



The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Month of October recognized as “Navajo Nation Domestic Violence Awareness Month”

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Friday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer signed a proclamation to recognize the month of October as the "Navajo Nation Domestic Violence Awareness Month" to address and prevent violence and to begin creating healthy and healthy communities that refuses to tolerate any types of abuse.

The proclamation states that domestic violence is a widespread issue that affects many Navajo people and impacting the Diné way of life, culture, and traditions. Domestic violence is a multi-generational family cycle, which disrupts many Diné families with long-term emotional, spiritual, psychological, and physical harm.

"October has been a time to honor and respect domestic violence survivors and to be a voice for victims. Domestic violence, a modern monster, plagues our communities, and affects all Navajo citizens. Physical violence is often accompanied by emotional and verbal abuse and controlling behavior of dominance and control. Domestic violence can result in physical injury, psychological trauma, and even death. The devastating consequences of domestic violence can cross generations and last a lifetime, but with greater awareness, education, and intervention, we can stop this together," said President Nez.

The Navajo Nation's FY2022 Comprehensive Budget that took effect on Friday, also fully funds the Division of Social Services, Division of Public Safety, Navajo Police Department, and an additional \$1 million for the Department of Criminal Investigations to help address domestic violence issues and prevention.

The proclamation states that the Nez-Lizer Administration and the Department of Family Services within the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services continue to stand against domestic violence, family violence, dating violence, and sexual assaults.

"Tribal communities, including the Navajo Nation, face higher rates of domestic violence in the country. Common abuse tactics include isolation, intimidation, gender stereotypes, blame, financial or spiritual, cultural, and religious abuse. Most importantly, many Navajo children are

exposed to domestic violence. Domestic violence incidents affect every person within a home and can have long-lasting negative effects on children's emotional well-being and social and academic functioning. We need to pray and stand together to stop all abuse and get on the road to recovery, healing, and restoration," said Vice President Lizer.

According to the proclamation, the Navajo Nation will continue to provide prevention and crisis intervention services for victims of domestic violence, family violence, dating violence, and sexual assault in partnership with other federal, state, tribal, and non-profit agencies.

For more information regarding domestic violence services and resources, contact the Navajo Nation Department of Family Services at (928) 660-8991. The National Domestic Violence hotline is also available to provide support 1-800-799-7233.

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THE NAVAJO NATION

Proclamation

**RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2021 AS
“NAVAJO NATION DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH”**

WHEREAS, all Navajo families are entitled to a safe, healthy, stable, and loving environment, which nurtures, protects, and heals each family member; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a wide-spread issue that affects many of our Navajo people, which impacts our Diné way of life, culture and traditions; domestic violence is a multi-generational family cycle, which disrupts many Diné families leaving an impact of long-term emotional, spiritual, psychological, and physical harm; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation is taking a stand against domestic violence, family violence, dating violence and sexual assaults through the Department of Family Services within the Division of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation provides prevention and crisis intervention services for victims of domestic violence, family violence, dating violence and sexual assault in partnership with other federal, state, tribal, and non-profit agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation is committed to partnering with state and federal governmental agencies to prevent domestic violence, family violence, dating violence and sexual assault and to support methods of healing for victims of such acts.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JONATHAN NEZ, President of the Navajo Nation and **I, MYRON LIZER**, Vice President of the Navajo Nation do hereby proclaim the month of October 2021 as the “Navajo Nation Domestic Violence Awareness Month” and urge the citizens of the Navajo Nation to support and bring awareness to the prevention of domestic violence, family violence, dating violence and sexual assault on the Navajo Nation.

PROCLAIMED THIS 1st DAY OF OCTOBER 2021


Jonathan Nez, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION


Myron Lizer, *Vice President*
THE NAVAJO NATION