



NAVAJO HEAD START

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA ADVISORY
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Navajo President to tour Head Start Center, transfer CCDF facilities to Navajo Head Start

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly will tour the Head Start Center in Crownpoint, N.M., at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, to place an emphasis of high importance on early education. The president will be accompanied by the Navajo Division of Social Services, and the event is hosted by Navajo Head Start and the Navajo Department of Diné Education.

A press conference will follow where Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly will announce the transfer of facility ownership of several unutilized Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program facilities to Navajo Head Start.

The CCDF grant and services will also be transferred under the administration of Navajo Head Start. The transfer of buildings to Navajo Head Start will help address a dire need for facilities across the 27,000-square-mile Navajo Nation that sprawls across the states of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah.

Head Start centers are worn and outdated, and many are more than 30 years old. Despite the aging facilities, Navajo Head Start is forced to utilize such dilapidated buildings to provide early childhood development services to Navajo families.

WHAT: Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly will tour the Head Start Center in Crownpoint, N.M., and conduct a press conference where he will announce the transfer of CCDF facilities to Navajo Head Start.

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2015

WHERE: Navajo Head Start Center, Crownpoint, N.M.

For more information, contact Rick Abasta at 928-871-7884 or Adrian Dotson at 928-226-7275.

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Navajo Head Start is the largest federally-funded grant program in the country. Head Start and Early Head Start services are provided within the geographical area of the Navajo Nation, an area approximately the size of West Virginia that spans more than 27,000-square-miles across the states of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. The Central Administration offices are located in Window Rock, AZ, capital of the Navajo Nation.