

NAVAJO NATION TRIBAL ACTION PLAN

“Empowering & Strengthening Healthier Generations”

NEWS, FACTS, & UPDATES:

Substance Abuse, Violence, Suicide, and Crime
on the Navajo Nation

For more information, please visit
www.navajocourts.org
Tribal Action Planning

- Unintentional Injuries is the leading cause of death for Navajo at 15% of all deaths. *NN Mortality Report, 2006-2009.*
- Alcohol is a major contributor to death for Navajo, NM reported alcohol as a contributing factor in approximately 25% of all deaths. *NN Mortality Report, 2006-2009.*
- Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis were the 5th leading cause of death for Navajo, *NN Mortality Report, 2006-2009.*
- On average, the Navajo Department of Behavioral Health Services admits 1,200 clients per year for substance use treatment.
- In 2014, 1 in 5 middle school students on Navajo had ever thought about suicide. *2014 Navajo YRBS.*
- In 2010, there were 53 deaths from suicide on Navajo.
- Suicide is the 7th leading cause of death for Navajo, *NN Mortality Report, 2006-2009.*
- In 2013, the Navajo Nation (NN) Suicide Surveillance System was developed to efficiently capture data on suicides by the Navajo Epidemiology Center and Navajo Area Indian Health Service.
- On November 30, 2015, NN Executive Order 03-2015, “*Initiate the Building Communities of HOPE Initiative to Organize a One Nation, One Voice Approach to Address Suicide Prevention for Our Navajo People*” was signed by President Russell Begaye and Vice President Jonathan Nez.
- The NN *Proclamation Declaring the Third Week of December as Suicide Prevention Week-Building Communities of Hope* was signed by President Russell Begaye and Vice President Jonathan Nez on December 4, 2015.
- From 2015 to present day, crisis response teams launched throughout the NN.
- In February 2016, the Tribal Action Team work group developed.
- In August 2016, the first Tribal Action Team Work Session held at Twin Arrows Navajo Casino.
- NAIHS Injury Surveillance Summary data from 2010 through June 2016 indicated 28% of injury related visits were intentional (assault, abuse, suicide attempts) excluding Tuba City Service Unit.
- The prevalence of sexual assault against children and women are estimated to be higher because of lack of reporting or reports were delayed, recanted, missing, improperly handled, classified, or processed.
- According the U.S. DOJ, Native women are raped 3 times the national rate.
- In a 2016 Navajo Division of Social Services, Navajo Treatment Center for Children and Their Families reported domestic violence was 19.4%, child sexual violence was 11.6%, and suicide attempt was 10.7% of their case load.
- On August 1, 2016, Navajo Executive Order No. 04-2016, “*Sexual Harassment Workplace Policy and Mandatory Training*” was signed by President Russell Begaye, Vice President Jonathan Nez, and Acting Chief Justice Allen Sloan.