



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

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MEDIA CONTACT:

nnlb.communications@gmail.com

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Chinle Recovery Center opens to support community healing and sobriety efforts



Leaders and community members gather in Chinle to celebrate the blessing and dedication of the Day At A Time Club Recovery Center.

CHINLE, Ariz. – On Wednesday, the 25th Navajo Nation Council, community members, and recovery advocates gathered to celebrate the blessing and dedication of the Day At A Time Club, Inc. Chinle Recovery Center, strengthening community-based healing and sobriety support services.

The newly established facility provides a dedicated space for individuals and families seeking recovery from alcohol and substance use, emphasizing the importance of Navajo values, community support, and cultural healing practices.

The project was made possible through a combination of Navajo Nation Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) and chapter allocations, including support initiated at the chapter level and advanced through appropriations by the 25th Navajo Nation Council. Funding efforts included contributions from Chinle Chapter and surrounding chapters, as well as ARPA/FRF resources coordinated with Navajo Nation leadership and staff.

Community leaders emphasized that the center represents a reflection of collective responsibility and resilience among the Diné people.

Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council Crystalayne Curley highlighted the broader purpose of the project.

“This recovery center reflects what we can accomplish when we come together as a Navajo Nation. Healing our people requires more than policy—it requires compassion, cultural understanding, and community-driven solutions. This facility will serve as a place of hope, where our relatives can begin their journey toward wellness, one day at a time,” said Speaker Curley.

Delegate Shawna Ann Claw spoke on the personal and generational impact of substance abuse and the importance of restoring balance through community support.

“Our people have carried generations of trauma, and recovery is not just an individual journey, it is a community responsibility. This center represents hope for our relatives who feel forgotten or alone. When we come together as a community, we remind each other that healing is possible, and that every person has value, purpose, and a future,” said Council Delegate Claw.

Claw also acknowledged that early efforts began with local leadership and continued through multiple Council administrations, demonstrating long-term commitment to addressing substance abuse and providing services at the community level.

Delegate Dr. Andy Nez emphasized the importance of removing stigma and ensuring that recovery is supported collectively.

“We cannot rely on one program or one facility alone. Healing requires all of us—families, kinship, and communities—to step forward and support our relatives. When we remove stigma and extend compassion, we create pathways for recovery and help restore dignity and purpose in our communities. I do my best to engage in this important dialogue when I visit and speak to our students because they, too, have so much to offer,” said Council Delegate Nez.

The Chinle Recovery Center builds upon decades of recovery advocacy, including the legacy of the former Talbot House, which previously served the community before being lost. The new facility restores those services and expands opportunities for culturally grounded recovery, including talking circles, mentorship, and partnerships with behavioral health providers.

Local leaders and organizers noted that the center was developed through years of persistence, collaboration, and grassroots advocacy. Veterans, long-time recovery members, and community volunteers played a key role in advancing the project and ensuring its completion.

Organizers also highlighted that the center will serve as a safe space where individuals can access support, reconnect with family, and rebuild their lives through structured recovery programs and peer mentorship.

The Day At A Time Club model emphasizes daily commitment, accountability, and community involvement, reinforcing the belief that healing is strengthened when individuals are supported by their relatives and cultural teachings.

Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to expanding similar services across the Navajo Nation, ensuring that more communities have access to resources that promote healing, resilience, and long-term recovery.

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