



## The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

CONTACTS:

Jared Touchin, Communications Director  
(928) 274-4275

Crystalayne Curley, Sr. Public Information Officer  
(928) 274-2758

[nnopvp.communications@gmail.com](mailto:nnopvp.communications@gmail.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 24, 2019

### **Vice President Lizer chairs Medicaid policy meeting**



**PHOTO: Navajo Nation Vice President Myron Lizer during the Medicare, Medicaid and Health Reform Policy Committee meeting on July 23, 2019 in Washington, D.C.**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – As the newly appointed chair of the Medicare, Medicaid and Health Reform Policy Committee (MMPC), Navajo Nation Vice President Myron Lizer chaired a meeting of the MMPC held on July 23 at the nation’s capital to discuss national concerns regarding Medicaid and Medicare as it relates to Indian health care and national Indian health policy.

“There are a number of health care issues concerning Medicare and Medicaid and we want to make sure that the issues and needs of Indian country are addressed when meeting with federal officials,” Vice President Lizer said.

The MMPC held one of its four face-to-face meetings on July 23 to continue its advocacy for health care programs funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

MMPC is a subcommittee of the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) whose purpose is to prepare tribal representatives to the Tribal Technical Advisory Group (TTAG) for their TTAG meetings and discussions with CMS officials.

At the MMPC meeting, there were a number of topics discussed, including a “safe harbor” to the Anti-Kickback Statute for Indian health providers; TTAG Strategic Plan; a Medicaid Legislative Initiative that would extend Medicaid eligibility and services; waivers of section 1115 of the Social Security Act for Indian tribes; billing for services pursuant to the requirements of a Federally Qualified Health Center; CMS tribal consultation; exemptions from block granting; as well other issues related to Medicaid and Medicare.

“The health of our tribal members is very important and we hope to resolve these issues with the federal government officials in a timely manner,” said Vice President Lizer.

This is also the final MMPC Strategic Planning meeting that will help TTAG representatives guide CMS in its mission. The purpose of the plan is to give CMS a strategic road map to where they need to be investing in the Indian Health System to accomplish this work in a collaborative process.

###

For the latest news from the Office of the President and Vice President, please visit <http://www.opvp.navajo-nsn.gov/> or find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.