



DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPARTMENT FOR SELF RELIANCE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 27, 2014

Contact: Delilah Goodluck, Sr. Public Information Officer | delilah.goodluck@nntanf.org | 928.810.8553

DSR Attends, “First of its Kind” Coordination Meeting



Pictured from left to right: Theresa Galvan, DBHS; Thomas L. Cody, NDSS; Deannah Neswood-Gishey, DSR.

Window Rock, Ariz. – On Friday, January 17, 2014, Department for Self Reliance (DSR) staff participated a coordination meeting between Department of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) and Navajo Division of Social Services (NDSS) departments and programs. The meeting was referred to as “the first of its kind,” by Thomas L. Cody, Legislative Analyst for NDSS.

The meeting which was facilitated by, Sharon Begay-McCabe, Division Director, NDSS; Theresa

page 1 of 2

Galvan, Acting Health System Administrator, DBHS; and Thomas L. Cody, Legislative Analyst, NDSS, was intended as an opportunity for Navajo Nation human service departments and programs to collaborate.

Begay-McCabe stated, “In order for our coordination to run smoothly we need to know what we all do as programs and departments. How can we make successful referrals to each other to help the Navajo people?”

DSR Assistant Department Manager, Deannah Neswood-Gishey provided an overview of the department. She explained how DSR has evolved into a department and is no longer one program; DSR now assists Navajo people with Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), General Assistance (GA), Burial Assistance (BA) and Emergency Assistance (EA), in addition to, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

Neswood-Gishey, explained that DSR would like to collaborate with other programs and departments through the TANF work participation requirements. For example, “TANF participants may receive work participation credit for attending parenting classes provided by DBHS,” stated Neswood-Gishey.

Neswood- Gishey informed the departments and programs that they can refer their low income clients who are within DSR’s service delivery area to GA, BA, and EA; and those of lowest income and highest energy burdens to LIHEAP.

For more DSR eligibility requirements for TANF, LIHEAP, GA, BA and EA log onto www.nnsr.navajo-nsn.gov or call toll free to 1 (866) 347-2403.

For more information on coordination meetings between DBHS and NDSS contact, Thomas L. Cody, Legislative Analyst, NDSS at 928.871.6556 or thomascody@navajo-nsn.gov.

###