



The 22nd Navajo Nation Council — Office of the Speaker

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NNC Delegate Seeks Funding for Land for GIMC Replacement

Efforts continue to move medical facility to new location

Window Rock, AZ — Navajo Nation Council Delegate Edmund Yazzie (Churchrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith Lake, Thoreau) reported to a recent Health, Education and Human Services Committee meeting his intent to get the Indian Health Service (IHS) to provide some funds to secure land for the replacement of the Gallup Indian Medical Center (GMIC).

"I want to keep a steady pressure to get funding to replace this rapidly aging facility," said Yazzie. "I believe if we can move on getting a site for the complex perhaps future funds could be easier to acquire

Estimates place the cost of rebuilding the center at more than \$500 million dollars, an amount that is rising annually.

The committee later authored a letter to the Director of IHS, Yvette Roubidueaux thanking the agency for their continued support in the funding of all of facility projects planned for the Navajo Nation service area, including the Gallup Indian Medical Center. Although complete funding remains years away the committee hopes to get more immediate funding to secure land for the future replacement hospital.

According to IHS, the Gallup Indian Medical Center is a 99-bed hospital located in Gallup, New Mexico. Clinical specialties at GIMC include Internal Medicine, Cardiology, Anesthesia, OB/GYN, General Surgery, Orthopedics, Ophthalmology, ENT, Radiology, Pathology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Emergency Medicine, and Urology. The workload at GMIC is one of the largest in the IHS with 250,000 outpatient encounters and 5,800 inpatient admissions annually.

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