

RESOLUTION OF THE
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
of the 25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - FIRST YEAR, 2023

AN ACTION

RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE,
APPOINTING HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO
THE DIRECT SERVICE TRIBES ADVISORY COMMITTEE, THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION TRIBAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE, AND THE TRIBAL LEADERS DIABETES COMMITTEE

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is established as a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council. The committee consists of six delegates of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 400(A)-(B).
- B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is empowered "[t]o establish Navajo Nation policy, promulgate rules, and regulations governing health, social services, education, human services, and general government services of the Navajo Nation and its tribal organizations, entities, and enterprises." 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(1).
- C. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee (HEHSC) is empowered "[t]o ensure compliance and implementation of laws and policies of the Navajo Nation relating to health, social services, education, general government services and human services. 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(1).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee (DSTAC) was established in 2005 to provide leadership that advises the Indian Health Services Director on the development of health policy and participates in IHS decision making that affects the delivery of health care.
- B. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Tribal Technical Advisory Committee (SAMHSA TTAC) provides a forum where tribal leadership and SAMHSA staff can exchange information about public health issues, identify urgent mental health and substance abuse needs, and discuss collaborative approaches to addressing behavioral health needs.
- C. The Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee (TLDC) recommends to the Indian Health Services Director a process for distributing Special Diabetes Program for Indians funds including policy and advocacy concerning diabetes and related chronic illnesses.

D. The HEHSC appoints its committee members to serve as alternate representatives along with Navajo Nation President Dr. Buu Nygren as the primary representative to each of the respective committees:

1. Delegate Germaine Simonson, Vice Chair of HEHSC is appointed to DSTAC, as indicated in **Exhibit A**;
2. Delegate Curtis Yanito of HEHSC is appointed to SAMHSA TTAC, as indicated in **Exhibit B**; and
3. Delegate George Tolth of HEHSC is appointed to TLDC as indicated in **Exhibit C**.

E. The Navajo Department of Health Executive Director, Rhonda Tuni. Esq. and her staff will provide technical support to HEHSC members to prepare for these meetings.

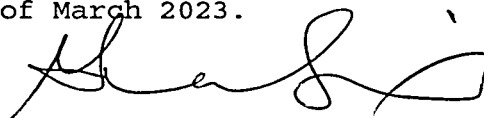
SECTION THREE. APPROVAL

The HEHSC appoints its committee members to serve as alternate representatives, as follows:

1. Delegate Germaine Simonson, Vice Chair of HEHSC is appointed to DSTAC;
2. Delegate Curtis Yanito of HEHSC is appointed to SAMHSA TTAC; and
3. Delegate George Tolth of HEHSC is appointed to TLDC.

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby, certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Health, Education and Human Services Committee 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 5 in Favor, and 0 Opposed, on this 15th day of March 2023.



Honorable Germaine Simonson, Vice-Chairperson
Health, Education and Human Services Committee
25th Navajo Nation Council

Motion by: Andy Nez

Second by: George Tolth

Vice-Chairperson Germaine Simonson not voting



DR. BUU NYGREN *PRESIDENT*

RICHELLE MONTOYA *VICE PRESIDENT*



The Navajo Nation | Yideeskáądi Nitsáhákees

February 9, 2023

*Sent via Email: Jillian.Curtis@ihs.gov
Terri.Schmidt@ihs.gov*

Roselyn Tso, Director
Indian Health Service-Headquarters
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Jillian Curtis, Director
Office of Finance and Accounting
Indian Health Service
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Terri Schmidt, Director
Office of Direct Services and Contracting Tribes
Indian Health Service
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

CAPT. Brian K. Johnson, REHS, MPH
Navajo Area Acting Director
Indian Health Service
P.O. Box 9020
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Re: Updated Designation Letter for Navajo Area Representatives for the Indian Health Service, National Tribal Budget Formulation Workgroup (NTBFW) and the Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee (DSTAC)

Dear Director Tso, Director Curtis, Director Schmidt and Acting Director CAPT. Johnson,

The Navajo Nation has newly elected Tribal Leadership and we are submitting this letter to designate the Navajo Area Representatives for the Indian Health Service (I H S), National Tribal Budget Formulation (NTBFW) Meeting and the Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee (DSTAC). Also, our Navajo Nation 25th Navajo Nation Council's Health, Education and Human Services Committee (HEHSC) has appointed Honorable Delegate Germaine Simonson, Vice Chair, HEHSC to serve on these federal committees as well.



DR. BUU NYGREN *PRESIDENT*

RICHELLE MONTOYA *VICE PRESIDENT*

The Navajo Nation | Yideeskáadi Nitsáhákees

This also affirms that I, Dr. Buu Nygren, am the newly elected tribal official of the Navajo Nation and was elected to the official position of President of the Navajo Nation and inaugurated via an oath of office on January 10, 2023 and will serve a four (4) year term. Germaine Simonson was also elected to official position of the 25th Navajo Nation Council (NNC) Delegate and took an oath of office on January 10, 2023 and will serve a four (4) year term. She was assigned by the Navajo Nation Speaker to the Health and Human Services Committee (HEHSC), and selected to serve as the Vice Chair for HEHSC.

As Navajo Area Representatives we will be acting in my official capacity as an elected official of the Navajo Nation. We have the authority to act on behalf of the tribe and am qualified to represent the views of the Navajo Nation, from which we are nominated.

Please see below is their Contact Information:

Primary Representative: Dr. Buu Nygren, President
The Navajo Nation
P.O. Box 7440, Window Rock, AZ 86515
PH: (928)871-7000 Email: president.buunygren@navajo-nsn.gov

Alternate Representative: Germaine Simonson, Delegate, Vice Chair, HEHSC
25th Navajo Nation Council
P.O. Box 3390, Window Rock, AZ 86515
PH: (928)871-7160 Email: germaine.simonson@navajo-nsn.gov

Technical Advisor: Rhonda Tuni, Esq, Executive Director
Navajo Department of Health
P.O. Box 1390, Window Rock, AZ 86515
PH: (928)871-6350 Email: rhonda.tuni@navajo-nsn.gov

Also, please include the following staff on all correspondences regarding the committees and meetings:

- Michele Morris, Legislative Analyst, NDOH michelemorris@navajo-nsn.gov
- Justin Ahasteen, Executive Director, NNWO jahasteen@nnwo.org
- Alray Nelson, Executive Staff Assistant, OPVP alray.nelson@navajo-nsn.gov



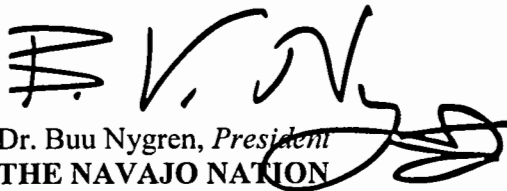
DR. BUU NYGREN *PRESIDENT*
RICHELLE MONTOYA *VICE PRESIDENT*

The Navajo Nation | Yideeskáądi Nitsáhákees

We have scheduled to meet with NAIHS to finalize our new list of designees for all the other federal committees and workgroups. We look forward to working together with your agency to improve public health services for Indian Country.

If there are any questions regarding this designation, please feel free to contact Ms. Rhonda Tuni, Esq, Executive Director, Navajo Department of Health (928) 871-6350 or by email at rhonda.tuni@navajo-nsn.gov . Thank you.

Sincerely,


Dr. Buu Nygren, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION



The Navajo Nation **DR. BUU NYGREN**
Yideeskáadi Nitsáhákees **RICHELLE MONTOYA** VICE PRESIDENT



February 24, 2023

*Sent via Email: karen.hearod@samhsa.hhs.gov
OTAP@samhsa.hhs.gov*

Dr. Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, Assistant Secretary
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

CAPT. Karen Hearod, M.S.W., LCSW, Director
Office of Tribal Affairs and Policy
Office of Intergovernmental and Public Affairs
Office of the Assistant Secretary
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

**Re: Designation of Navajo Area Representative on the SAMHSA Tribal Technical
Advisory Committee (SAMHSA TTAC)**

Dear Assistant Secretary Delphin-Rittmon and CAPT. Hearod,

As the newly elected President of the Navajo Nation, I'm submitting this letter to designate the following: Designation of Navajo Area Representatives on the SAMHSA Tribal Technical Advisory Committee (SAMHSA TTAC).

Primary Representative: Dr. Buu Nygren, President
The Navajo Nation
P.O. Box 7440, Window Rock, AZ 86515
PH: (928)871-7000 Email: president.buunygren@navajo-nsn.gov

Alternate Representative: Curtis Yanito, Delegate, HEHSC
25th Navajo Nation Council
P.O. Box 3390, Window Rock, AZ 86515
PH: (928)871-7160 Email: curtis.yanito@navajo-nsn.gov

Technical Advisor: Dr. Michelle Brandser, Health Services Administrator
Division of Behavioral and Mental Health

Navajo Department of Health
P.O. Box 1390, Window Rock, AZ 86515
PH: (928)871-6240 Email: mbrandser@navajo-nsn.gov

Also, please include the following staff on all correspondences regarding the committees and meetings:

- Michele Morris, Legislative Analyst, NDOH michelemorris@navajo-nsn.gov
- Alray Nelson, Executive Staff Assistant, OPVP alray.nelson@navajo-nsn.gov

We look forward to working together to improve public health services for our Navajo communities. If there are any questions regarding this designation, please feel free to contact Ms. Rhonda Tuni, Esq, Executive Director, Navajo Department of Health (928) 871-6350 or by email at rhonda.tuni@navajo-nsn.gov . Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. V. Nygren", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Buu Nygren, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION



The Navajo Nation **DR. BUU NYGREN**
Yideeskáadi Nitsáhákees **RICHELLE MONTOYA**



February 24, 2023

Sent via Email: Carmen.LicavoliHardin@ihs.gov

Carmen Licavoli Hardin, Director
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Indian Health Services
Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention
5600 Fishers Lane, Mailstop 08N34A
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Re: Designation of Navajo Area Representative on the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee (TLDC)

Dear Director Licavoli Hardin,

As the newly elected President of the Navajo Nation, I'm submitting this letter to nominate the following: Primary Representative, Alternate Representative, and Technical Advisor to serve as the Navajo Area Representatives on the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee (TLDC).

This also affirms that I, Dr. Buu Nygren, am the newly elected tribal official of the Navajo Nation and was elected to the official position of President of the Navajo Nation and inaugurated via an oath of office on January 10, 2023 and will serve a four (4) year term. Also, our Navajo Nation 25th Navajo Nation Council's Health, Education and Human Services Committee (HEHSC) has appointed Honorable Delegate George Tolth, member of HEHSC to serve on these federal committees as well and was also sworn into to office on 1/10/23 for a four (4) year term.

As the Primary and Alternate Representatives of TDLC, we will be acting in the official capacity as an elected official of the Navajo Nation and have the authority to act on behalf of the tribe and am qualified to represent the views of the Navajo Nation, from which we are Elected.

Please see below is our Contact Information:

Primary Representative: Dr. Buu Nygren, President
The Navajo Nation
P.O. Box 7440 Window Rock, AZ 86515
PH: (928)871-7000 Email: president.buunygren@navajo-nsn.gov

Alternate Representative: George Tolth, Council Delegate
Health, Education and Human Services Committee
Navajo Nation Council
P.O. Box 3390 Window Rock, AZ 86515
PH: (928)871-7160 Email: george.tolth@navajo-nsn.gov

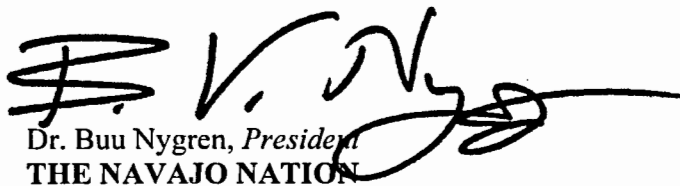
Technical Advisor: Rodgina Paul, Program Manager III
Navajo Special Diabetes Program
P.O. Box 3748 Window Rock, AZ 86515
PH: (928)871-6532 Email: rodgina.paul@navajo-nsn.gov

Also, please include the following staff on all correspondences regarding the committees and meetings:

- Michele Morris, Legislative Analyst, NDOH michelemorris@navajo-nsn.gov
- Alray Nelson, Executive Staff Assistant, OPVP alray.nelson@navajo-nsn.gov

We look forward to working together to improve public health services for our Navajo communities. Further, I've recently appointed Ms. Rhonda Tuni, Esq, to serve as the Executive Director of Navajo Department of Health to carry out the duties and authorities of public health for the Navajo people. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact ED Tuni at (928) 871-6350 or by email at rhonda.tuni@navajo-nsn.gov. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Dr. Buu Nygren, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

March 15, 2023

Legislation No. 0035-23: An Action Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services Committee; Appointing Health, Education and Human Services Committee Members to the Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Tribal Technical Advisory Committee, and the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee

Sponsor: *Delegate Vince R. James*

VOTE TALLY:

Main Motion:

Motion: Honorable Dr. Andy Nez

Second: Honorable George Tolth

Vote: 5-0-0

Yea: Helena Nez Begay; Vince R. James; Dr. Andy Nez; George Tolth; Curtis Yanito

Nay:

Not Voting: Germaine Simonson (Presiding Vice-Chair)

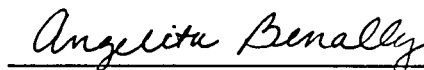
Excused:

Absent:

Vote: 5-0-0



Honorable Germaine Simonson, Vice-Chairperson
Health, Education and Human Services Committee
25th Navajo Nation Council



Angelita Benally, Legislative Advisor
Health, Education and Human Services Committee
Office of Legislative Services