



The Navajo Nation
Navajo Division of Social Services
Office of Executive Director

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Navajo Nation Child Care Centers Reopening Schedule Revised

Window Rock, Ariz - The Navajo Division of Social Services (DSS) Navajo Department of Child Care and Development (DCCD) is scheduled to reopen their child care centers in three phases.

Phase one reopening began Monday, August 2, 2021, with The T'iists'ozí Childcare Center in Crownpoint, NM, the Karigan Childcare Center in St. Michaels, AZ, and the Little Miss Muffet Childcare center in Fort Defiance, AZ.

"The reopening of child centers in phase one was successful, however, there are some challenges for the child care centers in phase two and three resulting in revising the reopening schedule," stated Sylvia Tyler, Department Manager III.

Phase two is scheduled to reopen four child care centers in the Chinle Region, Kii Doo Baa I, Many Farms, Nooseli Beolta, and Pinon, on September 27, 2021. The Shiprock area childcare centers are scheduled to reopen on October 11, 2021. The reopening dates for the remaining childcare centers in the Chinle and Tuba City areas are to be determined.

The DCCD reopening plan is a product of collaborative efforts of the *Navajo Nation Community Mitigation School and Daycare Committee* comprised of the Department of Dine Education, the Navajo Health Command Operations Center, the Navajo Department of Health, and health professionals.

The reopening plan mirrors the *Public Health Emergency Order No. 2021-014, Public Health Emergency Order Implementing the Navajo Nation COVID-19 Safe Schools Framework and Declaring "Yellow Status" for schools*. The DCCD must follow all Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President Executive Orders and the Navajo Division of Health's Public Health Orders. The Navajo Health Command Operations Center monitors the impacts of the pandemic daily.

For more information, call Grace M. Boyne, DCCD Program Manager II at (928) 871-6629 or the DSS Office of the Executive Director at (928) 871-6851.

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The Navajo Division of Social Services (NDSS) is under the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation's three-branch government. Under the leadership of the NDSS Executive Director, NDSS programs and Departments provide social services and human services, consistent with professional social work ethics and values, and human services in accordance with Navajo cultural values to help reduce and alleviate hardship.

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