FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Navajo Nation Community Housing and Infrastructure Development (CHID) receives $5.1 million dollar grant award

Window Rock, AZ - The Navajo Nation Community Housing and Infrastructure Development (CHID) received $5.1 million dollar grant award as a sub-recipient under Navajo Housing Authority (NHA) for fiscal year 2013 Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) grant funding.

The NAHASDA funding is authorized under the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide grants, loan guarantees and technical assistance to Indian tribes for the development and operation of low-income housing on tribal lands and to promote self-sufficiency.

Mr. Chavez John, CHID department manager said that NHA receives the primary grant funding and will provide the department the funds to implement the housing construction projects; in addition they will provide the necessary oversight on these projects.

A Sub-recipient Agreement with between CHID and Navajo Housing Authority would be entered into to ensure compliance to federal statues and HUD regulations. This agreement will be subjected to the Navajo Nation 164-review process, before the required environmental reviews can be completed.

“After these initial steps, a Notice to Proceed will issued by NHA, then construction will begin immediately,” said John. “Then we will have two years to close-out these projects.”

According to John, the department’s construction crews, who have a proven track record of completion of high quality homes, will do the all the
construction. This will allow for department to save funds, control the
construction schedules and provide quality assurance on these homes.

John states that the pre-planning of these homes was completed and now
awaits initial start-up construction. These homes will feature the
installation of energy efficient materials and construction methods.

“Our entire department staff and myself are excited and ready to begin
these homes, and reassert our vital partnership with NHA,” said John. “We
fully understand the housing needs of the Navajo people, in this era of
diminishing federal funds we have formed partnerships with other entities
who have the same service delivery goals, and this is part of our strategic
vision to address their needs”

The award funding is for planning and engineering of fifty (50)
Homeownership homes and the construction of four-five (45) Scattered
Homeownership units on the Navajo Nation.

The two programs authorized for Indian tribes under NAHASDA are the
Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) that is a formula based grant program
and Title VI Loan Guarantee which provides financing guarantees to Indian
tribes for loans to develop affordable housing. For additional information
call the Community Housing and Infrastructure Department at (928) 729-4303.

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