



23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 25, 2017

MEDIA CONTACTS

Jared Touchin (928) 221-9253
Jolene Holgate (928) 380-4174
Crystalyne Curley (928) 286-7918
nnlb.communications@gmail.com

Law and Order Committee commends the Judicial Branch for establishing the Diné Action Plan

WINDOW ROCK – On Monday, the Law and Order Committee received a report from the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch grants administrator Raquel Chee, regarding the Diné Action Plan, formally known as the Navajo Nation Tribal Action Plan. The document is a comprehensive plan that addresses three components including violence, substance use disorder, and suicide, which threaten the health and well being of the Navajo people and also identifies challenges.

Chee explained during her report that the Diné Action Plan greatly relies on Navajo traditional cultural methods, Nistáhákéés, Nahat'áh, liná, and Siihasin, to create, implement, measure, and improve holistic programs to address suicide, violence, and substance addiction.

LOC member Council Delegate Otto Tso (Tó Nanees Dizi) commended Chee and her staff for creating the plan, which could be utilized to prioritize initiatives within the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety.

“A plan like this could be very helpful during strategic planning and budget allocations. The plan clearly illustrates the critical needs to improve the well being of the people using Navajo traditional principles and values,” said Delegate Tso.

According to the Chee, the plan will serve as a foundation for funding requests and establishing community initiatives to address violence, substance abuse, and suicides.

In support of the plan, LOC member Council Delegate Kee Allen Begay, Jr. (Low Mountain, Many Farms, Nazlini, Tachee/Blue Gap, Tselani/Cottonwood), recommended that all the involved entities analyze and suggest policy changes to reflect the goals of the plan.

“Every plan needs to reflect the policies. If policy changes are needed to accomplish the plan’s goals, I highly recommend the programs to bring that forth to the Council,” said Delegate Begay.

Chee also acknowledged the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Tribal Technical Assistance and Training Center and the Bureau of Justice Assistance for providing technical assistance and financial assistance to develop the Diné Action Plan.

The Diné Action Plan is expected to be published upon the approval of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The Law and Order Committee approved the report with a vote of 4-0.

#

For news on the latest legislative branch activities, please visit www.navajonationcouncil.org or find us on Facebook and Twitter, keywords: Navajo Nation Council