

T'ÁÁ HWÓ AJÍT' ÉEGO

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NAVAJO SELF RELIANCE

Navajo Nation Program for Self Reliance Celebrates Aadííliił (Doing)



Chuck Morgan, Administrative Services Officer of NNPSR Crownpoint leads a group session at the Gallup Customer Success Celebration. Morgan motivated customers into participating in a game that emphasized teamwork and communication building.

GALLUP - If you're familiar with the Navajo Nation Program for Self Reliance (NNPSR) Service Delivery Model, you understand why NNPSR has goals and purposes specific to T'áá' hwó ájíít' éego.

The Navajo culture is incorporated into the program by promoting the basic life principles of the Navajo people. These basic principles form the Pathway to Self-Reliance that identifies four significant life activities: Thinking, Planning, Doing and Growing.

Aadííliił, in accordance with the Pathway to Self-Reliance principle, is a time when customers begin to take ownership of his/her future through the implementation and monitoring of their Personal Responsibility Plan.

Every quarter, NNPSR highlights significant achievements from various field offices, most recent the Gallup Customer Success Celebration.

Achievements in academic excellence, obtaining long term employment, obtaining a GED, attending NNPSR trainings, etc. are few achievements marked by celebrations.

The celebrations are positive motivation for customers. Setting goals can be an easy task but achieving a set of goals requires commitment and determination. Recognizing customers for their outstanding accomplishments has been one of many priorities among Senior Caseworkers.

Senior Caseworkers, who on a daily basis, are equally committed to helping

customers navigate through barriers that may discourage customers from achieving their goals also find a stable balance to emphasis T'áá' hwó ájíít' éego.

"Returning to the core values of T'áá' hwó ájíít' éego, NNPSR hopes customers will remember they each control their decisions and life choices to make changes in their lives." Department Manager III Roxanne Gorman said, "Each achieved goal is a reminder that the strength they seek has always been within them."

The NNPSR Public Relations Section has had the distinct honor of meeting and speaking with

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PROGRAM FOR
SELF RELIANCE**



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Shannon Pine, son Davian Guerana and Sr. Caseworker Pricilla Gibson, attend the Gallup Customer Success Celebration. Guerana actively participated in skills building games with his mother.

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customers and their families during these celebrations.

“What I’ve found is each family has a different story, a different life changing experience, different obstacles to overcome, but the commonality is through their struggles they all have the desire for change.” Christina Tsosie, Public Information Officer said.

While attending these celebrations, we (Public Relations) have seen NNPSR staff come together to create an atmosphere full of encouragement, Tsosie adds, not just shared between staff and customers but also the customers’ family.

In addition to receiving certificates of achievements, customers participate in team building exercises that emphasis teamwork, leadership and communication.

The goals themselves vary in difficulties but more importantly they are achievable, each customer develops their own Personal Responsibility Plan.

Customers of NNPSR are aware of the 60 months lifetime limit to receive assistance from any TANF program, through this short time period, customers are encouraged to find employment or reach employability before exhausting the entire 60 months.



Josephine Jim was honored by Sr. Caseworker Freda Antonio, at the Gallup Customer Success Celebration on Dec. 28, 2011. Jim attended and completed NNPSR Training that helped her build skills.



PUBLIC NOTICE

ATTENTION: ALL NEW AND CURRENT CUSTOMERS

The Notice of Budgetary Adjustment, dated January 30, 2012, is hereby rescinded.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please see a NNPSR staff member.

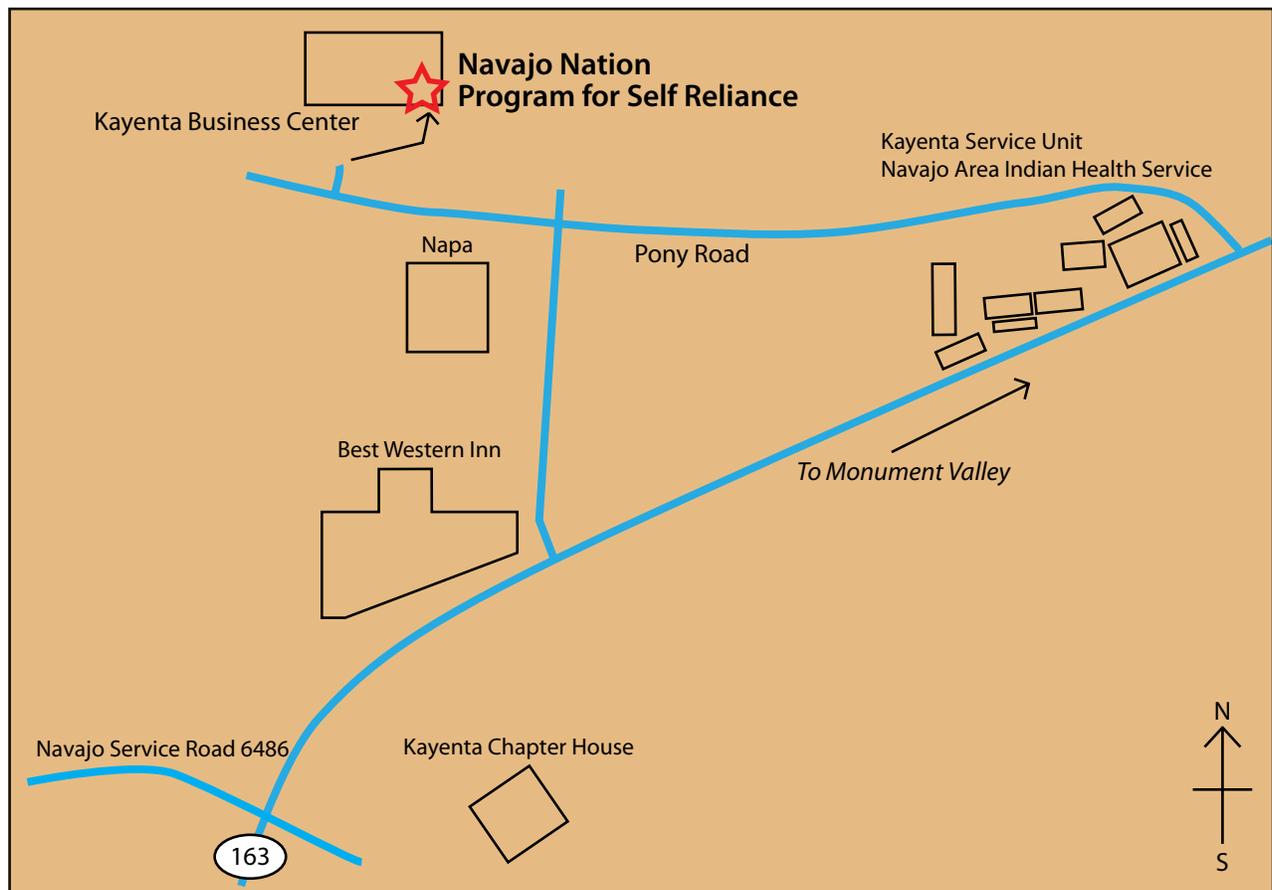
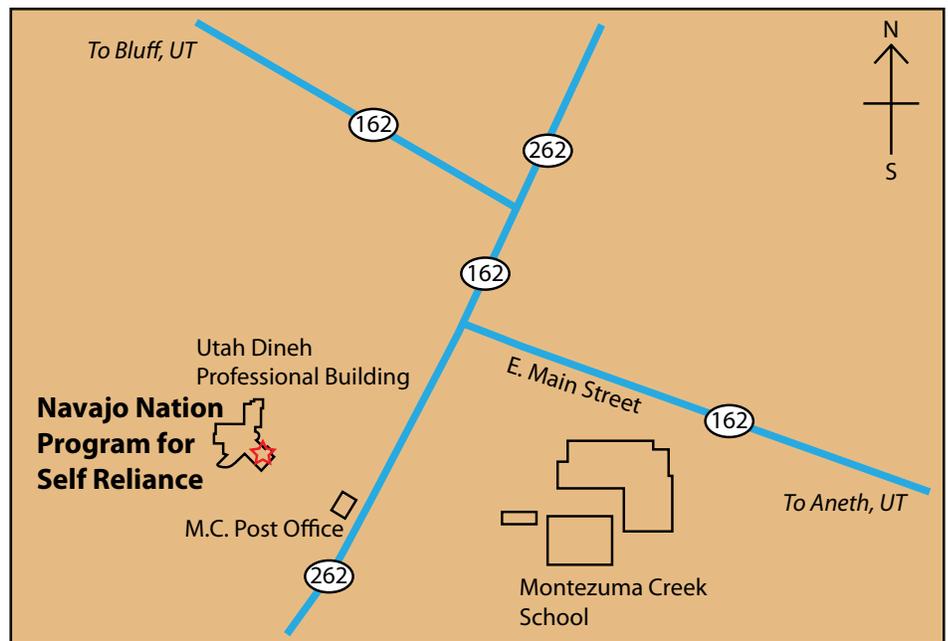
Aneth NNPSR Moves To Montezuma Creek

The NNPSR Aneth Field Office has moved to Montezuma Creek, UT.

Around December 19, 2011, Aneth Field Office was relocated to Montezuma Creek, UT. Montezuma Creek is located approximately 8 miles northwest of Aneth on Highway 162.

The new address for Montezuma Creek NNPSR is: Utah Dineh Professional Plaza, Bldg #1 South Wing 50 Center Street - US Hwy 262.

The phone number for the Montezuma Creek NNPSR Office is (435) 651-3535 and the fax number is (435) 651-3543.



Monument Valley NNPSR Moves to Kayenta

On January 27, 2012, the NNPSR Monument Valley Field Office relocated to Kayenta, Ariz.

Kayenta was the original NNPSR office site, but moved due to limited space.

The NNPSR Kayenta Office is now located in the Kayenta Business Center on Pony Road.

The new address is 1000 Main Street Pony Road, Kayenta, Ariz.

The phone number for the NNPSR Kayenta Field Office is (928) 697-5660 and the fax number is (928) 697-5665.



Give Your Child A Head Start! Head Start Open Recruitment

The Navajo Nation Program for Self Reliance (NNPSR) would like to inform NNPSR customers of the Navajo Head Start's open recruitment for children ages 3-5. The Navajo Head Start program provides services to children, families, and local communities throughout the Navajo Nation.

In addition, Head Start provides Home Base services for expectant mothers and children 0-3 years old. Early Head Start is a unique, intensive, and flexible program designed to address the needs of expectant mothers, fathers and children to reinforce the strengths of the family.

The NNPSR has long been an advocate of parent involvement in your children's education. NNPSR encourages families with children to seek information on enrollment at your local Head Start agency office. Parent(s) may be asked to complete the Navajo Head Start Recruitment Sheet as your formal interest in applying for Head Start services.

For additional information, you may call the Head Start Central Administration office at 928-871-6902 or your local agency office.



If you would like to enroll your child, please visit the nearest agency or call to make arrangements to enroll your child. In addition, please have the following information on hand to begin your child's enrollment:

1. Birth Certificate
2. Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB)
3. Legal Guardianship Documents
4. Social Security Cards (Child & Parents/Guardian(s))
5. Income Verification
(W-2 Forms, Check Stub, Tax Forms, Public Assistance Letters i.e. Self Reliance, SSI or GA)
6. Disability Forms
7. Immunization Records
8. Health Records
9. Hospital Chart Number
10. Physical Examination
11. Dental Exam Treatment Forms
12. Other Referrals

Navajo Head Start Agency Offices

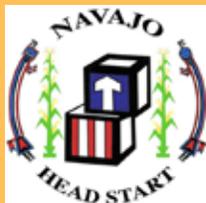
Chinle Agency
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Crownpoint Agency
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Fort Defiance Agency
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Reinventing the Navajo Nation Program for Self Reliance

By Laphillda Tso

Window Rock, Ariz. – Changing the Navajo Nation Program for Self-Reliance's image is a new strategy to fight the war against unemployment. Throughout the upcoming weeks, PSR's public relations section will construct a campaign strategy that will promote the new image and the new tagline for PSR.

The goal is to have the new image empower PSR's mission by using the PSR mission statement.

"To serve, with integrity and in an ethical manner, to empower all families, based on the Navajo teachings of the concept of Táá hwó ajít éégo, to become self reliant."

This image transformation will be the first step to continuing the success rate of customers transitioning into the self-reliant stage of their life.

"PSR exists to empower our customers, who in return empower their family and thus their communities," said PSR's department manager III, Roxanne Gorman. "Reinventing PSR's image is the extra support our customers deserve. We are also targeting noncustomers because their moral support to encourage education, work and family values throughout their community is needed for the fight against poverty."

As a short term transitional program, PSR is fighting the cycle of unemployment/poverty by promoting employment and educational opportunities for families.

The image change is mandatory because the way customers and noncustomers perceive PSR is important.

At the receiving end of the message, PSR wants to generate the right response and personality. PSR needs to be viewed as an enthusiastic program that does not tolerate self-pity, but encourages intellectual growth and careers for the purpose of finding a job.

Conquering the many challenges that come with the responsibility of working toward self-reliance, is what customers do and this is what PSR needs to be viewed as. The goal to coproduce self-reliant families will be easier to achieve

because of the encouraging message.

PSR is the push, the motivational and necessary support customers need to be successful and to be a great role model for their children.

As a stepping tool for mothers and fathers that want to provide for their families, pertinent PSR staff will need to collect data. This data will be the proof that some past customers have permanent jobs or temporary jobs to help them gain experience. Others have graduated from college, technical college or have earned their GED.

Data on current customers and why some customers did not succeed will also be compiled through research.

To further success, PSR will have a website available in the near future. The website will have training schedules for each month, videos of college courses, and more.

PSR is a program that empowers customers for the purpose of self-reliance. By preparing customers for jobs, and finding potential job opportunities. Employees of PSR are dedicated to witnessing career seeking recipients succeed.

Word of mouth, educating individuals who think PSR is anything but empowering people, is the second step. These individuals include children.

Children witness their parent(s) succeed and this sets a higher standard for the parent(s) and the children. The children learn first-hand what determination can earn.

Since 1996, PSR began helping customers with the war against unemployment. Customers build on their strengths and enhance their weaknesses through community service, job trainings, and education. Caseworkers help strategize to become self-reliant.

PSR's assistance has been detrimental for some graduates of college because without the guidance of caseworkers, most of the first generational college students would not have the encouragement they needed from their caseworker who is sincerely a human resource expert.

Through careful observation of statistical data and promotion efforts, the launch of the new image and tagline will be a success.

Coming Soon: The New Navajo Nation Program for Self Reliance Website

The NNPSR is currently working with Navajo Nation Division of Information & Technology on a website for customers, public and NNPSR staff.

The website will contain the NNPSR's general information, including policies, forms, handbook, contact information, updates about National TANF policies and other relevant NNPSR program information.

Teen Pregnancy on the Navajo Nation

by Toni Etsitty

Today's headlines regarding teen pregnancies reveal that they are on the decline, nationwide. However, on the Navajo Nation, they remain higher than the national average. Nationwide there are 67.8 pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19. On the Navajo Nation, the rate is approximately 69 to 118 pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19.

Reducing teen pregnancy is a goal shared by the Navajo Nation Program for Self Reliance and the HIV Prevention Teen Pregnancy Prevention Task Force. In January, local radio stations carried the message of the importance of parents talking to teens, in an effort to raise awareness on the subject.

As a community we can raise awareness of the subject and even support programs and workshops that promote abstinence until teens are mature and are better able to support a family but the reality is, teens are

engaging in sex. On the Navajo Nation approximately 43 percent of teens are engaging in sexual intercourse.

Teenagers today, more than ever are more open to speaking to their parents about sex. It's up to parents to take the opportunity and guide teens to make positive choices about sex and the consequences of sexual activity. Raising a child or dealing with a sexually transmitted disease is a serious consequence of sexual activity among teens.

Talking to your teens can be tricky, uncomfortable and embarrassing but if you don't talk to your teen, you may have another addition to your family that will need support - - for a lifetime. It's important to talk to your teen. Here are some tips that will help you open the conversation:

1. Be direct and avoid drawing from your past experiences and telling your history of sexual activity. There's nothing more embarrassing for a teen than to hear that their parents engaged in sex.

2. Use the correct language for what you are describing; get a book

if you need help with terms. Using euphemisms will only confuse your teen and they won't realize the seriousness of the topic. For example, "Doing it," or "Butter the muffin."

3. Keep it brief and always be open to more talks in the future. You won't be able to cover all the issues related to sexual activity at once, so tell your teen that they can always ask you questions anytime.

4. Set aside time to talk to your teen, don't "have the talk" as you're dropping them off at the movies or right before a date. You will only frustrate them and embarrass them.

5. Finally, don't be afraid to laugh. The topic of the conversation is uncomfortable for everyone involved, a bit of laughter will lighten the mood and may make your teen feel more at ease.

It is important to have an open and honest conversation about sex with your teens which will make a difference in their future. Encouraging school and helping them envision a positive future for themselves will help them make the right choices now.

