



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

CONTACTS:

Jared Touchin, Communications Director  
(928) 274-4275

Crystalyne Curley, Sr. Public Information Officer  
(928) 274-2758

[nnopvp.communications@gmail.com](mailto:nnopvp.communications@gmail.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 11, 2021

### President Nez and Vice President Lizer congratulate 325 Navajo Nation retirees for their dedication and service



**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez, First Lady Phefelia Nez, and Vice President Myron Lizer were joined by 24th Navajo Nation Council Delegate Jamie Henio, Navajo Nation Division of Human Resources Executive Director Dr. Perphelia Fowler, Miss Navajo Nation Shaandiin Parrish, and Retirement Plan Administrator Andrea Holmes to recognize and congratulate retirees during a virtual celebration that was live-streamed by the Navajo Nation TV & Film Office on the Nez-Lizer Facebook page and YouTube channel on Friday.

The event, hosted by the Navajo Nation Department of Retirement Services, recognized a total of 325 retirees for the years 2019 and 2020. In 2019, 187 employees retired, and in 2020, 138 employees retired from the Navajo Nation or other affiliated entities. The Navajo Nation also honored the 16 retirees who passed away from 2019 and 2020 and offered condolences to their families.

“Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were not able to celebrate their accomplishments in-person. However, we are here today virtually to celebrate and recognize their many years of service and

their immeasurable dedication to the Navajo Nation. Thank you, Ahe'hee', for your dedication, compassion, and commitment. Each of you did not give up and demonstrated strength and resilience for the younger generations. Each of you helped many Navajo elders and families through critical thinking, comfort, and productivity. We pray for your new journey, and congratulations to you and your families. We also honor and remember those who have passed on – we thank their families, friends, and colleagues and offer our thoughts and prayers,” said President Nez.

“On behalf of the Office of the First Lady and Second Lady, we congratulate the retirees. Retirement marks the start of a new phase of life when you no longer need to show up at the office every day. Now, they will have more time for their children, grandchildren, livestock, gardening, volunteering, and to continue to make positive changes. So many of you are role models within your families and communities, and we hope you will continue to pass along your teachings,” said First Lady Nez.

Retirees were recognized based on their years of service that included 10 – 19 years of service, 20 – 29 years of service, 30 – 34 years of service, and 35 years or more. Arnold Chee served as the emcee, the invocation was conducted by Division of Human Resources Administrative Services Officer Lorraine Tabaha, and Navajo OSHA Program Supervisor Walter Hudson provided the benediction.



**PHOTO: Navajo Nation Division of Human Resources Executive Director Dr. Perphelia Fowler and staff on June 11, 2021.**

“For some, retirement can mean finding a new purpose in life or renewing past hobbies or activities. Many retirees will find new work, tasks, and responsibilities at home with family and friends. Work will continue at home with family, livestock, and gardening, and we wish you the best with your new journey. Thank you, and may God bless you and your loved ones and continue to provide new opportunities in life,” said Vice President Lizer.

The Navajo Nation Virtual Retiree Celebration can be found online at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaVvBu3N9P0O70X7S58yQ8Q/featured>.

###

For the latest news from the Office of the President and Vice President, please visit <http://www.opvp.navajo-nsn.gov/> or find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.