

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' STANDING COMMITTEE  
24<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Fourth Year, 2022

AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING  
THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' MISSING AND MURDERED DINÉ RELATIVES TASK FORCE

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council and is empowered to serves as the oversight committee for task forces under the Legislative Branch of the Navajo Nation government, unless otherwise designated by Navajo Nation law, and to approve and amend the plans of operation thereof. 2 N.N.C. §§ 700(A) and 701(A)(5).
- B. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee is also empowered to coordinate all federal, county and state programs with other standing committees and branches of the Navajo Nation government to provide the most effective delivery of services to the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 701(A)(4).
- C. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee is further empowered with the authority to delegate its authority as appropriate for efficiency and streamlining of government process to appropriate entities. 2 N.N.C. § 701(B).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. As reported by the U.S. Department of Interior and U.S. Department of Justice, Native Americans and Alaskan Natives people are at a disproportionate risk of experiencing violence, murder, or going missing.  
<https://www.doi.gov/priorities/missing-and-murdered-indigenous-people>
- B. U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Deb Haaland recently stated that "(v)iolence against Indigenous peoples is a crisis that has been underfunded for decades. Far too often, murders and missing persons cases in Indian country go unsolved and unaddressed, leaving families and communities devastated."  
<https://www.doi.gov/news/secretary-haaland-creates-new-missing-murdered-unit-pursue-justice-missing-or-murdered-american>

- C. Approximately 1,500 American Indian and Alaska Native missing persons have been entered into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) throughout the U.S., and approximately 2,700 cases of murder and non-negligent homicide offenses have been reported to the Federal Government's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. <https://www.doi.gov/news/secretary-haaland-creates-new-missing-murdered-unit-pursue-justice-missing-or-murdered-american>
- D. In October of 2020, the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress passed Public Law 116-166 establishing the "Not Invisible Act of 2019" to, among other things, "ensure prevention efforts, grants, and programs of Federal agencies related to the murder of, trafficking of and missing Indians consider the unique challenges of combating crime, violence, and human trafficking of Indians and on Indian lands faced by Tribal communities, urban centers, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Tribal law enforcement, Federal law enforcement, and State and local law enforcement". Exhibit A.
- E. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee recognizes the need for the Navajo Nation to be actively involved in the efforts to comprehensively and holistically combat the murders and missing cases of Diné people on and off the Navajo Nation. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee furthers recognizes that these efforts can most effectively be developed, coordinated, and implemented through the creation of a Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives Task Force with representative from all three Branches of the Navajo Nation government, as well as community member representatives.

### SECTION THREE. ESTABLISHING THE MISSING AND MURDERED DINÉ RELATIVES TASK FORCE

- A. The Navajo Nation hereby establishes the Naabik'íyáti' Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives Task Force ("MMDR Task Force").
- B. The MMDR Task Force shall continue in perpetuity unless otherwise dissolved by resolution of the Naabik'íyáti' Committee.
- C. The general purpose of the MMDR Task Force is to coordinate a dynamic holistic approach to help combat the missing and murdered Diné relative crisis on and off the Navajo Nation. Exhibit B.
- D. The specific purposes of the MMDR Task Force, include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Develop recommendations to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee and Office of the President and Vice-President on actions that the Navajo Nation government can take to respond to and combat instances of missing Diné persons, murder, and human trafficking on and off the Navajo Nation.
  2. Develop a non-profit data institute to collect the stories and community-based knowledge to aid the Navajo public and Navajo Nation leadership in understanding the scope of missing and murdered Diné relatives, as well as to develop solution-based pathways for healing and justice through wrap around services, programming, and prevention;
  3. Develop, finalize, and continually update a missing persons toolkit easily accessible by all Navajo members and Navajo Nation residents;
  4. Advocate for and develop programs, including victim's services and victim advocates, that support families with a missing or murdered Diné relative;
  5. Advocate for federal, state, and tribal funding for an inter-coordinated tribal information management system with judicial data tracking systems and training;
  6. Advocate for federal, state, and tribal funding for transitional housing for victims of violent crimes and their families;
  7. Secure information and propose data-sharing agreements with state and federal law enforcement agencies; and
  8. Expand partnerships with other internal and external entities, including state and federal law enforcement agencies, that are also striving to resolve the missing and murdered indigenous person crisis.
- E. The MMDR Task Force Authority shall have the authorities necessary to implement and accomplish the purposes set forth above and specific responsibilities and authorities as follows:
1. The MMDR Task Force shall conduct a study to determine how to increase resources for reporting and identifying missing and murdered Diné relatives on and off the Navajo Nation.
  2. The MMDR Task Force shall collaborate with programs, departments and entities within the Navajo Nation and

federal and state agencies to determine the scope of the missing and murdered Diné relatives crisis, identify barriers to address the crisis and create partnerships to improve the reporting of and the investigation of missing and murdered Diné relatives.

3. The MMDR Task Force may collaborate with programs and departments within the state and federal government to improve MMDR's processes for information sharing and coordination of resources in regard to reporting and investigating cases of missing and murdered Diné relatives.
4. The MMDR Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee and the Office of the President and Vice-President at the end of the second and fourth quarters of each Navajo Nation fiscal year.

F. The MMDR Task Force shall consist of twelve (12) members as follows:

1. A representative of the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council;
2. A representative from the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council;
3. A representative from the Law and Order Committee of the Navajo Nation Council;
4. A representative from the Office of the Speaker selected by the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council;
5. A representative from the Office of the President and Vice-President selected by the President of the Navajo Nation;
6. A representative from the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch selected by the Chief Justice of the Navajo Nation;
7. The Chief of the Navajo Nation Police Department or their designee;
8. The Chief Prosecutor of the Navajo Nation or their designee;
9. The Chief Public Defender or their designee; and

10. Three representatives from Navajo communities who have extensive experience and knowledge of missing and murdered Diné relatives. Such community representatives shall be selected by a majority of the MMDR Task Force.

#### SECTION FOUR. TASK FORCE OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION

- A. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee representative shall be Chairperson of the MMDR Task Force. Other officers of the MMDR Task Force shall be selected by its members.
- B. The MMDR Task Force shall operate by resolution with a majority of Task Force members constituting a quorum.
- C. The MMDR Task Force shall establish its own meeting rules
- D. MMDR Task Force members shall not be compensated, but shall receive reimbursement for mileage, meeting, and travel expenses at the rates set forth in the applicable Navajo Nation Travel Policies.
- E. MMDR Task Force members shall serve until the next Navajo Nation Council is seated. MMDR Task Force members may be removed for lack of attendance by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all Task Force members.
- F. The Office of the Speaker and Office of Legislative Services shall provide technical assistance, clerical, and administrative assistance. The Navajo Nation Department of Justice and the Office of Legislative Counsel shall provide legal assistance and guidance for the MMDR Task Force.
- G. Navajo Nation law, policies, and regulations shall apply to the MMDR Task Force and its members.

#### SECTION FIVE. AMENDMENTS

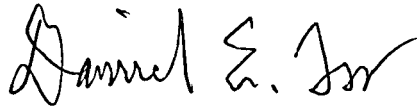
Any amendments to the Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives Task Force enacted herein shall be approved by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

#### SECTION SIX. EFFECTIVE DATE

The provisions of this legislation shall become effective in accordance with 2 N.N.C. § 221(C).

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 18 in Favor, and 01 Opposed, on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022.

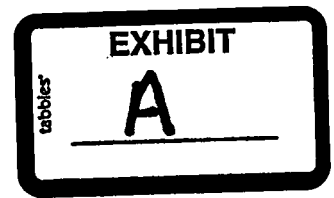


Honorable Daniel E. Tso, Chairman Pro Tem  
Naabik'íyáti' Committee

11/16/22  
Date

Motion: Honorable Mark A. Freeland  
Second: Honorable Raymond Smith, Jr.

Chairman Pro Tem Daniel E. Tso not voting



Public Law 116-166  
116th Congress

An Act

Oct. 10, 2020  
[S. 982]

To increase intergovernmental coordination to identify and combat violent crime within Indian lands and of Indians.

Not Invisible Act  
of 2019.  
25 USC 2801  
note.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Not Invisible Act of 2019”.

25 USC 2802  
note.

**SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act—

(1) the term “Commission” means the Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice Joint Commission on Reducing Violent Crime Against Indians under section 4;

(2) the term “human trafficking” means act or practice described in paragraph (9) or paragraph (10) of section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102);

(3) the term “Indian” means a member of an Indian tribe;

(4) the terms “Indian lands” and “Indian tribe” have the meanings given the terms in section 3 of the Native American Business Development, Trade Promotion, and Tourism Act of 2000 (25 U.S.C. 4302); and

(5) the terms “urban centers” and “urban Indian organization” have the meanings given the terms in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1603).

**SEC. 3. COORDINATOR OF FEDERAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST NATIVE PEOPLE.**

(a) **COORDINATOR DESIGNATION.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall designate an official within the Office of Justice Services in the Bureau of Indian Affairs who shall—

(1) coordinate prevention efforts, grants, and programs related to the murder of, trafficking of, and missing Indians across Federal agencies, including—

(A) the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and

(B) the Department of Justice, including—

(i) the Office of Justice Programs;

(ii) the Office on Violence Against Women;

(iii) the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services;

(iv) the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

(v) the Office of Tribal Justice;

(2) ensure prevention efforts, grants, and programs of Federal agencies related to the murder of, trafficking of, and

missing Indians consider the unique challenges of combating crime, violence, and human trafficking of Indians and on Indian lands faced by Tribal communities, urban centers, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Tribal law enforcement, Federal law enforcement, and State and local law enforcement;

(3) work in cooperation with outside organizations with expertise in working with Indian tribes and Indian Tribes to provide victim centered and culturally relevant training to tribal law enforcement, Indian Health Service health care providers, urban Indian organizations, Tribal community members and businesses, on how to effectively identify, respond to and report instances of missing persons, murder, and trafficking within Indian lands and of Indians; and

(4) report directly to the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) **REPORT.**—The official designated in subsection (a) shall submit to the Committee on Indian Affairs and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report to provide information on Federal coordination efforts accomplished over the previous year that includes—

Summaries.

(1) a summary of all coordination activities undertaken in compliance with this section;

(2) a summary of all trainings completed under subsection (a)(3); and

(3) recommendations for improving coordination across Federal agencies and of relevant Federal programs.

Recommendations.

**SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE JOINT COMMISSION ON REDUCING VIOLENT CRIME AGAINST INDIANS.**

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Attorney General, shall establish and appoint all members of a joint commission on violent crime on Indian lands and against Indians.

Deadline.  
Coordination.  
Appointment.

(b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—

(1) **COMPOSITION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Commission shall be composed of members who represent diverse experiences and backgrounds that provide balanced points of view with regard to the duties of the Commission.

(B) **DIVERSITY.**—To the greatest extent practicable, the Secretary of the Interior shall ensure the Commission includes Tribal representatives from diverse geographic areas and of diverse sizes.

(2) **APPOINTMENT.**—The Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Attorney General, shall appoint the members to the Commission, including representatives from—

Coordination.

(A) tribal law enforcement;

(B) the Office of Justice Services of the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

(C) State and local law enforcement in close proximity to Indian lands, with a letter of recommendation from a local Indian Tribe;

(D) the Victim Services Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation;



(E) the Department of Justice's Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit;

(F) the Office of Violence Against Women of the Department of Justice;

(G) the Office of Victims of Crime of the Department of Justice;

(H) a United States attorney's office with experience in cases related to missing persons, murder, or trafficking of Indians or on Indian land;

(I) the Administration for Native Americans of the Office of the Administration for Children & Families of the Department of Health and Human Services;

(J) the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services;

(K) a Tribal judge with experience in cases related to missing persons, murder, or trafficking;

(L) not fewer than 3 Indian Tribes from diverse geographic areas, including 1 Indian tribe located in Alaska, selected from nominations submitted by the Indian Tribe;

(M) not fewer than 2 health care and mental health practitioners and counselors and providers with experience in working with Indian survivors of trafficking and sexual assault, with a letter of recommendation from a local tribal chair or tribal law enforcement officer;

(N) not fewer than 3 national, regional, or urban Indian organizations focused on violence against women and children on Indian lands or against Indians;

(O) at least 2 Indian survivors of human trafficking;

(P) at least 2 family members of missing Indian people;

(Q) at least 2 family members of murdered Indian people;

(R) the National Institute of Justice; and

(S) the Indian Health Service.

(3) PERIODS OF APPOINTMENT.—Members shall be appointed for the duration of the Commission.

(4) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made and shall not affect the powers or duties of the Commission.

(5) COMPENSATION.—Commission members shall serve without compensation.

Coordination.

(6) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—The Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Attorney General, shall consider the provision of travel expenses, including per diem, to Commission members when appropriate.

(c) DUTIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may hold such hearings, meet and act at times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Commission considers to be advisable to carry out the duties of the Commission under this section.

(2) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall develop recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior and Attorney

General on actions the Federal Government can take to help combat violent crime against Indians and within Indian lands, including the development and implementation of recommendations for—

(i) identifying, reporting, and responding to instances of missing persons, murder, and human trafficking on Indian lands and of Indians;

(ii) legislative and administrative changes necessary to use programs, properties, or other resources funded or operated by the Department of the Interior and Department of Justice to combat the crisis of missing or murdered Indians and human trafficking on Indian lands and of Indians;

(iii) tracking and reporting data on instances of missing persons, murder, and human trafficking on Indian lands and of Indians;

(iv) addressing staff shortages and open positions within relevant law enforcement agencies, including issues related to the hiring and retention of law enforcement officers;

(v) coordinating tribal, State, and Federal resources to increase prosecution of murder and human trafficking offenses on Indian lands and of Indians; and

(vi) increasing information sharing with tribal governments on violent crime investigations and prosecutions in Indian lands that were terminated or declined.

(B) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 18 months after the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall make publicly available and submit all recommendations developed under this paragraph to—

Deadline.  
Public  
information.

(i) the Secretary of the Interior;

(ii) the Attorney General;

(iii) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(iv) the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate;

(v) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(vi) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(C) SECRETARIAL RESPONSE.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Secretary of the Interior and the Attorney General receive the recommendations under paragraph (2), the Secretary and the Attorney General shall each make publicly available and submit a written response to the recommendations to—

Deadline.  
Public  
information.

(i) the Commission;

(ii) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(iii) the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate;

(iv) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(v) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(d) FACA EXEMPTION.—The Commission shall be exempt from the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

(e) **SUNSET.**—The Commission shall terminate on the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

Approved October 10, 2020.

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**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 982 (H.R. 2438):**

**HOUSE REPORTS:** No. 116-509, Pt. 1 (Comm. on the Judiciary) accompanying H.R. 2438.

**SENATE REPORTS:** No. 116-214 (Comm. on Indian Affairs).

**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 166 (2020):**

Mar. 11, considered and passed Senate.

Sept. 21, considered and passed House.



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# Not Invisible Act Commission

*“A lack of urgency, transparency, and coordination has hampered our country’s efforts to combat violence against American Indian and Alaska Native people. In partnership with the Justice Department and with extensive engagement with Tribes and other stakeholders, the Interior Department is marshalling our resources to finally address the crisis of violence against Indigenous peoples.”*

— **Secretary Deb Haaland**

At the Department of the Interior, we believe that everyone deserves to feel safe in their communities, but American Indian and Alaska Native people are at a disproportionate risk of experiencing violence, murder, or going missing. For too long, the national crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples has been overlooked and underfunded.

On Oct. 10, 2020, the Not Invisible Act of 2019 was signed into law as the first bill in history to be introduced and passed by four U.S. congressional members enrolled in their respective federally recognized Tribes, led by Secretary Deb Haaland during her time in Congress.

Secretary Haaland, in coordination with Attorney General Merrick Garland, is now working to implement the *Not Invisible Act*. They established the Not Invisible Act Commission, a cross jurisdictional advisory committee composed of law enforcement, Tribal leaders, federal partners, service providers, family members of missing and murdered individuals, and most importantly — survivors.

The Commission’s purpose is to make recommendations to the Departments of the Interior and Justice to improve intergovernmental coordination and establish best practices for state, Tribal, and federal law enforcement, to bolster resources for

survivors and victim's families, and to combat the epidemic of missing persons, murder, and trafficking of Native Americans and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs).

Among its mission, the Commission will:

- Identify, report and respond to instances of missing and murdered Indigenous peoples (MMIP) cases and human trafficking,
- Develop legislative and administrative changes necessary to use federal programs, properties, and resources to combat the crisis,
- Track and report data on MMIP and human trafficking cases,
- Consider issues related to the hiring and retention of law enforcement offices,
- Coordinate Tribal-state-federal resources to combat MMIP and human trafficking offices on Indian lands, and
- Increase information sharing with Tribal governments on violent crimes investigations and other prosecutions on Indian lands.

The Commission has the authority to hold hearings, gather testimony, and receive additional evidence and feedback from its members to develop recommendations to the Secretary and Attorney General.

## **Members of the Commission:**

- Bazil-Lu Adams, Officer, Yakama Nation Police Department
- Natasha Anderson, Staff Attorney, Nez Perce Tribe Office of Legal Counsel
- Deidra Williams Angulo, Sonder Mind Mental Health Services
- Eric Broderick, retired mental health professional
- Ruth Buffalo, Legislator, 27th House District of North Dakota
- Grace Bulltail, survivor or family member of missing or murdered person
- Francisco Burrola, Special Agent in Charge for Immigration and Customs Enforcement at Homeland Security Investigations, U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Elizabeth Carr, Senior Advisor to the Director, Indian Health Services – U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Kerri Colfer, National Indigenous Women's Resource Center

- Christine Crossland, Senior Social Science Analyst, National Institute of Justice – U.S. Department of Justice
- Amber Kanazbah Crotty, Council Delegate, The Navajo Nation Council
- Jordan Dresser, Chairman, Northern Arapaho Tribal Business Council
- Michelle Demmert, Tribal Judge, Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
- Dale Fine, Jr. Special Agent, Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation
- Leanne Guy, survivor or family member of missing or murdered person
- Jolene Hardesty, Michigan State Police, Missing Children's Clearing House Analyst
- Carmen Harvie, survivor or family member of missing or murdered person
- Karen 'Kari' Hearod, Director, Office of Tribal Affairs and Policy; Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Admin – U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Don Hedrick, Chief of Police, Rapid City Police Department
- Tamra Truett Jerue, Alaska Native Women's Resource Center
- Vivian Korthuis, CEO of the Association of Village Council Presidents, Native Village of Emmonak
- Hope MacDonald LoneTree, Deputy Commissioner, Administration for Native Americans – U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Annita Lucchesi, survivor or family member of missing or murdered person
- Jason O'Neal, Director, Office of Justice Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior
- Gregg Peterman, Supervisory Assistant U.S. Attorney for District of South Dakota; US Attorney's Office – U.S. Department of Justice
- Kimberly Poyer, Section Chief, Victim Services Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation – U.S. Department of Justice
- Allison Randall, Acting Director, Office of Violence Against Women – U.S. Department of Justice
- Shawna Roach, Investigator, Cherokee Nation Marshal Service
- Delight Satter, Senior Health Scientist/Advisor to the Director for Center for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Katherine Darke Schmitt, Deputy Director, Office of Victims of Crime – U.S. Department of Justice
- Heston Silbert, Colonel, Arizona Department of Public Safety

- Sonya Tetnowski, National Council of Urban Indian Health
- Karonienhawi Thomas, Detective Sergeant, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police Department
- Kristin Welch, Waking Women Healing Institute
- Patricia Whitefoot, survivor or family member of missing or murdered person
- Cord Wood, Captain, Oregon State Police
- Daniel Yonkin, Detective, Lake County Montana Sheriff's Office

## Resources:

- [RELEASE: Secretary Haaland Continues Pursuit of Justice in Indian Country, Begins Implementation of 'Not Invisible Act'](#)
  - [Department of Justice Murdered or Missing Indigenous Persons Webpage](#)
  - [Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Priority Page](#)
  - [BIA OJS Missing & Murdered Unit website](#)
  - [BIA OJS Victim Assistance Program website](#)
- 

## Was this page helpful?

☐ Yes

☐ No

SUBMIT

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U.S. Department of the Interior

Stewarding Conservation and Powering Our Future



## Missing & Murdered Diné Relatives



### *Summary Update on MMDR Data Institute – “Together, We Heal”*

The Missing & Murdered Diné Relatives task force have continued planning to develop a data institute that would hold the stories and knowledge from community to help us understand the accurate scope of the issues and to develop solution-based pathways for healing and justice. This data institute would be unique in that it would offer collect and offer community-based knowledge and foster healing through wrap around services, programming, and prevention.

Funding: \$1,250,000 for five years

Our accomplishments on the planning for the data institute includes:

- A grant proposal that names the needs to set the foundation for the database
- Objectives have been identified
- Engaged in a new partnership with Navajo Nation Peacemaking Program and Navajo Nation Judicial Branch
- We operate using the Navajo Wellness Model
- Identified the hardware needed to maintain the database
- Recorded testimonies from families of MMDR

Pieces that are in progress for the data institute:

- Developing an overall strategic plan for the institute
- Drafting a plan of operation
- Continue community relationship-building
- Creating a research design and identifying the type of data collection
- Incorporate historical and intergenerational trauma

Additional areas that need attention to move the data institute forward:

- Identify data use plan and who will have access
- Identify entities for MOUs for data sharing
- Identify a coordinator to carry out the work
- Articulate the MMDR Institute working staff and leadership
- Begin to develop and analyze the data

As our community-based work moves forward, we understand that this work cannot be carried alone without key stakeholders who have the expertise and honor their responsibility to serve our Navajo communities. Through their support on this journey, we know we get closer and closer to having a self-determined pathway to having ownership over our stories and restoring balance within our Navajo communities.



Here are our key partners:

- Navajo Nation Council and Office of the Speaker
- Diné College, Public Health
- Navajo Mission Persons Updates – Meskee Yatsaayte
- Navajo Epidemiology Center
- Navajo Area IHS
- Arizona State University
- Navajo Nation Police Department, Emergency Management and Criminal Investigations
- Navajo Department of Health
- John Hopkins University – Wendy Shields
- New Mexico Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Relatives Task Force
- New Mexico Indigenous Women’s Resource Center
- Utah Navajo Health Systems, Victim Advocate Program
- Tribal Coalitions

As we move this work forward, we continued to hold community forums virtually despite the pandemic to ensure we received input and provided education and awareness. The importance of spreading knowledge to our communities allows MMDR families and Navajo citizens to be better informed and understand how they can be a part of the solution.

Here are events that we held in 2020 and 2021 (graphics included):

- October 2020: “Domestic Violence as a Contributor to the Missing and Murdered Crisis on the Navajo Nation
- January 2021: “Not Invisible: Understanding Human Trafficking on the Navajo Nation”
- April 2021: “Exploring the MMDR/NMPU Missing Persons Community Action Toolkit”
- May 2021: “Understanding the Trials Navajo Families Face”

The MMDR task force is intent to continue taking a dynamic approach to the missing and murdered crisis on the Navajo Nation. In addition to the data institute, the task force seeks to finalize our missing persons toolkit, establish itself as a nonprofit, develop programming that supports families, elevate our advocacy efforts for families, expand partnerships, and seek sustainable ways to move our work forward. Ultimately, we will continue to call for justice on behalf of Navajo families and work towards recovering our missing relatives. We keep moving forward in the spirit of healing.

The MMDR task force supports the following recommendations:

- Increased funding for victims’ services programs and victim advocates within by 638 medical center in partnership tribal law enforcement and the tribal judiciary;
- Increased federal funding for an inter-coordinated tribal information management system with judicial data tracking systems and training;
- Funding for transitional housing for victims of violent crimes and their families;

- Federal and Navajo Nation funding and support for the Navajo Nation's proposed Missing & Murdered *Diné* Relatives Data Institute;
- Information/data-sharing agreements with our state and federal partners; and Increased resources for Navajo law enforcement, including increasing police and more closely situated substations.

**NAVAJO NATION**

1372

11/10/2022

Naa'bik'iyati' Committee Regular Meeting

12:16:48 PM

Amd# to Amd#

New Business: CONSENT AGENDA

PASSED

MOT Freeland, M

Item A. -Legislations: 0117-22,

SEC Smith

0203-22, 0195-22, 0186-22,

0189-22, 0175-22, 0204-22

**Yeas : 18**

**Nays : 1**

**Excused : 3**

**Not Voting : 1**

**Yea : 18**

Begay, E

Daniels

Smith

Tso, O

Begay, K

Freeland, M

Stewart, W

Walker, T

Begay, P

Halona, P

Tso, C

Wauneka, E

Brown

Henio, J

Tso, E

Yellowhair

Charles-Newton

Nez, R

**Nay : 1**

James, V

**Excused : 3**

Crotty

Damon

Slater, C

**Not Voting : 1**

Yazzie

**Presiding Speaker: Tso, D**