



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - CORRECTION**  
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## **Diné Action Plan Advisory Group gathers at Diné College for spring quarterly meeting**



**The Diné Action Plan Spring Quarterly meeting hosted by Diné College brought together task force members, tribal leaders, community stakeholders, and agency representatives.**

***Correction: Legislative Staff Assistant Clarissa Begay was misidentified.***

**TSAILE, Ariz.** — On Thursday, March 20, members of the 25th Navajo Nation Council and the Diné Action Plan Advisory Group convened its two-day Spring Quarterly meeting at Diné College, reaffirming the Navajo Nation’s unified commitment to healing, justice, and community resilience. The gathering brought together task force members, tribal leaders, community stakeholders, and agency representatives to assess ongoing efforts and chart next steps in the implementation of the Diné Action Plan (DAP).

The Diné Action Plan serves as the Navajo Nation’s official strategic roadmap to reduce substance abuse, violence, and intergenerational trauma. It emphasizes culturally grounded, community-informed solutions anchored in the Diné core value of k’é—kinship and relational accountability.

“Our purpose here is clear. It’s to heal and protect our people,” said Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty, a longtime advocate for MMDR and a leading voice within the committee. “This work is by the people, for the people. It’s grounded in our sacred teachings, and we must carry it forward with discipline and unity.”

Throughout the event, traditional teachings were woven into planning sessions. One key objective was ensuring that all strategies remain grounded in the Diné way of life. This cultural integration is not symbolic, but essential, leaders emphasized.

“Our communities already hold the answers,” said Germaine Simonson. “This committee exists to connect, amplify, and implement those solutions using our own cultural knowledge systems. Our goal is sustainable wellness; spiritually, mentally, and physically.”

Task forces worked in breakout sessions to refine evaluation strategies, finalize logic models, and strengthen cross-sector partnerships. A core focus included enhancing crisis response systems, expanding public education campaigns, and strengthening support for traditional healers and cultural resources.

The quarterly session highlighted progress made across the plan’s five priority areas: prevention and intervention; treatment and healing; law enforcement and justice; reentry and reintegration; and community empowerment.

Task force members shared updates on cross-agency collaborations, expansion of youth-focused programs, integration of traditional healing practices, and new community-based treatment resources.

Participants also discussed performance benchmarks and the need for sustainable implementation structures. The advisory group emphasized transparency, cultural responsiveness, and community voice as key pillars moving forward.

“We’re not just building programs, we’re shaping the future of our governance and healing practices,” said Delegate Cheryl Yazzie. “This meeting was more than just an update; it was a reaffirmation of why we do this work.”

Hosted at Diné College, leadership welcomed the advisory group, reinforcing the institution’s role in building capacity for community wellness and self-determination.

The Diné Action Plan was formally adopted through Resolution CS-51-21, with broad support from the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, and Naabik’íyáti’ Committees of the Navajo Nation Council.

Its implementation is led by the DAP Task Force, a cross-sector coalition coordinating interdepartmental strategies and accountability. Looking ahead, the Advisory Group pledged to strengthen outreach, reinforce trauma-informed practices, and prioritize youth engagement.

As the meeting concluded, Crotty later added, “This work saves lives. We’re not here for titles or credit. We’re here because our families deserve more—and we’re making sure they get it.”

For more information or how to get involved contact:

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