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The Navajo Nation | Yideeskáądi Nitsáhákees

Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council (NNYAC) 2023-2024: Spring Session Report

April 15, 2024

Legislations

1. Executive Order No. June 2016
2. Three Branch Agreement: August 21, 2016
3. Legislation CAP-26-17, Resolution: February 21, 2017

Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council

1. Vision: Hozho' o Keh' go Ahil na' anish: Build Connect Reunite
2. Mission: The Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council (NNYAC) seeks to advocate and improve essential life skill development by increasing youth involvement within communities to ensure the success of future generations.

Executive Branch Focus Areas

1. Recruitment of Navajo Youth to re-establish 12 member NNYAC
2. Government Operations – classified two (2) regular status positions to focus on providing technical and administrative support for newly recognized 12 member NNYAC.
3. Government Operations – develop NNYAC's website and email address for 12 NNYAC members usage.
4. Government Operations – identify an office building/location for 12 NNYAC members to host meetings, events, community outreach projects, etc.
5. Government Operations – identify and resolve internal issue regarding the NNYAC classified positions with Department of Personnel Management, which hinders the reimbursement payments for the former 12 member NNYAC.

6. OMNN has reviewed the Proposed Plan of Operation that was revised between NNYAC and Office of Dine Youth within Department of Dine' Education, and it had been legally reviewed by Navajo Department of Justice in preparation for the 24th Navajo Nation Council Winter Session.

7. Located and reviewed the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council application that had been posted on NNYAC's Facebook social media account. The NNYAC, and Office of Dine Youth completed revisions of the NNYAC's application in January 2022, and advertised on Friday, January 14, 2022, with a Deadline of Friday, January 28, 2022. Applications were collected by Office of Dine Youth.

Purpose of NNYAC (Excerpt from Legislation CAP-26-17, Resolution)

- a. Provide policy advice to the President and Vice President of the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Nation Council, and Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation regarding youth issues and concerns.
- c. Identifying issues facing Navajo Nation Youth, providing guidance and offering solutions to Navajo Nation officials concerning such issues.
- d. Recommending amendments to its enabling legislation or Plan of Operation.

Community Outreach for NNYAC

1. The Office of Miss Navajo Nation and Miss Navajo Nation 2023-2024, Amy N. Begaye continues to promote youth recruitment for NNYAC on radio stations to create interest and conversations with Youth and Parents on youth leadership opportunities. We're encouraging parents to allow their children ages between 14 and 24 to join and participate in NNYAC. Navajo Youths will have an opportunity to help address youth issues/concerns within their communities/homes/schools/agencies.
2. The Office of Miss Navajo Nation and Miss Navajo Nation 2023-2024, Amy N. Begaye continues to promote youth mentorship and scholarship opportunities in efforts to recruit youth to establish NNYAC members during all Miss Navajo Nation's events/activities including special engagements specifically at High School, Colleges, and Universities.
3. The Office of Miss Navajo Nation and Miss Navajo Nation 2023-2024, Amy N. Begaye have attended the Mid-Year UNITY Conference in Phoenix, Arizona to gather more information from other regional unity members and representatives.

Conclusion

The Office of Miss Navajo Nation and the reigning Miss Navajo Nation, Amy N. Begaye remains committed and honors the three (3) Branch Government Agreement for recruitment of Youth, and is focus on promoting the NNYAC's main purposes, and will collaborate with various entities, departments and programs to ensure Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council remains present and operational within the Navajo Nation Government.