



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Speaker Curley and Delegate Tolth provide updates on SNAP benefits and elder services to the Eastern Navajo Agency Council on Aging



Speaker Crystalyne Curley and Delegate Tolth met with Eastern Navajo Agency Council at the Becenti Chapter to discuss SNAP benefits and senior services.

BECENTI, N.M. — On Wednesday, Navajo Nation Council Speaker Crystalyne Curley and Council Delegate George Tolth attended the Eastern Navajo Agency Council on Aging meeting at Becenti Chapter, to hear from Navajo elders and to share updates on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, senior centers, elder services, and ongoing initiatives to strengthen support for senior citizens.

During the meeting, Speaker Curley highlighted efforts to improve access to food assistance, streamline service delivery for elders, and improve coordination with federal and state partners to increase access to service and benefits. She also thanked chapter officials, senior center staff, and advocates for their leadership in addressing the needs of elderly community members.

Many of the elder community members shared their concerns regarding public safety, senior center food services, home renovations, lack of communication from the Executive Branch, and other issues that hinder services for senior citizens.

The Council Aging members also expressed many concerns with the lack of services and communication from the Navajo Nation's Division of Aging and Long-Term Care Support (DALTCS) under the Executive Branch. Many stated that their questions and requests

to DALTCS often go unanswered, forcing them to turn to the state of New Mexico for information.

Delegate Tolth, who serves on the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee which has legislative oversight of DALTCS, has been a strong advocate for elders and continues to bring issues before the committee and Council to resolve.

“Our elders are the foundation of our communities, and ensuring they receive timely support and essential services remains a top priority for the Council,” said Speaker Curley. “We will continue working with our partners to strengthen resources and improve services across all agencies.”

The Navajo Nation Council will continue collaborating with program directors, local leaders, and community advocates to address service gaps and advance initiatives that support Navajo elders.

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