

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

August 2024

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### Did You Know...

#### What is the irony of the Navajo Code Talkers?

... (they were ) being asked to use their Native languages to fight on behalf of America was not lost on code talkers, many of whom had been forced to attend government or religious-run boarding schools that tried to assimilate Native peoples and would punish students for speaking in their traditional language.

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/4g3EGF6>

### Events:

#### August: Bini'anit'ááts'ósi - Small Harvest

- August 12: International Youth Day
- August 14: Navajo Nation Code Talkers Day
- August 21: Senior Citizens Day
- August 26: Women's Equality Day

#### September: Bini'anit'ááts'oh - Big Harvest

- September 2: Labor's Day
- September 6: National Read a Book Day
- September 8: Grandparents' Day
- September 13: Positive Thinking Day

## President Nygren approves Housing contracts in signing ceremony



### Empowering Communities Through Housing and Infrastructure

August 30, 2024  
Window Rock, Arizona

In an effort to strengthen and uplift our communities, the Community Housing & Infrastructure Department, in partnership with Iina Ba Inc., has secured a substantial \$50 million investment through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). This funding marks a significant milestone in our ongoing mission to enhance the quality of life for residents by addressing critical housing and infrastructure needs.

#### What This Means for the Navajo Nation

The \$50 million allocated will specifically target some of the most pressing challenges faced by the Navajo Nation.

Support for Multi-Generational Homes: A key portion of the funds will be used to assist families living in multi-generational households. These homes often face overcrowding and infrastructure challenges, which have been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic.



PHOTO BY SYLVIA JORAN



Housing for Homeless Families and Individuals: The funds will also provide new homes for homeless families and individuals, ensuring they have access to stable and secure living conditions. This effort is crucial in addressing both immediate housing needs and long-term community health.

Why This Matters

Providing stable housing for those in need is more than just addressing homelessness; it’s a critical public health measure. By ensuring that families and individuals have access to sanitary living conditions, these efforts will help combat the spread of COVID-19. Stable housing with proper infrastructure reduces the risk of disease transmission and promotes overall well-being.

How We’re Doing It

The funds will be used in several ways to achieve these goals:

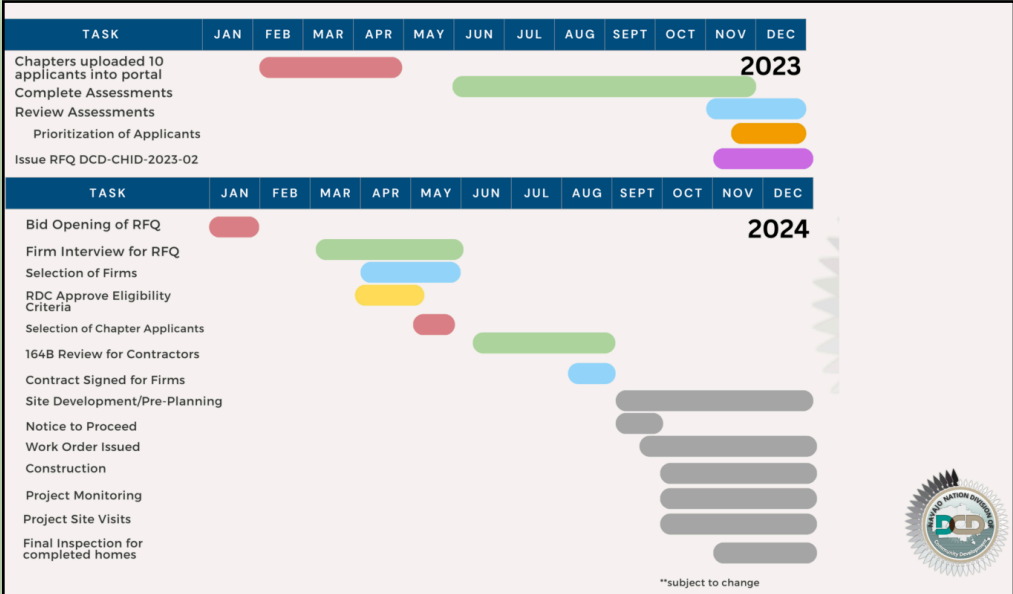
- Construction of New Housing: New housing units will be constructed to accommodate the growing need for safe and sanitary living spaces, especially for those in multi-generational homes.
- Purchase of Modular/Mobile Homes: To quickly address housing shortages, modular and mobile homes will be purchased and distributed to assist Navajo families across the Navajo Nation. This approach allows for rapid deployment of resources to those most in need.
- Infrastructure Improvements: The initiative will also focus on upgrading existing infrastructure to ensure that new and existing homes are equipped with the necessary amenities to support healthy living conditions.

Process Overview

To ensure a structured and transparent approach, the following steps were included in the process:

- 2023 Chapters Upload: In 2023, 10 Navajo client applicants were successfully uploaded into the CHID (Community Housing & Infrastructure Department) Housing portal by each of the 110 Navajo Nation Chapters.
- CHID Assessments: CHID completed 1300+ thorough assessments of the applicants' needs and living conditions.
- Assessment Review and Prioritization: The assessments were reviewed, and applicants were prioritized based on urgency and need.
- Issuance of RFQ DCD-CHID-2023-02: Following the prioritization, the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) DCD-CHID-2023-02 was issued to seek qualified contractors and partners to execute the planned housing projects.
- 2024 Implementation: This year saw several critical milestones:
- Bid Opening of RFQ: The bid opening for RFQ DCD-CHID-2023-02 was conducted, inviting firms to participate in the project.
- Firm Interviews and Selection: Firms were interviewed based on their qualifications, and selections were made to ensure the best candidates were chosen for the job.
- RDC Approval: The Resource Development Committee (RDC) approved the eligibility criteria for selected firms, ensuring they met the necessary standards.
- Selection of Chapter Applicants: Final chapter applicants were selected based on the assessments and prioritized lists.
- 164B Review for Contractors: Contractors underwent a thorough 164B review process, ensuring compliance with all necessary regulations.
- Contract Signing: Contracts with the selected firms were signed on August 30, 2024, marking a major step forward in project implementation.

CHID GANTT CHART





### Future Work Includes:

- Site Development/Pre-Planning: Initial site development and pre-planning activities will commence to prepare for construction.
- Notice to Proceed and Work Order Issuance: Official notices to proceed will be issued to contractors, along with work orders to begin construction.
- Construction: The construction phase will start, focusing on building and deploying new housing units across the Navajo Nation.
- Project Monitoring and Site Visits: Ongoing project monitoring and regular site visits will be conducted to ensure work is progressing according to plan.
- Final Inspection: Upon completion of the homes, final inspections will be conducted to ensure all standards are met before handing over to the families.

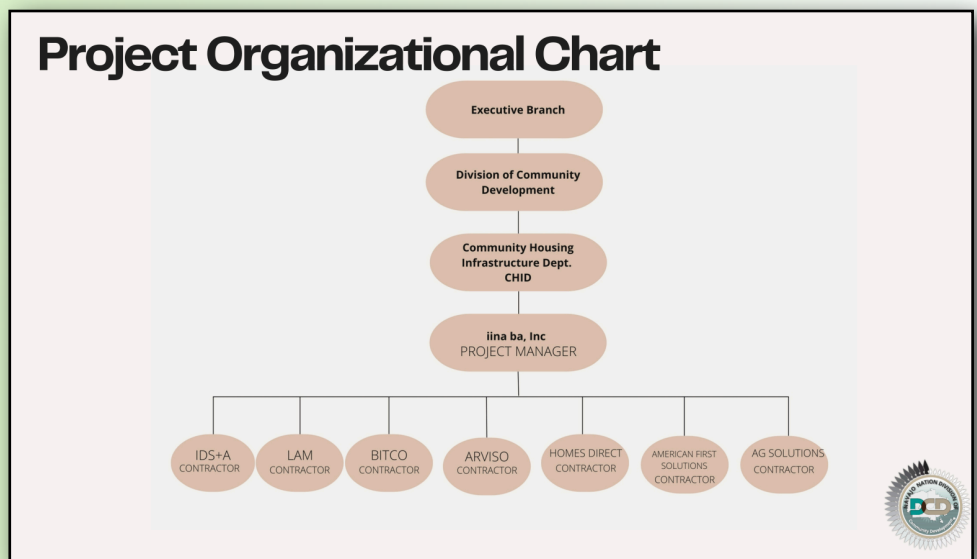
### Project Manager Scope & Deliverables

To ensure the effective and timely execution of these initiatives, a Project Manager Iina Ba, Inc. will oversee the entire process, ensuring all aspects of the project are conducted with the highest standards of accountability and transparency.

Seven respected contractors have been selected to carry out these essential projects, ensuring high standards of quality and efficiency: IDS+A, LAM, BITCO, ARVISO, HOME Direct, American First Solutions, and AG Solutions. Their expertise will be crucial in delivering the much-needed housing and infrastructure improvements across the Navajo Nation.

### Scope:

- Pre-Construction and Construction Reviews: Conduct reviews for pre-construction phases, monthly construction progress, bi-weekly updates, and constructability assessments.
- Accountability Records: Maintain detailed records for federal and Navajo Nation accountability, ensuring compliance with all regulations.
- Schedule Management: Review and approve the Construction Progress schedule and the schedule of amounts to ensure timely project delivery.
- Coordination: Coordinate construction visits between contractors and stakeholders to keep all parties informed and aligned.



CHID / IINA BA, INC. POWER POINT

### Deliverables:

- Progress Reports: Issue regular reports on construction progress to keep all stakeholders updated.
- Meeting Participation: Attend meetings to provide updates on project status, ensuring clear communication throughout the project's lifecycle.
- Payment Monitoring: Monitor payments and address any payment issues to maintain financial transparency and accuracy.
- Cost and Quantity Tracking: Track the status of quantities and costs, reporting any deviations and their impact on the construction budget.
- Field Issue Management: Evaluate, provide recommendations, and approve resolutions for field issues as they arise.
- Monthly Status Reports: Deliver comprehensive monthly reports detailing schedule status, change order log, RFI (Request for Information) log, and any other critical project information.



## Leadership and Commitment

In a significant step forward, President Buu Nygren officially signed the contract for this transformative project on August 30, 2024. This signature not only solidifies the commitment to addressing housing and infrastructure needs but also marks the beginning of a new chapter of the Navajo Nation housing growth and development.

### From President Nygren's Facebook:

To celebrate the contracts, the President invited staff members from the departments and divisions that helped usher them through the cumbersome tribal authorization maze known as the "164 process."

The President credited the staff for making the seemingly impossible possible. They represent the Division of Community Development, Regional Business Development Office, Office of the Controller, Navajo-Hopi Land Commission, Fiscal Recovery Fund Office, the Division of Children and Family Services, Department of Justice, and Department of Personnel Management.

"Today is monumental," President Nygren said. "We've got \$128 million, for sure. So that means that we've got to continue to lobby the Navajo Nation Council and ask for additional money for construction."

The value is in Navajos receiving homes they've waited years for and the expected ripple effect of jobs and career development that will result from building and manufacturing hundreds of new homes.

"I can't imagine the level of excitement and joy hundreds of families will feel," he said. "I'm excited about how many jobs we're going to create all across Navajo. There are going to be a lot of young, seasoned people that are going to learn how to build for the first time."

Patrick Dalgai, manager of the Community Housing & Infrastructure Department said 957 applicants have been assessed and close to 60% already have home site leases.

"The Navajo Nation is focused on the future and to provide the basic needs for our grandmas, grandpas, and families. The construction of new homes is the first step to self-sufficiency and we are behind it," add President Nygren. Watch at: <https://fb.watch/uj4FAI2ePv/>

### Looking Ahead

The investment represents not just a financial boost but a commitment to the long-term prosperity of the Navajo Nation. By working closely with partners like Iina Ba Inc., the Community Housing & Infrastructure Department is ensuring that these projects are tailored to the unique needs of the Navajo Nation residents. As these initiatives roll out, we will continue to engage with the community, seeking input and collaboration to make sure these efforts have the greatest possible impact. Together, we are building a brighter, more resilient future for all.



PHOTO BY SYLVIA JORAN



PHOTO BY DWAYNE WASETA



# New Additions to the Capital Project Management Department

The Capital Project Management Department (CPMD) in Window Rock, Arizona, is excited to welcome two new members to the team: an Engineering Technician and a Senior Engineering Technician. These key hires mark a significant step forward in enhancing the department's capabilities and ensuring the continued success of our capital projects.

## Engineering Technician

The new Engineering Technician Ricky brings a fresh perspective and a robust skill set to the CPMD. With a background in technical support and project coordination, this individual will play a crucial role in assisting project managers with the preparation and review of technical documents, on-site inspections, and ensuring that all engineering activities adhere to industry standards. Their contribution is expected to streamline project workflows and improve overall efficiency within the department.

## Senior Engineering Technician

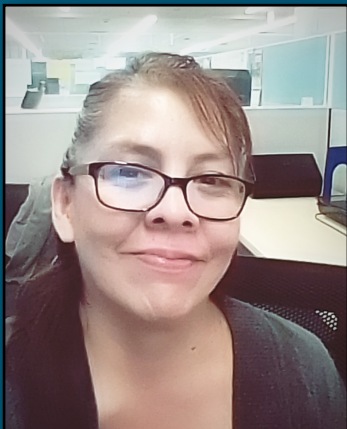
Our newly appointed Senior Engineering Technician Caroline Harvey will oversee infrastructure projects and technical management. This role will involve ensuring that all technical aspects of our projects are executed with precision.

The addition of these talented individuals will significantly bolster the CPMD's ability to manage and execute capital projects effectively. Their job will be instrumental in driving forward high-priority projects, ensuring they are completed on time and within budget. Their combined experience and technical know-how will contribute to the successful delivery of infrastructure projects that are vital to the community in Window Rock and the surrounding areas.

We are confident that these new team members will help elevate the department's performance and are excited about the positive impact they will have on our future projects.

## Meet the New Staff.

Hello my name is Ricky Begay. I am from Twin Lakes NM. I graduated from New Mexico State University (NMSU) with a Bachelor degree in Engineering Technology and a minor in Manufacturing. I am currently the Engineering Technician for Capital Project Management Department. My hobbies include reading, hiking, gaming and sports. A fun fact about me is I used to teach Math to Native American youths during NMSU summer programs.



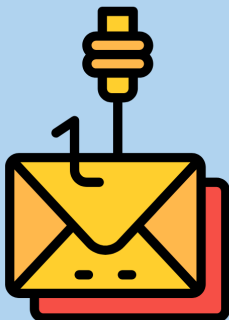
Hello, my name is Caroline Harvey. I am Ta'neeszahnii, born for Honaghaanii. My maternal grandfather's clan is Ashiihii and my paternal grandfather's, Tlashchi'i. I am originally from Rock Point, Arizona. I am the new Senior Engineering Technician from the Capital Projects Management Department. Before joining this team, I worked with Dine College as a Professional Math Tutor, and also with the GIS section within the Department of Water Resources. I'm excited to work with you all and to be part of a team that serves the Navajo Nation.





# IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF PHISHING

01.



## EMAIL PHISHING

Fraudulent emails posing as legitimate entities to trick users into revealing personal information or clicking on malicious links.

02.



## VISHING (VOICE PHISHING)

Phone calls or voice messages aiming to deceive individuals into providing sensitive information or performing actions.

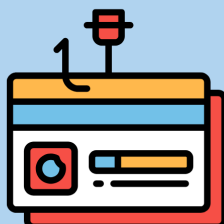
03.



## SMISHING (SMS PHISHING)

Text messages containing links or prompts to reveal personal details or visit malicious websites.

04.



## PHARMING

Redirecting users to fake websites through DNS manipulation or malware, aiming to steal login credentials or sensitive information.

# TECH

tips

## Administrative Services Centers

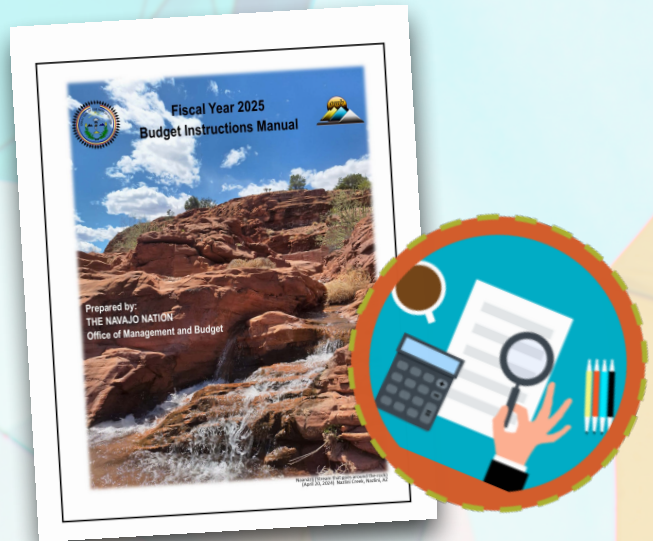
### August Highlights

*In August, our Administrative Services Centers (ASC) team made significant strides in supporting the 110 Navajo chapters.*

*We reviewed budgets and provided crucial technical assistance, ensuring each chapter was well-prepared for the fiscal year ahead. Our eight local offices collaborated with various division programs and Navajo Nation offices to organize a range of training sessions and meetings, including new employee orientations, project management workshops, and best fiscal practices. These efforts are key to fostering growth and sustainability across the Nation.*

*The ASC department has been diligently hosting budget work sessions to assist chapters in preparing for their FY25 Annual Allocations.*

*We also reviewed the Navajo Nation Office of the Controller's FY2025 Budget Instructions Manual and chapter budget procedures. To ensure every chapter is well-equipped, each staff member received a copy of the 2025 Budget Instructions Manual, courtesy of the ASC Department, to serve as a valuable reference throughout the coming fiscal year.*



ASC Office:	Date:	Meeting Location:	Meeting/Training Description: (list any presenters and topics)
Shiprock ASC	8/9/2024	Nenahnezad, NM	FY25 Budget Work Session
Gallup ASC	8/12/2024	Albuquerque, NM	Five Management System Work Session
Gallup ASC	8/13/2024	Albuquerque, NM	Five Management System Work Session
Shiprock ASC	8/13/2024	Red Valley, AZ	CLUP Revision and Update with CLUPC
Gallup ASC	8/15/2024	Albuquerque, NM	Five Management System Work Session
Shiprock ASC	8/15/2024	Upper Fruitland, NM	General Ledger - Proper Use of GL Code
Shiprock ASC	8/20/2024	Tooh Haltsooi, NM	CLUPC and LUP Orientation
Gallup ASC	8/20/2024	Rock Springs, NM	Budget Work Session
Dilkon ASC	8/20/2024	Dilkon, AZ	Five Management System
Crownpoint ASC	8/21/2024	Albuquerque, NM	FY24 Chapter Budgets (WIND), FY25 General Allocation (Projected), Personality IQ Training for Chapter Staff
Shiprock ASC	8/22/2024	ZOOM Meeting	Address Navajo with Deputy Chief of Police Address Navajo Contractors
Tuba City ASC	8/22/2024	ZOOM Meeting	ASC / Chapter Staff Meeting
Crownpoint ASC	8/22/2024	Albuquerque, NM	Staff Event - Team Building; Tse'ii'ahi Community Center Staff provided multiple Team Building activities for Chapter Staff



## Administrative Services Centers

**Crownpoint ASC Team:** Tyrone Begay, SPPS • Cecelia Toledo, ASO • Adrianna Carviso, OS

On August 21, 2024, Eastern Chapters under the Crownpoint ASC Office convened at the Hispano Chamber of Commerce in Albuquerque, NM, for a productive and insightful session. The agenda included a deep dive into the FY24 Chapter Budgets (WIND) and a look ahead at the projected FY25 General Allocation. In addition to the budget discussions, the team also enjoyed a fun and engaging break with Personality IQ Training, which provided valuable insights into our individual strengths and how we can better collaborate as a team.



On August 22, 2024, our Eastern Team under the Crownpoint ASC gathered at the scenic Mariposa Basin Park in Albuquerque, NM for a day filled with team-building activities. Hosted by the Tse'ii'ahi Community Center Staff, the event was a great success, bringing everyone closer together through fun and engaging challenges. The beautiful surroundings and shared experiences helped strengthen our bonds and reinforced our commitment to working as a cohesive team.





## Administrative Services Centers

**Ft. Defiance ASC Team:** Patricia Begay, SPSS • Derek Echohawk, ASO • Laci Begay, OS



On August 28, 2024, the Ft. Defiance ASC hosted a staff meeting at the Tohatchi Chapter House for their assigned chapters. The meeting included program updates and valuable insights from the Navajo Nation Risk Management Program, ensuring chapter operations remain informed and compliant.

On August 29th and 30th, the Ft. Defiance ASC team facilitated a budget work session for their chapters at the Navajo Department of Transportation in Tse Bonito, NM.

The chapters received crucial guidance on budgeting their funds for FY2025 while ensuring compliance with Navajo Nation laws and policies. The Ft. Defiance ASC staff played a key role in providing the necessary information, helping the chapters successfully navigate this important process.





## Administrative Services Centers

**Gallup ASC:** *Guarena Adeky, SPPS • Myrna James, ASO*

*During the week of August 12th-16th, the Gallup ASC office organized a series of budget work sessions in Albuquerque, offering a tailored approach by scheduling chapters in groups on different days. This allowed for more personalized guidance on the proper budget procedures and policies as the Eastern chapters plan for Fiscal Year 2025.*



*The sessions were highly engaging, with department staff actively providing insights and support. Participants gathered around a conference table, attentively following the discussions. Guarena Adeky (SPPS) led the training sessions with expertise, offering valuable guidance on budgeting practices specific to her assigned chapters. Her in-depth knowledge and hands-on approach ensured that each chapter received the support needed to effectively plan and manage their budgets for the upcoming fiscal year.*





*Changes In Our Team*

***Elaine Benally***



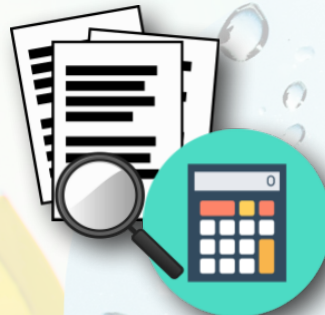
*It is with mixed emotions that we bid farewell to Elaine Benally, who has been an integral part of our team since May 2023.*

*Initially hired as an Office Specialist, Elaine quickly showcased her exceptional skills and dedication, earning a well-deserved promotion to Administrative Services Officer for the Kayenta ASC Local office in September 2023.*

*In her role as Office Specialist, Elaine played a crucial part in supporting the Navajo chapter houses, facilitating trainings, organizing meetings, and helping chapter staff access the resources they needed to excel in their roles. Her contributions were invaluable in ensuring that the Kayenta Local office ran smoothly and efficiently.*

*As an Administrative Services Officer, Elaine became a vital resource for the chapters, providing expert guidance in fiscal management and ensuring adherence to the five management systems, as well as Navajo Nation laws and policies. Her dedication to the chapters' success has left a lasting impact, and she will be greatly missed.*

*We thank Elaine for her outstanding service and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.*



***Farewell and Best Wishes!***



*Changes In Our Team*

*Arionna Chicharello*



*With a blend of gratitude and bittersweet farewell, the Administrative Services Center announces the departure of our dedicated Office Assistant, Arionna Chicharello.*

*Arionna, who joined us in November 2023, has been a vital part of our Window Rock team for the past nine months. Her exceptional work, especially in handling timesheets and payroll processing for the non-LGA certified Chapters, has been greatly appreciated.*

*This August, Arionna completed her medical assistant program and certification, and she will soon embark on a new journey in Phoenix, where she has secured a position in her chosen field. As she prepares for this exciting transition, she plans to continue her studies and professional development.*

*While we will certainly miss Arionna's contributions and presence, we are thrilled to celebrate her achievements and wish her the very best in her future endeavors.*

*Thank you, Arionna, for your hard work and dedication. We wish you continued success and happiness in all that lies ahead!*



*Farewell and Best Wishes!*



## **August 2024 Safety Tip: Driving Safely in Rainy Weather**

*As we move through the rainy season, it's essential to stay safe on the roads. Here are a few tips to keep in mind:*



**1** *Slow Down: Wet roads reduce traction, increasing the risk of hydroplaning. Reduce your speed and allow extra distance between you and the car in front.*



**2** *Use Your Headlights: Even during the day, rain can reduce visibility. Turn on your headlights to make yourself more visible to other drivers.*



**3** *Avoid Puddles: Driving through standing water can cause you to lose control or even stall your engine. Stick to the driest part of the road when possible.*



*Check Your Wipers and Tires: Ensure your windshield wipers are in good condition, and your tires have sufficient tread to handle slick roads.*



*Stay Alert: Rainy conditions demand more attention. Stay focused, minimize distractions, and be prepared for sudden stops or lane changes.*

*Stay safe out there and remember: better late than never!*





# Division of Community Development

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT  
CJN-29-22 & CMY 28-24

AUGUST 2024 REPORT

Division of Community Development has 4 Fiscal Recovery Staff who are working with the 110 Chapters (LGA & NON LGA) in ensuring timelines and funds are spent. They are also working with other entities on contracting the Bathroom Additions, Electrical Connection to Homes, Housing and Housing Manufacturing Projects.

## OVERVIEW OF CJN 29-22

1. To support the COVID-19 public health and Economic response by addressing Covid-19 and its impact on public health.
2. To provide premium pay to eligible workers performing essential work;
3. To provide government services up to the amount of revenue loss due to the pandemic;
4. To make necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

## ARPA OF CJN 29-22

As of June 17, 2024 there has been over 438 ARPA/FRF projects that have been approved by the Navajo Nation Council or the Naabik'íyáti' Committee.

From January of 2024 to June 2024 a total amount of \$25,936,043.69 has been encumbered in Sub Recipient Agreements with LGA Certified Chapters. A total of \$8,111,719.75 has been expended in purchasing projects and or contracts for the Chapters ranging from Rural Addressing office equipment, Personal Protective Equipment, Chapter Renovations and other expenditure plans. Additionally \$8,238,588.32 was encumbered by other oversights for Delegate Regional Projects.

## OVERVIEW OF CMY 28-24

On June 17, 2024 CMY-28-2024 was signed in order to get the most from the Fiscal Recovery Funds, The legislation CMY 28-24 reallocates \$737.5 million to projects that have the highest likelihood of not being spent by the December 2026 deadline. The obligated projects include \$168,189,463.24 in Delegate Regional Projects monies. This funding goes into the Revenue Replacement Reserve fund (RRR). Eliminating ARPA federal deadlines for those identified projects.

## CJN 29-22 VS CMY 28-24 SECTION 3: DELEGATE REGIONAL PROJECTS

TOTAL ALLOCATION:

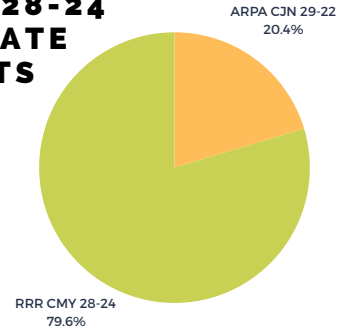
\$211,256,148.00

RRR CMY 28-24 Funds :

\$168,189,463.24

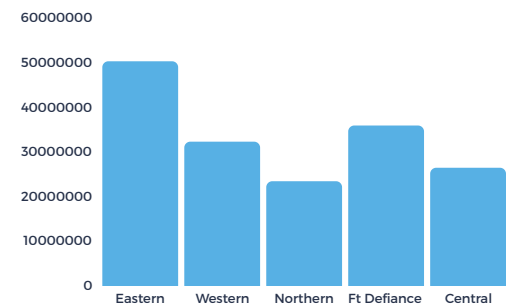
ARPA CJN 29-22 Funds:

\$43,066,351.76



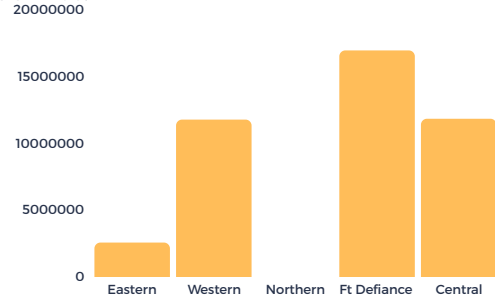
## CMY 28-24 SECTION 3 DELEGATE REGIONAL PROJECT

Delegate Regional Project monies that are rolling over to the "RRR" fund. Will not be subjected to ARPA deadlines.



## CJN 29-22 SECTION 3: DELEGATE REGIONAL PROJECTS

Delegate Regional Project monies that are encumbered. Certified Chapter Sub Recipient agreements. Are subjected to ARPA deadlines.



\*Modular home purchased by Dennehotso Chapter through their SRA.



FRF Website



DCD Website



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dbegay@nndcd.org

# SECTION 11: BATHROOM ADDITIONS

\*WO1-WO8

\*AS OF 08/22/24

99

completed bathroom  
additions

\*as of , August 22,2024

204

in Bathroom Additions  
in progress

\*as of , August 22,2024

48%

funds obligated of  
\$50,000,000.00

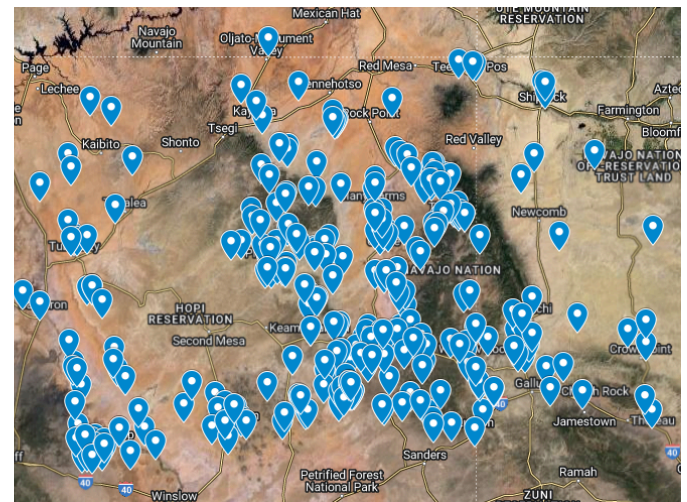
\*as of , August 22,2024

Resolution CJN-29-22, in Section 11, allocated ARPA/FRF funds for bathroom additions for each council delegate region. The Division of Community Development ARPA Office has been designated the project manager for the ARPA bathroom addition projects in November 2023, and has been working with the Indian Health Services Sanitation Facilities Construction, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) and Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority (NECA) to achieve the goal of construction of bathroom additions.

To date, DCD ARPA Office has issued eight (8) work orders to NECA. Of these, Work Orders 1 and 2 have been fully completed, while the remaining 7 are nearing completion. We are pleased to report that we have completed 204-bathroom additions since November 2023. Currently, 99-bathroom additions are in progress, We aim to complete these before winter.

Additionally, in the past month, we have issued two more Work Orders to NECA (Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority)—Work Orders 7a and 8—encompassing a combined total of 146 clients.

Overall, once we complete all Work Orders 1 through 8, we anticipate having over 300 bathrooms additions constructed across the Navajo Nation.



Work Order 1	19 recipients (constructions)	100% complete
Work Order 2	9 recipients (constructions)	100% complete
Work Order 3	56 recipients (constructions & assessments)	95% complete- constructions 100% complete- assessments
Work Order 4	304 recipients (assessments)	90% complete
Work Order 5	56 recipients (constructions & assessments)	75% complete- constructions 100% complete- assessments
Work Order 6	40 recipients (constructions)	20% complete- constructions 100% complete- assessments
Work Order 7a	105 recipients (constructions)	10% complete- constructions 100% complete- assessments
Work Order 8	41 recipients (constructions & assessments)	In progress
Total	=304 (assessments)	
	= 326 (constructions)	



# Bulletin Board

## Navajo Nation's oldest code talker, John Kinsel, Sr., 107, receives home renovations he's awaited for years

LUKACHUKAI, Ariz. – The Navajo Nation's oldest code talker waited years to see the log home he built himself receive the renovations it needed.

On Wednesday, Navajo Code Talker John Kinsel, Sr., 107, his family and the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration celebrated the turnover of keys to his newly renovated home that he built in 1950.

"Mr. Kinsel fought for all of us," President Nygren said to Mr. Kinsel by video. "He used our language to protect us and keep us alive to this day. He deserves these upgrades to his home. The renovations needed to happen a long time ago."

Last May, President Nygren joined Mr. Kinsel, his family and workers

from The Sparrow Group for a groundbreaking when renovations began. An all-Navajo crew completed Mr. Kinsel's home renovations in eight weeks, just two weeks before Navajo Code Talkers Day on August 14.

Mr. Kinsel told the Veterans Administration he did not want the new home he was eligible for. He said he preferred to stay in the house he built from logs brought from the Lukachukai Mountains in a horse-drawn wagon with two large Clydesdales.

Veterans Administration Director Bobbie Ann Baldwin said it was an honor of a lifetime for the Navajo VA and the contractor team to renovate a home "for our chei, our patriarch, our national treasure."

"Oh, my goodness, it was amazing," she said. "For me, as a Marine, helping my brother Marine into a safe comfortable home is beyond words. As Marines, not leaving anyone behind, in a sense, this is the greatest sentiment of that – not leaving him behind."

Director Baldwin said these kinds of projects are very near and dear to her heart, as was meeting Mr. Kinsel. She said the home he built with his own hands so long ago "was a fine home but it needed more amenities."

"That's what we wanted to provide because we know the



home is where many of our healings begin, especially for us veterans," she said.

"Our healing begins in our home, especially if we know our home is safe, somewhere we can seek refuge."

Ronald Kinsel, Mr. Kinsel's son and primary caregiver, said before the house was renovated, he would take out all of his buckets when they saw a storm coming.

"We had two waterfalls inside," he said. "One in the south and one in the west. Now we don't have to worry any longer."

Interim VA Deputy Director Olin Kieyoomia said that over the years many tribal leaders came by to promise Mr. Kinsel their help.

"All these years I would stop by, and it was really saddening that nobody ever came to help you," he said. "It's a real blessing that we can honor you with the simple necessities that every Navajo family wishes they can have – running water, electricity, a shower, a running toilet, a safe place, a kitchen."

Many didn't know that until now that Mr. Kinsel cooked his food on a tiny camp stove with a propane bottle, Mr.

Kieyoomia said.

"Using the restroom was a task on its own," Mr. Kieyoomia said. "But now he doesn't have to worry about that. We really wish we could have done this for all the other Code Talkers that have passed. Unfortunately, we weren't around then."

But the Veterans Administration is here now, President Nygren said.

"I push my administration everyday so more veterans can have a home that will protect them the way they protected us," he said. "I am just glad we were able to come together, myself, everyone from Sparrow Group, the construction workers, NNVA Director Bobbie Ann Baldwin and Interim Deputy Director Olin Kieyoomia."

Alvira Teller, the Veterans Administration senior housing specialist, said that when the Nygren Administration came into office, the focus to serve veterans changed.

"When we first started here about a year ago, our main goal was to assist all the veterans and getting the homeless veterans into a home," she said. "A lot of them were overlooked."

She said the staff got together to find out who had been served and who had not.

"We sat down to make sure the ones overlooked for years were our first priority," she said. "I looked through 686 housing files. That's including the deceased files, closed files, the denied files, surviving source files, renovation files and new construction files. That's just for Fort Defiance."

A top priority of the administration, she said, was Mr. Kinsel.

"We were able to complete that goal within this past year," she said. "With Mr. Kinsel, Bobbi Ann and Olin made sure he was taken care of. He's very excited and he's happy. He's ecstatic. He's more than appreciative for what he's been given."

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

## Community celebrates grand opening Sage Memorial Hospital

GANADO, Ariz. – Sage Memorial Hospital celebrated the grand opening of its new facilities Aug. 24. The event began at 10 a.m. with a ceremonial posting of colors by the Ganado Veterans Group, speeches from respected leaders, and entertainment by local artists.

Navajo Nation Council delegates joined local and federal leaders in inaugurating a new state-of-the-art facility that will provide a wide range of expanded services, including emergency care, in-patient treatment, obstetrics, rehabilitation, dental care and optometry.

The grand opening featured speeches by Indian Health Services Director Roselyn Tso,

Sage Memorial Hospital Board Chair Delores J. Noble and CEO Melinda White, and former Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez.

"We are incredibly proud to unveil this new chapter for Sage Memorial Hospital," White said.

The festivities concluded with a ceremonial ribbon-cutting and an open house, allowing community members to explore the new resources.

Information provided by SMH, NNC

READ MORE: <https://bit.ly/3T51D0n>





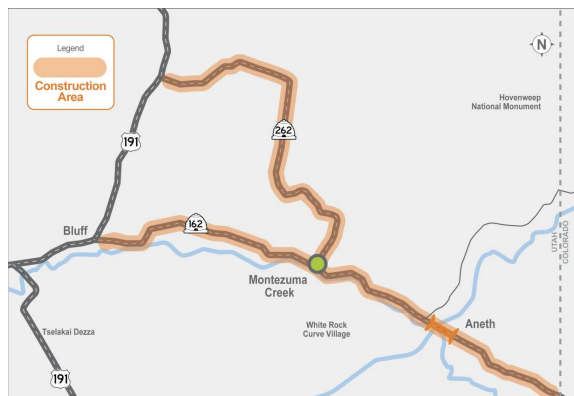
# Bulletin Board

## Utah, Navajo Nation officials break ground on \$152M San Juan County road upgrade

By Tim Vandenack, [KSL.com](https://www.ksl.com) | Posted - Aug. 14, 2024

MONTEZUMA CREEK, San Juan County – Utah and Navajo Nation representatives broke ground Tuesday on a \$152 million road upgrade project in San Juan County that will benefit locals, visitors to area tourist sites and oil workers.

"It's been almost 20 years of hard work and collaboration between state and tribal leaders to get to today's groundbreaking," Utah Lt. Gov. Deidre Henderson, who took part in the ceremony, said in a Facebook post. A portion of the road section to be improved crosses Navajo Nation land. Plans call for upgrades of 54 miles of parts of state Route 162 and S.R. 262, including the section of S.R. 162 from Bluff east through Montezuma Creek to the Colorado state line. S.R. 262 will be improved from Montezuma Creek northwesterly to where it meets U.S. 191.



"This project will make travel safer, smoother and more convenient for the residents in the area; visitors traveling to Bears Ears, Four Corners and Hovenweep National Monument; and workers serving the petroleum extraction industry in the region," says a Utah Department of Transportation statement.

Around \$48 million for the project is coming from a Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects grant, \$79 million comes from another federal grant and \$25 million is coming from state coffers, according to UDOT. Apart from improvements to the roadway surface, a

roundabout will be built in Montezuma at the S.R. 162-S.R. 262 intersection and some of the shoulders and lanes will be widened, among many other things.

Work on the road section, dubbed the "energy corridor" by UDOT given its use by oil workers, is expected to be complete by the end of 2025.

Separately, Navajo Nation leaders have long pressed for support from Utah officials to build a new 38-mile road section to the remote Navajo Mountain area in the western portion of the Utah section of the reservation, so far to no avail.

READ MORE: <https://bit.ly/478A8t0>

## San Juan Generating Station stacks demolished



Jacqlin Aragon | KOB  
Updated: August 24, 2024 - 10:52 PM  
Published: August 23, 2024 - 6:56 PM

SAN JUAN COUNTY, N.M. – Nearly two years after the San Juan Generating Station closed down, Four Corner residents are saying goodbye to the coal plant that brought in hundreds of jobs and millions in revenue.

"I mean, this is sort of the closure of an era," said

Mike Eisenfeld, with San Juan Citizen Alliance.

While some people fought to keep the station up and running, others say it was time for a new era.

"The four stacks came down, and I think it symbolically represents an opportunity for transition," said Eisenfeld.

With so much history, emotions ran high as the stacks came down.

The four 400-foot tall stacks that once stood upon the San Juan Generating Station near Shiprock now lay on the ground.

Eisenfeld says he's been tracking the coal plant for nearly two decades, and with all the positives it brought in, there was a downside.

He says the 1973 power plant provided electricity for places as far away as California.

"San Juan Generating Station had a significant legacy of not only providing electricity but also a high amount of pollution," Eisenfeld said.

With all of the pollution, he says the shutdown, that came 31 years earlier than expected, was needed.

"So we think the community is better off without that pollution, and we think that it gives us the opportunity to transition and transform this area into something different economically," said Eisenfeld.

Now it's time for folks to figure out the next big move for the area.

READ MORE: <https://bit.ly/4g4ups6>



# Bulletin Board

## ARPA Team's August Efforts: Coordinating Fund Transitions and Advancing Bathroom Additions

by Projects & Programs Specialist: Dawnelle Begay, Planner/Estimator; Ryan Begay, Planner/Estimator



The Division of Community Development ARPA team for the month of August focused on assisting and coordinating weekly meetings with the Office of the Controller, Office of Management and Budget, Fiscal Recovery Fund Office and Division of Natural Resources. The purpose of these meetings was to help assist in the transition of the ARPA funds to General Funds for the Section 3: Delegate Region Projects.

Under Section 11: Bathroom Additions the project manager Ryan Begay focused on updating the Delegates and providing updates to local stakeholders. To date 99 bathroom additions have been completed across the Navajo Nation.

## Miss Navajo Nation represents tribe at the Paris Olympics

KNAU News Talk - Arizona Public Radio | By KNAU STAFF  
Published August 7, 2024 at 7:28 AM MST

Miss Navajo recently attended the 2024 Summer Olympic Games in Paris as a representative of the tribal nation.

Miss Navajo Nation Amy Naazbah Reeves-Begaye said she spoke with international attendees on topics like Navajo tourism and cultural heritage and had a chance to learn about their cultures and backgrounds.

In a Facebook post, Begaye said she was “beyond thankful” for the invitation from the Paris Olympic Committee as well as the support from the Navajo Nation government and other entities.

The 25-year-old Begaye calls Kayenta and Beclabito, New Mexico home. She is

studying medical nutrition as a master’s student at Arizona State University and will serve as Miss Navajo Nation through the end of the 2024.

Source: <https://bit.ly/3MyBkMB>





## PERSONNEL NEWS -- DCD OPEN POSITIONS

POSITION TITLE	LOCATION	PAY RATE	CLOSING DATE
<b>Administrative Service Centers</b>			
Office Assistant (S)	Window Rock, AZ	\$25,285.68	9/4/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Wide Ruins, AZ	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Oak Springs, AZ	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Crystal, NM	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coyote Canyon, NM	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Sawmill, AZ	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Indian Wells, AZ	\$30,046.32	8/29/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Shiprock, NM	\$30,046.32	9/5/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Alamo, NM	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Standing Rock, NM	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Tohajilee, NM	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Torreón, NM	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Red Valley, AZ	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Teecnospos, AZ	\$42,407.28	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Cudei	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Kaibeto, AZ	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coalmine Mesa, AZ	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Cameron, AZ	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coppermine, AZ	\$30,046.32	8/30/2024
Senior Program & Project Specialist (S)	Kayenta, AZ	\$63,642.24	9/5/2024
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Pueblo Pintado, NM	\$30,046.32	9/4/2024

### Capital Projects Management Department

Registered Architect Window Rock, AZ \$75,585.60 8/30/2024

(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

“

Tell me and I'll forget. Show me, and I may not remember. Involve me, and I'll understand.

NATIVE AMERICAN PROVERB

GRACIOUSQUOTES.COM



# Navajo Nation Census Information Center News

## Rethinking Urban and Rural Distinctions

### Changes to Population Distribution and Commuting Patterns Blur the Line Between Rural and Urban

August 27, 2024

Author: Earlene K.P. Dowell

For decades, American families have been moving farther away from city centers in search of lifestyle changes, more space and other amenities. Suburbs have increasingly become employment centers, enabling workers to move farther out, even into rural areas, and still have a reasonable commute.

As a result, we're seeing suburban-style subdivisions in otherwise rural areas; residents of small rural towns working in urban areas; and jobs in urban and suburban areas filled by workers living in predominantly agricultural areas.

"While this is not new, the trend has been a blurring of the line between rural and urban," said Michael Ratcliffe, senior geographer in the U.S. Census Bureau's Geography Division.

The increasing connectedness between people who live in rural areas but work in urban areas highlights an interesting dynamic: a melding of rural and urban economies.

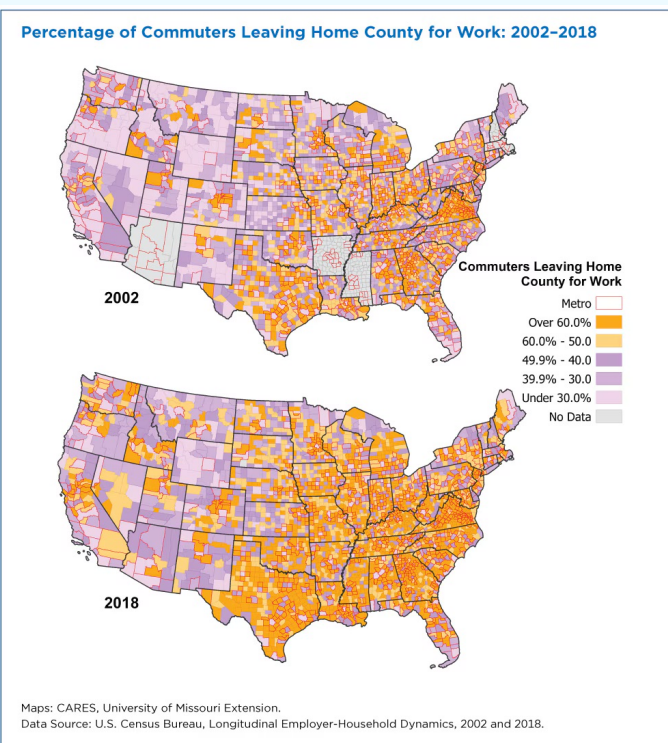
#### Connected Economies

A 2023 Census Bureau Local Employment Dynamics (LED) Webinar explored "The Importance of Off-Farm Income to the Agricultural Economy."

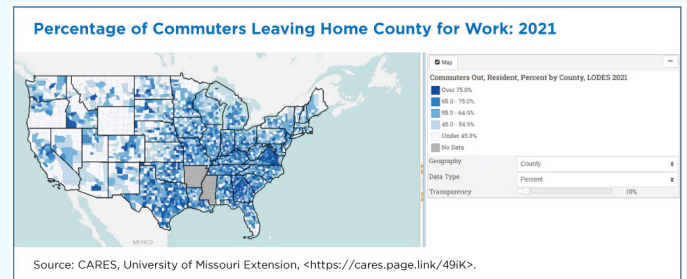
The webinar featured results of a study showing the rural and agricultural economy has evolved over the past half century to benefit connected and diverse communities.

Using the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES) (FTP) data, the study (by University of Missouri Extension researchers Alan Spell, an assistant professor, and Justin Krohn, a research project analyst for the Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems, highlighted increased interactions between workers and businesses across metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties.

The map below shows change in the commuting patterns of rural area residents and growth in economic connectedness with urban areas from 2002 to 2018.



They used 2021 LODES data to show that the number of commuters working outside of the counties in which they lived increased by 15% or more in some areas.



Understanding this dynamic relationship is vital to strengthening the financial health of communities. But increased rural and urban economic interdependence can be hard to make out when geographic areas of different kinds of communities are not clearly defined or distinguishable.

"There are a lot of rural communities that are economically tied to larger cities, but they just disappear as they are being captured into metropolitan classifications," Spell said.

This melding, however, is not reflected well in existing classifications and the way they tend to be used in analysis.

"This illustrates the need to move beyond urban/rural and metropolitan/nonmetropolitan definitions," Ratcliffe said. "Instead, we need to develop and implement geographic area classifications that help highlight the social and economic relationships that, to some extent, have always existed."

#### What Is "Rural?"

The Census Bureau defines urban areas as densely developed territory encompassing a variety of residential, commercial and nonresidential land uses.

Rural is basically any territory not in an urban area.

While the Census Bureau's urban and rural classification divides areas into densely developed urban areas and less developed rural areas, it does not tell us about the social and economic interactions that occur between areas and across the urban-rural divide.

Many researchers have defined metropolitan as "urban" and nonmetropolitan as "rural." Based on the Census Bureau's definition, 55.7% of the nation's rural population lives within metropolitan statistical areas.

A county could go from nonmetropolitan to metropolitan status for a variety of reasons: expansion of densely developed urban/suburban areas; more rural residents working in urban centers; urban area workers moving to rural communities; or a combination of these.

A change in status from nonmetropolitan to metropolitan should not necessarily be viewed as a change from rural to urban, but rather as an indicator that settlement patterns and economic interactions are changing.

#### A Need for New Classifications

Context matters and can change the economic dynamics of rural areas.

Changes in where people live and work point to the need for new kinds of classifications – ones that move away from describing communities simply as urban, rural, metropolitan or nonmetropolitan.

For example, a rural community within easy driving distance of an urban area has quick access to the variety of services, amenities and opportunities available in that urban center.

On the other hand, a small town farther away from larger urban centers might support services and retail not needed in small communities on the edge of a large urban area, allowing small businesses to compete against larger urban retailers. But more isolated rural areas may also not have enough people to sustain retail establishments, hospitals and other services.

READ MORE AT: <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2024/08/redefining-rural.html>

The University of Missouri Extension established the Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems or CARES to develop maps and data visualization tools.



### Continued Insights From Our Community-of-the-Whole Approach

Here's an insight to think about that emerged from my travel engagements: Public service can take many forms. We at the U.S. Census Bureau embrace our public service mission to provide quality data on our nation's people, places and economy by collecting and publishing statistical data.

But collecting, processing and then releasing statistical data followed by a 'mic drop' is never enough. We also undertake concerted communications and outreach efforts to help stakeholders and the public understand the availability, strengths and limitations of the data we provide. This further empowers data users to help their communities assess needs and govern, plan, and develop economic and other policies.

All the while, public feedback on our data – what's good, not-so-good and what's missing – is critical to guide the enhancement of our products and to fill gaps to address unmet needs. It's essential to advance the utility of our enormous data assets to public users and potential users. After all, the public pays for our treasure trove of information. It should benefit from it, too.

[Click here to continue.](#)

### Census Bureau Data Highlights Vulnerable Populations Exposed to Hurricane Debby

[Hurricane Debby](#) made landfall as a Category 1 (74-95 miles per hour) hurricane in the Big Bend region of Florida at 7 a.m. EDT Monday, August 5, and is currently moving slowly through Florida and Georgia as a tropical storm. Debby has already produced dangerous winds and storm surge, and it is forecasted to produce near-historic levels of rainfall and flash flooding risk as it makes its way through Georgia and the Carolinas. What can we say about the people who are being exposed to these hazards? The Census Bureau's data on the U.S. population puts it in a unique position to analyze the characteristics of the exposed population in close to real-time.

To conduct this analysis, we need timely information on population characteristics in a format that can be easily combined with geospatial information published by the National Hurricane Center. This is made possible by the prototype gridded Environmental Impacts Frame. The Environmental Impacts Frame (EIF) is a confidential microdata infrastructure developed by the U.S. Census Bureau that combines residential and demographic information from administrative records (including data from tax returns, Medicare participation, Census Bureau collected data, and the U.S. Postal Service) and surveys with geospatial information on environmental hazards. As part of this research project, the Census Bureau has developed a privacy-protected gridded dataset that provides information on the population within 0.01 degree grid cells (about 1 km) by race/ethnicity, age, sex and income, using the most up-to-date information available from linked administrative records on individuals' locations.

[Click here to continue!](#)

August 20, 2024

Volume 24 Issue 11

### 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

### How the Detailed DHC-B Adaptive Design Determines Data Availability

In this video tutorial, we show you what to expect in data.census.gov when accessing data from the 2020 Census Detailed DHC-B.

### Exploring Census Data Webinar Series: Gems of Census Data - Highlights of Key Programs & Data

Thursday, August 22, 2024  
Time: 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET

Join us for the Exploring Census Data webinar series on Gems of Census Data - Highlights of Key Programs and Data. Census Bureau subject matter experts will present information available from multiple sources with crucial statistics for business needs. You will learn about the different business and demographic data available from the Business Dynamics Statistics and the American Community Survey. Explore establishment and firm characteristics to include dynamics such as job creation and destruction, startups, shutdowns and the importance of demographic data.



## Census Bureau Releases 2020 Census Household Data for Detailed Race and Ethnicity Groups, Tribes and Villages

The U.S. Census Bureau today released 2020 Census counts of households, along with information on household type and tenure (whether the home is owned or rented) for 300 detailed race and ethnicity groups and 1,187 American Indian and Alaska Native tribes and villages. The [2020 Census Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File B](#) (Detailed DHC-B) provides household information based on the race or ethnicity of the householder (the first adult in a household for whom census responses were provided).

The Detailed DHC-B data are available for the nation, states, counties, places, census tracts and American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian (AIANNH) areas.

Today's data product is the companion product to the [Detailed DHC-A](#), which provided total population and the number of males and females by age for the same detailed groups. The Detailed DHC-A was released in September 2023.

The Detailed DHC-B includes data for the household population only. Group quarters (such as college dormitories, prisons or military barracks) are excluded from this data product.

For more information about what the Detailed DHC-B includes, visit the blog "[Understanding the Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File B.](#)"

[Click here to continue.](#)

## Upcoming

### 2020 Modified Age & Race Census File

The U.S. Census Bureau is scheduled to release national and county-level modified age and race data by single-year of age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin from the 2020 Census. Files were created by applying age smoothing to a subset of age data as well as redistributing the "Some Other Race" values from the 2020 Census into the five race categories included in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget 1997 revised standards for the collection, tabulation, and presentation of federal data on race and ethnicity. These data will allow for accurate comparisons by race between 2020 Census results, the 2020 Demographic Analysis estimates, and the official population estimates. Visit the Modified Race Data webpage to access modified race data from the 2010 and 2000 Censuses. (Scheduled for release September 5.)

### Income in the United States: 2023

The Census Bureau will announce the nation's annual estimates on income, earnings and inequality to evaluate national economic trends and understand their effect on the well-being of households and individuals. These estimates are based on the 2024 Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement. (Scheduled for release September 10.)

## Hispanic Heritage Month: 2024

Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the contributions of Americans tracing their roots to Spain, Mexico, Central America, South America and the Spanish-speaking nations of the Caribbean. In 1968, Congress set aside a week for this observance and two decades later expanded it to a month stretching from September 15 to October 15. The timing is historically significant as September 15 is the anniversary of independence in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The designated period is also a nod to those from Mexico and Chile, which celebrate their independence September 16 and September 18, respectively.

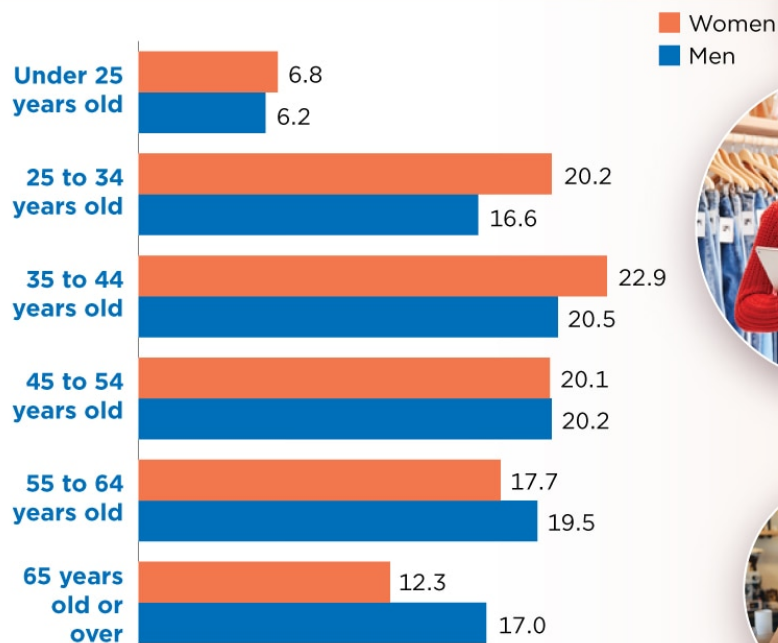
[Click for facts!](#)





# Distribution of Nonemployer Business Owners

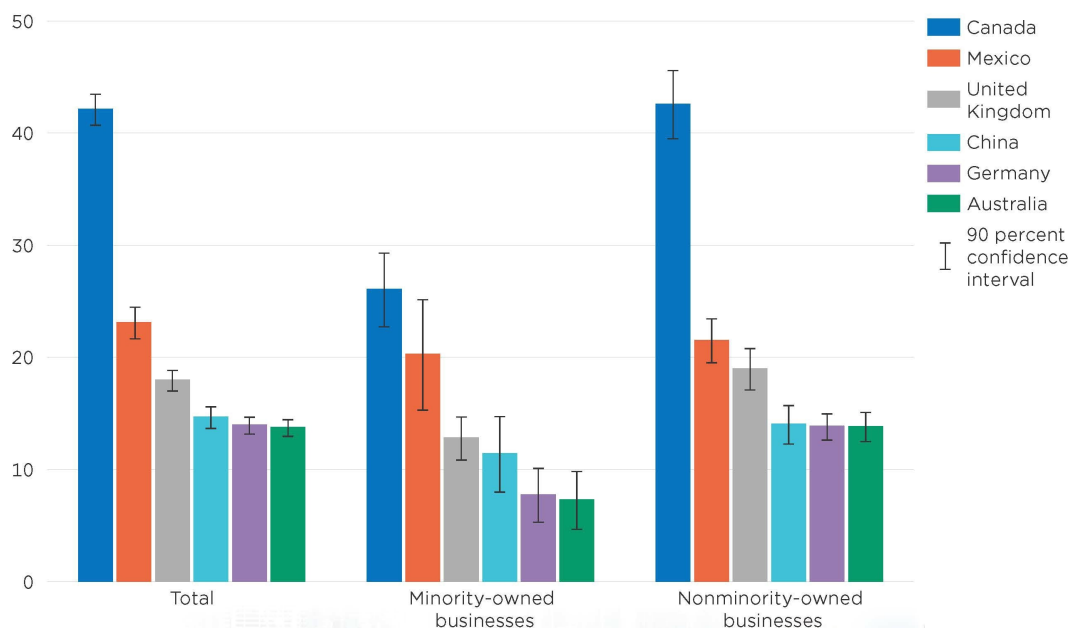
Percentages Represented by Age and Sex



Note: Nonemployer businesses are businesses with no paid employment or payroll, annual receipts of \$1,000 or more (\$1 or more in the construction industries), and filing IRS tax forms for sole proprietorships (Form 1040, Schedule C), partnerships (Form 1065), or corporations (the Form 1120 series). The Census Bureau has reviewed this data product to ensure appropriate access, use, and disclosure avoidance protection of the confidential source data (Project No. 7504866, Disclosure Review Board (DRB) approval number: CBDRB-FY24-0307).



## Percentage of U.S. Exporting Firms Exporting to Each Destination by Ownership Status: 2021



Note: All estimates are based on identified exporters sampled as part of the Annual Business Survey and do not represent all exporting firms. Only the top six exporting destinations for the Total category are included. These estimates are not necessarily the top six exporting destinations for minority- and nonminority-owned firms. Minority-owned firms are classified as any race and ethnicity combination other than non-Hispanic and White. Nonminority firms are classified as non-Hispanic and White. The Annual Business Survey is sponsored by the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics within the National Science Foundation. The U.S. Census Bureau has reviewed this data product for unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and has approved the disclosure avoidance practices applied (Approval ID CBDRB-FY23-0479).





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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**Housing Improvement  
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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 specifics 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.



# August 2024



The DCD Newsletter, "Community Info", is produced monthly by the Division of Community Development and is a resource for division staff and chapters.

**NEWSLETTER TEAM:**

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