



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

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 18, 2020

### Phoenix Indian Center contributes supplies for Navajo families

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer thank the Phoenix Indian Center for coordinating and donating three semi-truckloads of household disinfectants, nonperishable foods, bottled water, and paper and hygiene products to help Navajo families during the COVID-19 pandemic. The items arrived to the Navajo Nation on Friday, and will be distributed by the Nez-Lizer Administration.

Phoenix Indian Center is the oldest American Indian non-profit organization. It provides services and programs such as job readiness/employment, prevention, youth, cultural revitalization, and community engagement, for American Indians in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

"We have over 35,000 Navajo citizens that reside within the Phoenix area and we know many of them are contributing by donating things to our communities and it's wonderful that they along with many others are giving back to their home communities here on the Navajo Nation. Although they're a long way from home they are thinking of their families and relatives back on the Nation. The teachings of K'é and T'áá Hwó'ajít'éego, or self-reliance, have brought our tribal communities together during this difficult time," said President Nez.

President Nez and Vice President Lizer also thank the many volunteers, including Arizona State University students, Arizona Warriors basketball players and parents, and local community members for their generosity and hard work. Other donors include Encompass Health, Synchrony Financial, the Harding Law Firm, Maricopa Humane Society, and Hickmans Family Farms.

The donations were delivered to the Navajo Nation by Phoenix Truck Driving Institute, Southwest Truck Driver School, and Swift Transportation. Vice President Lizer was on hand for the delivery on Friday, and offered words of appreciation to the Phoenix Indian Center team.

"The coronavirus pandemic is affecting all Navajo people and health care centers in profound ways, including the need for essential supplies. The outbreak has significantly impacted families and elders that live in isolated areas of the Navajo Nation, especially those who do not have transportation or stable incomes. Your donation is much appreciated." said Vice President Lizer.

"We've been watching what's been happening on the Navajo Nation. As an organization, we felt the need to help. As tribal members, this is who we are. It was truly an organization and community-wide effort," said Phoenix Indian Center CEO, Patricia Hibbeler.

Phoenix Indian Center Development Director Jolyana Begay-Kroupa added, "We would like to thank our local community and all our business partners for the quick response and generous support. Being from the Navajo Nation, this project was extra meaningful to me. We hope this collective effort will have a positive impact on the families who are in dire need during this difficult time."

The Nez-Lizer Administration and the Navajo Health Command Operation Center continues to deliver care packages consisting of household necessities, nonperishable foods, fabric face masks, disinfectant supplies, livestock feed/pet food, and other essential items to elders, high-risk individuals, and families impacted by COVID-19.

The official webpage for donations to the Navajo Nation, which has further details on how to support the Nation's COVID-19 efforts, is <https://www.nndoh.org/donate.html>. You can contact the HCOC Donation Branch directly at (928) 871-6206 or by email to [general@nndoj.org](mailto:general@nndoj.org).

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