



**THE NAVAJO NATION**

*Proclamation*

2016 Navajo Nation and Healing Begins - Never Lose Hope  
Crime Victims Rights Week April 10-16, 2016

“Serving Victims, Building Trust, and Restoring Hope”

**WHEREAS**, the principal foundation of *justice for all* which our nation is built upon includes *justice for all victims of crime*;

**WHEREAS**, in 2014, an estimated 5.4 million U.S. citizens over the age of 12 are reported victims to violent crimes;

**WHEREAS**, many communities feel disconnected from the justice and social response systems, and have lost trust in the ability of those systems to recognize them and respond to their needs;

**WHEREAS**, many victims face challenges in finding appropriate services, including victims with disabilities, minorities, deaf and hard of hearing, LGBTQ, elders, mental illness, immigrants, youth, and non-English speaking;

**WHEREAS**, intervening early with services that support and empower victims provides a pathway to recovery from crime and abuse;

**WHEREAS**, honoring the rights of victims, including the right to be heard and to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect, and working to meet their needs rebuilds their trust in the criminal justice and social service systems;

**WHEREAS**, the Navajo Nation, along with the surrounding communities, are hereby dedicated to serving victims and rebuilding their trust, to restore hope, healing and justice to victims, survivors, as well as their communities;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Russell Begaye, President of the Navajo Nation, and I, Jonathan Nez, Vice President of the Navajo Nation do hereby proclaim April 10-16, 2016 as Navajo Nation Crime Victims Rights Week and are committed to the awareness and prevention of crime in our surrounding communities throughout the Navajo Nation.

Proclaimed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Russell Begaye".

Russell Begaye, *President*  
**THE NAVAJO NATION**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jonathan Nez".

Jonathan Nez, *Vice President*  
**THE NAVAJO NATION**