



The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 1, 2020,

Over 500 women attend First Lady Nez and Second Lady Lizer's "Heart to Heart" conference



PHOTO: Navajo Nation First Lady Phefelia Nez and Second Lady Dottie Lizer welcome participants to the "2020 Heart to Heart: Victorious Women – Healing of the Heart and Mind" conference on Feb. 1, 2020 at the Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort in Leupp, Ariz.

LEUPP, Ariz. – On Saturday, First Lady Phefelia Nez and Second Lady Dottie Lizer were honored to host and welcomed over 500 women to the "2020 Heart to Heart: Victorious Women – Healing of the Heart and Mind" conference, in partnership with the Heart to Heart Sedona and the Victorious Life Christain Center, at the Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort in Leupp, Ariz. The inspiring conference aimed to encourage and empower women through worship, ministry, and fellowship.

"We are honored to host the Heart to Heart conference on the Navajo Nation. Today, we welcomed all women to join us to elevate our spiritual strength, enhance our leadership within

our homes and communities, and to build relationships through faith, inspiration, and love," said First Lady Phefelia Nez.

"Our goal is to help women in all aspects of life, emotionally, mentally, physically, financially, and spiritually. Our time together will help each of us to share the power of our stories to restore and elevate hope and faith. Most importantly, together, we can lead in ministry with confidence and direction," said Second Lady Dottie Lizer.

The one day conference offered a broad spectrum of musicians, pastors, scholars, worship leaders, and planners, including Dr. Sandy McKenzie, Deborah Kim, Robyn Dykstra, Fannie Chavez-Platero, and Margie Rosalind Tso (Platero). The conference also included a children's bible school session and a men's spiritual workshop.

Fannie Chavez-Platero is from To'Hajiilee, N.M., and the wife of the late Evangelist Chester Platero, who both led a gospel ministry on the Navajo Nation for over 50 years. During her message, she challenged participants to turn to God's word to overcome obstacles and challenges.

Margie Rosalind Tso and her late husband, Alvin Tso, has also led a ministry for over 50 years. Through the grief and loss of four of her children, she continued to serve the Lord and others. Her testimony reflected on the life lessons of God and how faith and obedience lead her life and family.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Sandy McKenzie, who earned a Master's in Business Education and a Doctorate of Ministry in Christian Counseling, has provided counseling and life-coaching practice for over 17 years and published many titles and presentations. Dr. McKenzie highlighted the need to live in peace, to be successful, and to have confidence in God's healing, strength, joy, and blessing.

"God is opening this door for our future direction. We are all encouraged by our Navajo Sisters leading the group into the future, adding other Native tribes along with women in the Verde Valley and Flagstaff areas. Heart to Heart is strengthened by the diversity, but unified by Christian faith of the women involved in this dynamic ministry," stated Heart to Heart Founder Lora Snider during the event.

Other presenters included Andrea Kadar, Renalee Colon, and dance worship performed by Joshua Generation. The men's ministry workshop consisted of testimonies and devotions, which was lead by Pastor Dick Snider and Vice President Lizer.

"The conference highlighted the love of God and how He can heal and restore our hearts and minds. We learned that anything is possible through God," said Vice Preside Lizer.

"The conference recognized women working together with strength, tenacity, and courage to overcome obstacles, achieve joyful accomplishments, grow in faith, and deepen their relationship

with God. Our hope for all women is to leave this conference knowing and believing that they have a purpose and that they are loved,” said President Nez.

The Office of the First Lady and Second Lady will be hosting the Heart to Heart conference for the next two years, and the 2021 Heart to Heart is scheduled for February 6, 2021.

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