yankees</b>	19,498,249
<b>Tampa Bay Rays</b>	3,342,963
<b>Toronto Blue Jays<sup>1</sup></b>	6,471,850
<b>Atlanta Braves</b>	6,307,261
<b>Miami Marlins</b>	6,183,199
<b>New York Mets</b>	19,498,249
<b>Philadelphia Phillies</b>	6,246,160
<b>Washington Nationals</b>	6,304,975

<sup>1</sup> Toronto at a Glance, July 2022. <[www.toronto.ca/city-government/data-research-maps/toronto-at-a-glance/](http://www.toronto.ca/city-government/data-research-maps/toronto-at-a-glance/)>. **Bold** = Opening Day home team.

### [Integrating Our Business Statistics for an Ever-Changing U.S. Economy](#)

**Written by:**

Nick Orsini, Associate Director for Economic Programs

As part of our ongoing commitment to innovation and to address our many stakeholder needs, the Economic Directorate has been working across all areas of the U.S. Census Bureau to reengineer our annual economic surveys. This process began in 2015, when the Census Bureau asked the Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) of the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine to assemble a panel to conduct a comprehensive review of our annual economic surveys. Their findings and recommendations are summarized in [this 2018 report "Reengineering the Census Bureau's Annual Economic Surveys,"](#) resulting in the [Annual Integrated Economic Survey \(AIES\)](#) that began data collection March 15.

Seven legacy annual economic surveys listed below have all had their final releases in their current format and are now integrated into a single survey – the AIES.

- [Annual Capital Expenditures Survey \(ACES\).](#)
- [Annual Retail Trade Survey \(ARTS\).](#)
- [Annual Survey of Manufactures \(ASM\).](#)
- [Annual Wholesale Trade Survey \(AWTS\).](#)
- [Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders Survey \(M3UFO\).](#)
- [Report of Organization \(COS\).](#)
- [Service Annual Survey \(SAS\).](#)

[Click here to continue.](#)

### [More Counties Saw Population Gains in 2023](#)

MARCH 14, 2024 – More U.S. counties experienced population gains than losses in 2023, as counties in the South saw faster growth and more Northeast and Midwest counties had population losses turn to gains, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau's Vintage 2023 estimates](#) of population and components of change released today.

Approximately 60% (1,876) of U.S. counties gained population from 2022 to 2023, an increase from the 52% of counties (1,649) that experienced population growth between 2021 and 2022. Among the nation's 3,144 counties, the average change from 2022 to 2023 was 0.29%, up from 0.17% the previous year.

"Domestic migration patterns are changing, and the impact on counties is especially evident," said Lauren Bowers, chief of the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Branch. "Areas which experienced high levels of domestic out-migration during the pandemic, such as in the Midwest and Northeast, are now seeing more counties with population growth. Meanwhile, county population growth is slowing down out west, such as in Arizona and Idaho."

[Click here to continue.](#)

March 19, 2024

Volume 24 Issue 3

### [2024 Event Calendar](#)

The U.S. Census Bureau has posted anticipated release dates for each regular and recurring statistical product scheduled for release in 2024.

### [Archived Back to Data Basics Webinar Series](#)

If you are looking to improve your data skills, Back to Data Basics is a great opportunity to learn from our experts about how to access and utilize a variety of Census Bureau data products, tools, and resources.

### [Training Resources](#)

Visit the Census Bureau's [Educational Resource Library](#) for previously recorded, free training available at your convenience. The library includes presentations, recorded webinars, tutorials and other helpful materials.

## Upcoming Webinars

### [TIGERweb - Prowling Through Geographic Attributes](#)

**Thursday, March 28**

**Time: 2:00PM EST**

TIGERweb is a geographic application providing legal and statistical boundaries and physical features as a basis for tabulating census data. In this session, learn the history of TIGERweb, how to access and use it, to see how your community is mapped in our system, as well as how it has changed from census to census.

Presenter: David Kraiker





## Upcoming

### Parental Mortality Brief

The U.S. Census Bureau will be releasing a new research brief on parental mortality based on the 2022 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP). This report presents national level statistics for the percentage of people who lost a mother or father and how these estimates varied by age and race/ethnicity. (Tentatively scheduled for release in March.)

### New Report on the Nation's Foreign-Born Population

The U.S. Census Bureau is scheduled to release new data products highlighting select demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the nation's foreign-born population. The Foreign-Born Population 2022 report compares 2010 and 2022 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year estimates to provide insight into the changing composition of the foreign-born population in the United States. The Highlights of the Foreign-Born Population data visualization displays 2018-2022 ACS 5-year estimates about the foreign-born population at various levels of geography (including national, state and county). (Tentatively scheduled for release in April.)

## Happening Around the Networks

### Director Santos Visits Indiana SDC



Director Santos visited SDC Katie Springer at the Indiana State Data Center located in the State Library in downtown Indianapolis on Friday, February 23.

## Did You Miss..

### Grandparents and Coresident Grandchildren Report

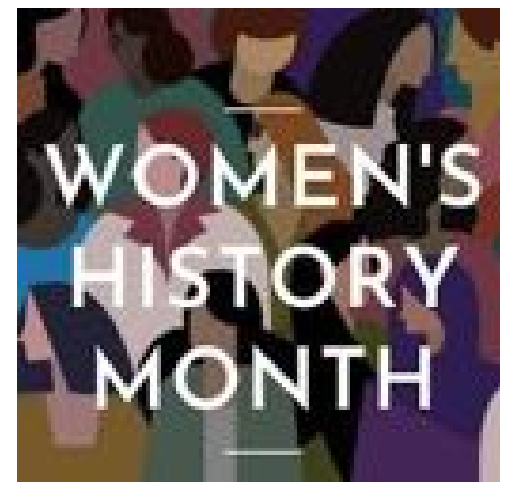
February 26, 2024

The U.S. Census Bureau released a report, Grandparents and Their Coresident Grandchildren: 2021, which provides characteristics of grandparents living with grandchildren under age 18. The report also compares the characteristics of grandchildren by whether their parent or grandparent is the householder, and the age of the grandparent. Data in the report come from the American Community Survey, Current Population Survey, Survey of Income and Program Participation and 1970-2000 Censuses.

### Women's History Month: March 2024

National Women's History Month honors the successes and sacrifices of U.S. women. It dates to March 8, 1857, when hundreds of women from New York City garment and textile factories rallied to protest harsh working conditions. In 1909, New York City became the site of the nation's first Women's Day celebration, a year after 15,000 women there marched to demand shorter working hours, better pay, an end to child labor and the right to vote. More than seven decades later in 1981, Congress set aside the second week of March as National Women's History Week. Six years later, Congress expanded the week to a month. As we celebrate Women's History Month, we reflect upon the advances women have made, including increased earnings, educational attainment and job opportunities.

[Click here to view facts!](#)





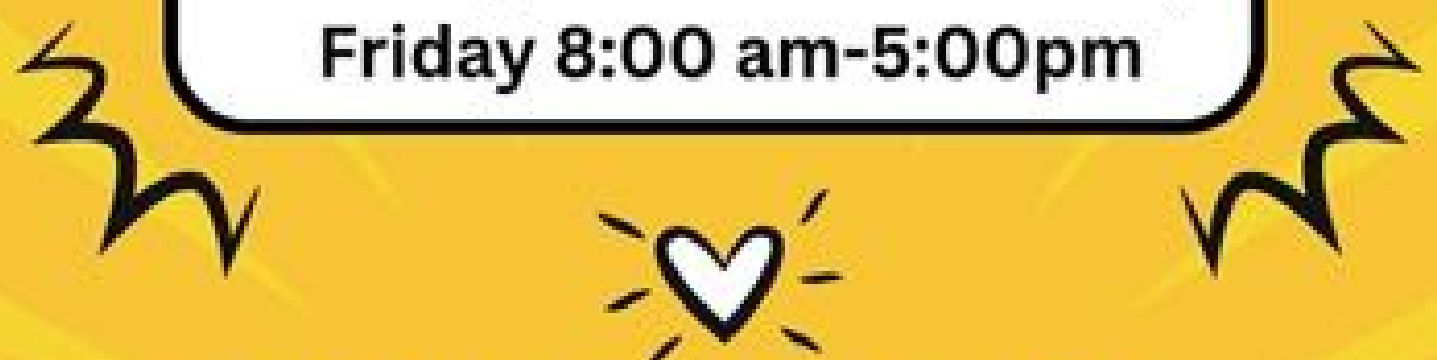
# ATTENTION



## DCD ARPA Telephones:

Paulene Thomas	(928)551-8935
Edwin Begay	(505)870-6252
Dawnell Begay	(928)551-8941
Ryan Begay	(928)551-8947

**You may contact us Monday-  
Friday 8:00 am-5:00pm**



**MAIN: (928) 871-7182**  
**WWW.NNDCCD.ORG**



NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## 2024 Schedule Now!

### Community Land Use Planning Orientations & Trainings

#### TOPICS

- Review the *Title 26 LGA - Zoning & Community Based Land Use Plans*
- Provide overview of Land-Use Planning for Navajo Chapters
- Review the CLUPC certification process
- Strategic Planning assistance
- Community assessment collection tools & methods
- Introduction of land use planning topics
- Technical Assistance

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**Chapter Unit Attorney**

Rodgerick Begay, Attorney  
rbegay@nndoj.org



**Housing Improvement  
Program**

Bldg #8229 Field House Road  
Fort Defiance, Arizona

**Rita M. Begay**  
**Program Manager I**  
P.O. Box 527  
Fort Defiance, AZ

Phone No.# (928) 729-4017  
Fax No.# (928) 729-4277

Contact any of the HIP  
Agency Office for additional  
information or to obtain  
housing assistance  
application.

Application can be  
downloaded from the DCD  
Website:  
[nndcd.org](http://nndcd.org)

**FORT DEFIANCE AGENCY**

Housing Improvement Program  
Bldg# 8229 Field House Road  
Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504

Phone No.# (928) 729-4017  
Fax No.# (928) 729-4277

**CHINLE AGENCY**

Bldg #2492 SW of Chapter House  
Chinle, Arizona 86503

Phone No.# (928) 674-2260  
Fax No.# (928) 674-2266

**WESTERN AGENCY**

**CLOSED**  
contact Chinle Agency Office.

**EASTERN AND SHIPROCK**

**AGENCY**  
**CLOSED**  
contact Fort Defiance Agency  
Office.

# HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (HIP)

**Community Housing &  
Infrastructure Department –  
CHID**

**Division of Community  
Development**



The **Housing Improvement Program (HIP)** is federally funded by P.L. 93-638 contracts. The program is to improve the living standards by providing decent, safe and sanitary homes within the territorial boundaries of the Navajo Nation. HIP provides housing assistance through home repairs, renovation, and replacement of existing house or new construction to assist very-low-income families and/or individual.

**Eligibility Requirements**

- Total annual household income does not exceed 150% of the federal poverty income guidelines.
- Enrolled member of the Navajo Tribe.
- Lives in an approved Navajo Tribal service area.
- Present housing is substandard.
- Has no other resource for housing assistance.
- Has not received assistance from HIP for repairs, renovation, replacement and new housing, or down payment assistance.
- Has not received any other type of federal government sponsored housing program assistance over the previous 20-year period.
- Down Payment Assistance available to eligible borrowers to participate in HIP. The applicant must still meet all the eligibility requirements. A letter from the funding institution that specifies the down payment amount and closing costs required to qualify for the loan must be provided.

**Application Requirement**

Complete housing assistance application must be fully complete and sign and date. Provide required documents.

- Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) and Social Security Card; for all permanent household members.
- Provide proof of all income for all permanent members of the household.
  - Award letters from social security, general assistance, retirement, unemployment benefits and other unearned income.
  - Signed copies of current 1040 tax returns, including W-2s, if filed.
  - Signed notarized statement explaining why you did not file a tax return.
  - Signed notarized statement of how you support yourself, if you are reporting no income received.
- Individual Indian Money (IIM) accounts.
- If claiming disability, provide a Doctor's statement or documents verifying disability.
- Must have a finalized and approved home site lease in your name.
- Cultural Resource Compliance Form & Archaeological Inventory Report
- Proof of Veteran status (veterans' card, discharge forms, DD214)

All permanent household members over the age of eighteen (18) years is required to provide and complete all income verification forms.

All applications are reviewed to determine if you are eligible. Eligible applicants are ranked in order of need, from highest to lowest, based on the total numeric priority ranking points outlined in the 25 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), Part 256.14. The application can be carried over into next fiscal year but the applicant must submit an undated information form and provide income documentation for all permanent household members.

Housing assistance applications are available beginning February ending September 30. To obtain an application, call your local agency office.

**25 C.F.R., Part 256  
HIP REGULATIONS REVISIONS;  
EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 10, 2015**

**NEW RANKING POINTS**

- Annual Household Income
  - Aged Person;
  - Disabled Individual;
  - Dependent Children;
  - Veteran;
  - Homeless;
  - Overcrowded;
  - Dilapidated House;
  - Down Payment Assistance;
- Applicant must meet all HIP requirements and must be eligible. Applicant must be approved for a home with a bank or mortgage company.**

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