



Contact: Erny Zah
Director of Communications

Cell: (928) 380-0771

navajonationpress@navajo-nsn.gov

For Immediate Release
August 10, 2012

Navajo President Shelly Delivers Inspirational Speech to Treatment Center Clients



SAN FRANCISCO – Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly delivered an inspirational speech directed to the clients at the Friendship House, a Native American residential treatment center.

President Shelly spoke for more than 20 minutes during an appreciation dinner at the treatment center Wednesday night. Nearly 100 people attended the dinner including former Navajo President and Chairman Peterson Zah.

President Shelly advised clients that mistakes are a part of life and to keep looking ahead to future accomplishments.

“When you get to the top, yell out, ‘I made it!’” President Shelly said as the crowd erupted in applause and cheers.

President Zah introduced President Shelly and offered introspection about being president of the Navajo Nation.

“What the president and his staff is trying to do is to eradicate those challenges and that’s not an easy task,” President Zah said, adding that being the Navajo President is one of the hardest positions

to hold because of the diverse populations the President must consider when creating policies.

President Zah added a personal statement about President Shelly.

“He is individual that has a sense of fairness, a sense of beauty,” President Zah added.

During his speech, President Shelly compared life’s journey to a stream that starts in the mountains.

“At some points, life gets hard. It takes turns and you don’t know what is coming next,” he said, “then you reach the ocean and a giant pool of water. That water is your knowledge, your knowledge about life.”

###