



# NAVAJO NATION PROCLAMATION

*"Older Americans Month – May 2007"*



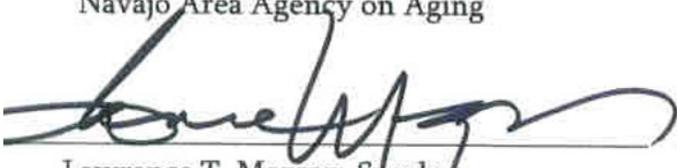
1. **WHEREAS**, Diné Elders endured the full circle of life. They are our rightful and respectful leaders by goodness of their life experiences which offer strength, wisdom, knowledge and courage for the Diné and future generations; and
2. **WHEREAS**, Diné Elders revere Mother Earth as Shimá Nahasdzáán and Father Sky as Yáidilhił Shitaa' as their divine nature. They persistently strive to encourage their children to value and to have respect for our environment; and
3. **WHEREAS**, traditional Diné Elders believe the richness, beauty and eternal sacredness of Sa'ah Naaghái Bik'eh Hózhóón is a universal philosophy, and the moral values of Nitsáhákees, Nahat'á, Iiná dóó Sih Hasin is a source of cultivating perception, self-determination, healthy living and to respect K'é; and
4. **WHEREAS**, Diné Elders entrust youth to carry on the Diné way of life, because they are lifelong learners. Youth have choices to be responsible, respectful, accountable, productive, and to accept opportunities and challenges; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the Mission of Navajo Area Agency on Aging is to empower the elderly population so they can remain independent, lead productive lifestyles and receive appropriate benefits and services in a manner that supports dignity, self-respect and cultural sensitivity.

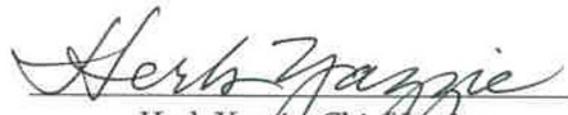
**NOW THEREFORE, we of the GREAT NAVAJO NATION do hereby proclaim "MAY 2007" to be OLDER AMERICANS MONTH and urge all citizens to honor older adults and those who care for them during this month and throughout the year. We urge all to plan, promote and participate in activities that contribute to helping older Americans MAKE CHOICES FOR A HEALTHIER FUTURE.**

  
 Dr. Joe Shirley, Jr., President  
 The Navajo Nation

  
 Laverne Wyaco, Department Manager III  
 Navajo Area Agency on Aging

  
 Anslem Roanhorse, Jr., Executive Director  
 Navajo Division of Health

  
 Lawrence T. Morgan, Speaker  
 The Navajo Nation Council

  
 Herb Yazzie, Chief Justice  
 Navajo Nation Supreme Court