

RESOLUTION OF THE
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council-Second Year, 2016

AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; ENABLING
LEGISLATION CREATING AND ESTABLISHING THE STRENGTHENING FAMILIES
PROGRAM WITHIN THE NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES;
AND APPROVING PLAN OF OPERATION

BE IT ENACTED:

Section One. Authority

- A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 400. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 401(C)(1), the committee "serve[s] as the oversight committee for the [Department] of Health, Division of Social Services, Division of Human [Services,] Department of Diné Education, Division of General Services ...". Further, the Health, Education and Human Services Committee is authorized "to recommend to the Navajo Nation Council the creation of any Division or Department intended to be under the Committee's oversight by adoption of its Plan of Operation;" 2 NNC Sec. 401 (B) (8).

Section Two. Findings

- A. The Navajo Nation Division of Social Services is recommending the establishment of the Strengthening Family Program within the division. See attached Exhibit "A," Plan of Operation for Strengthening Family Program, Navajo Division of Social Services.
- B. It is in the best interests of the Navajo Nation that the Navajo Nation creates and establishes the Strengthening Family Program within the Division of Social Services, under the oversight of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

Section Three. Enabling Legislation for Creating and Establishing the Strengthening Family Program; Approving Plan of Operation

- A. The Navajo Nation, by this enabling legislation, hereby creates and establishes the Strengthening Family Program within the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services, with oversight provided by the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.
- B. The Navajo Nation approves the Plan of Operation for the Strengthening Family Program within the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services, attached as Exhibit "A."

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council at duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained this 21st day of September, 2016.



Jonathan L. Hale, Chairperson
Health, Education and Human Services Committee
Of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council

Motion : Honorable Nelson S. BeGaye
Second : Honorable Nathaniel Brown
Chairperson not voting

Amendment One: Correct minor typo errors
Motion : Honorable Nelson S. BeGaye
Second : Honorable Nathaniel Brown
Vote : 4 in Favor, 0 Opposed, 1 abstained
Chairperson not voting

Exhibit A

NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Strengthening Families Program
Plan of Operation

I. ESTABLISHMENT

There is hereby established the Strengthening Families Program (SFP) within the Division of Social Services of the Navajo Nation Government Executive Branch.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Strengthening Families Program is to provide prevention, crisis intervention and supportive services, 24/7 residential shelter and supportive services for victims and their dependents of family, domestic, and dating violence. In addition, SFP will provide services and education to victims impacted by sexual trauma as a result of sexual assault and/or sex/human trafficking. The SFP shall aim to provide services in a culturally appropriate and sensitive manner and ensure services are in accordance with Navajo cultural values and traditions.

III. STAFFING AND ORGANIZATION

A. Staffing

1. The Strengthening Families Program shall be supervised and directed under the guidance of the Program Manager to administer, oversee, and assure crisis intervention and delivery of services with the assistance of direct service and administrative staff, and the shelter facility.

2. The Program Manager shall at minimum have a Bachelor's degree in Human Services, Social Work, Counseling, Criminal Justice or a closely related field.

3. The Program Manager shall be under the general direction and guidance of the Division Director of the Division of Social Services and shall adhere to the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual and ensure the mission, goals, objectives and philosophy of the program.

4. The Program Manager shall be authorized to recommend additional professional, technical and clerical positions as needed to carry out the organizational purpose(s), as stated herein. Program positions shall be acquired in accordance with the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual within applicable budget rules established for conducting the annual tribal budget process.

5. All personnel shall be employed and compensated in accordance with applicable Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual.

B. Organization

The Organizational Chart of the Strengthening Families Program is attached as Exhibit "A".

IV. **RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY**

The Strengthening Families Program shall:

- A. Conduct prevention, outreach, training and educational activities to help bring awareness to and reduce the incidents of family, domestic and dating violence; sexual assault and sex/human trafficking on the Navajo Nation;
- B. Provide immediate crisis intervention to adult and youth victims and their dependents experiencing family, domestic and/or dating violence; sexual assault and sex/human trafficking;
- C. Provide supportive services to victims and their dependents such as: individual and group counseling, legal and medical advocacy, safety planning, financial planning, peer support groups, case management services, information, referral to community-based services, referrals to appropriate health care services, help access Tribal, Federal and State financial assistance programs, locating and securing safe and affordable housing and transportation;
- D. Assist victims and their dependents in accessing: child care, respite care, job training and employment services; financial literacy services and education, and other related economic empowerment services;

- E. Provide immediate emergency, temporary shelter services and supportive services to adult and youth victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence; sexual assault and sex/human trafficking;
- F. Coordinate services and activities with other domestic/family service providers, including but not limited to: non-profits, taskforces groups, tribal, federal and state programs to provide the optimal level of services to meet the needs of victims and their dependents;
- G. Provide program services in compliance with established directives, guidelines, policies or legislation of the Navajo Nation, state, and federal governments;
- H. Provide consultation and technical assistance to the Division Director regarding the development and strengthening of program services;
- I. Provide reports, recommendations and advocacy to improve services provided to victims of family, domestic and sexual violence services to the Health, Education and Human Services Committee, the Navajo Nation Council and to the Office of the President and Vice-President, as requested.

V. LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT

The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council shall serve as the legislative oversight committee for the Strengthening Families Program within the Division of Social Services.

VI. AMENDMENTS

This Plan of Operation may be amended from time to time by the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES Strengthening Families Program

