



NAVAJO NATION PROCLAMATION

Declaring the Third Week of December as *Suicide Prevention Week - Building Communities of Hope*

WHEREAS, Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the 8th leading cause of death for Native Americans.

WHEREAS, in the United States, one person dies by suicide every 13 minutes.

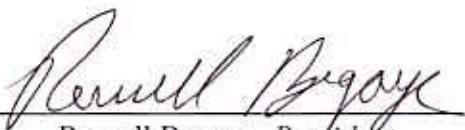
WHEREAS, Native American communities experience higher rates of suicide compared to all other racial and ethnic groups in the United States of America, with suicide being the 8th leading cause of death for American Indians and Alaska Natives across all ages.

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation is committed to excellence in suicide prevention, intervention and post-vention and realizes that public awareness of this issue is the key to preventing further suffering and loss of life.

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation supports the leadership efforts of our programs, departments and divisions as advocates for life; promoting culture, traditional values, faith, education and direct services all while cultivating resilience and understanding that these efforts will create avenues toward reducing suicide.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RUSSELL BEGAYE, President of the Navajo Nation and I, JONATHAN NEZ, Vice President of the Navajo Nation do hereby proclaim the third week of December as Suicide Prevention Week - Building Communities of Hope. I urge all Navajo leaders, employees and citizens to assist in bringing awareness to this issue, to be involved, participate in planned events and activities to learn about this issue and understand protective measures to help our Navajo people, for one life loss is one too many.

PROCLAIMED THIS 4th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2015


Russell Begaye, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION


Jonathan Nez, *Vice President*
THE NAVAJO NATION