



The 24TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL  
Office of the Speaker

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## The University of Arizona honors Louva Dahozy with Honorary Doctorate in Science

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**TUCSON, Ariz.** — Speaker Seth Damon and the 24th Navajo Nation Council acknowledge and honor Diné grandmother and community leader Louva McCabe Dahozy who was honored by the University of Arizona with an Honorary Doctorate of Science from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in Tucson, Ariz.

Dahozy is a Diné knowledge holder, health educator, cultural teacher, and voters' rights activist who joined the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension system as a community educator in 1958.

“Dr. Louva Dahozy has been noted as the mother of the Navajo people and rightfully she owns that title. Her compassion and dedicated service to our families, especially our youth are inspiring. She has uplifted the Diné language and worked every day to ensure the Navajo Nation ate healthy food to survive. You will always recognize her voice on the radio advocating for our right to vote and for students to return home to help our people. The Navajo Nation recognizes this prestigious academic title bestowed to her by the University of Arizona,” said Speaker Seth Damon (Bááhaalí, Chichiltah, Manuelito, Red Rock, Rock Springs, Tséyatoh).

Serving the Office of Navajo Economic Opportunity in the late 1960s, Dahozy helped secure federal funding for radio programs in the Diné language that focused on healthy foods, nutrition, and the importance of home economics. She established the first Navajo homemaker's radio program that aired for ten years on how food brings healing and good health.

“We send our congratulations to Louva Dahozy on her honorary Doctorate in Science from the University of Arizona. She has received numerous awards in recognition of her work on behalf of the Navajo people and for Indian Country. Mrs. Dahozy helped establish the Navajo Women and Infant Children Program and wrote the first Diné food cookbook. She is an advocate for families to live healthier lives and the Fort Defiance community honors her service. May the Holy People bless our beloved matriarch, Dr. Louva Dahozy,” said Council Delegate Wilson Stewart Jr. (Fort Defiance, Crystal, Red Lake, Sawmill).



PHOTO: Louva Dahozy

Dahozy extended her advocacy beyond nutrition education to other issues impacting the Navajo people, including Native American voters' rights, voter registration drives, and the needs of women and the elderly.

“Dr. Louva Dahozy is a grandmother who fights every day for our elders. The Navajo Nation is grateful to the University of Arizona for recognizing the decades of hard work by Louva. She is a trailblazer who helped our people navigate the impacts of the traumas they collectively faced, through education around nutrition. Her voice has uplifted the stories of our women and kept families healthy,” said Budget and Finance Chairman Jamie Henio (Alamo, Ramah, Tóhajiilee).

She is the founder and ex-officio member of both the National Indian Council on Aging and the Navajo Area Agency on Aging. Dahozy also founded and is an ex-officio member of the North American Indian Women's Association and represented the Navajo Nation at the White House Conferences on Aging in 1971 and 1973.

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