



The Navajo Nation
Office of the President and Vice President

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 1, 2022

**President Nez recognizes contributions of social workers
with "Navajo Nation Social Work Month" proclamation**

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Tuesday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer signed a proclamation recognizing the month of March 2022 as the "Navajo Nation Social Work Month," to honor all social workers who strive to preserve and restore harmony and unity of Navajo individuals and families.

The proclamation states that social workers continue to improve the well-being and enhance the quality of life of Navajo families. Most importantly, recognizing their work and dedication to help heal people and communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Social workers are needed more than ever during the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the leadership of Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Executive Director Deannah Neswood-Gishey, many social workers provided essential services to support and strengthen Navajo families impacted by illness, fear, uncertainty, social isolation, economic uncertainty, and mental health issues. They strive to improve the overall welfare of our citizens by assisting with everyday problems," said President Nez.

President Nez added that the Navajo Nation recognizes and honors all social workers for their sacrifices and dedication to combat many of the "modern-day monsters" such as alcoholism, drug addiction, depression, suicide, and many others within Navajo communities.

The Navajo Nation Division of Social Services provides quality, holistic, culture, and value-based services to empower and strengthen children, families, and communities.

"This proclamation demonstrates to the community the value of social workers and the work they do for our people. They have the unique ability and skill to treat individuals, communities, and the world. Social workers serve throughout our communities in various capacities, including case managers, advocates, educators, facilitators, managers, and others. It's often overlooked that social workers are the largest providers of mental health care in the country and the Navajo Nation," said Vice President Lizer.

The Nez-Lizer Administration thanks all social workers, advocates, and all who provide support for Navajo families and children. For information regarding Navajo Nation Division of Social Services and resources, please visit <https://www.nndss.navajo-nsn.gov>.

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THE NAVAJO NATION

Proclamation

RECOGNIZING MARCH 2022 AS “NAVAJO NATION SOCIAL WORK MONTH”

The Navajo Nation is committed to preserving and restoring the harmony and unity of the Navajo family by providing for the safety, well-being, and protection of children and families, this is accomplished through our Navajo Nation Social Workers and we acknowledge:

WHEREAS, the National Association of Social Workers recognizes March as Social Work Month 2020 with the theme “Social Workers: Generations Strong” on their 65th Anniversary in honor of all social workers across the country who continue to contribute greatly to our communities; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services, under the Executive Branch, advocates for positive changes and empowers and strengthens our children, families, and communities by providing quality, holistic, culture and value-based services; and

WHEREAS, many Navajo individuals and families are impacted by social issues at a greater rate in comparison to national rates; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation recognizes and honors all social workers for their sacrifices and dedication to combatting many of the “modern day monsters” such as alcoholism, drug addiction, depression, suicide, and many others monsters in our communities; and

WHEREAS, during the month of March, the Navajo Nation renews its commitment to fighting the modern day monsters that impact many of our Navajo youth, families, and communities.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JONATHAN NEZ, President of the Navajo Nation and **I, MYRON LIZER**, Vice President of the Navajo Nation do hereby proclaim March 2020 as Navajo Nation Social Work Month. We call on the people of the Navajo Nation to publicly reaffirm our Nation’s strong commitment to combatting social issues and “modern day monsters” and strive to empower our Navajo people and our communities.

PROCLAIMED THIS 1st DAY OF MARCH 2020


Jonathan Nez, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION


Myron Lizer, *Vice President*
THE NAVAJO NATION