



THE NAVAJO NATION
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DEPARTMENT FOR SELF RELIANCE

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For Immediate Release
March 14, 2020

Department for Self Reliance will be closed to all visitors March 16, 2020 to April 3, 2020 to prevent spread of COVID-19

Window Rock, AZ - On Friday, March 13, 2020, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer announced a temporary reduction of Executive Branch employees for the next three weeks to prevent the potential spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus on the Navajo Nation.

The Department for Self Reliance is under the Division of Social Services, and is considered an essential direct service. Therefore, the DSR will not discontinue operations, but they will reduce the number of staff working days and close their offices to all visitors for the next three weeks.

The Department for Self Reliance (DSR) will continue to process full cash benefit payments for all current DSR Customers for the month of April. The DSR will be accepting documents, via drop boxes, at each DSR office on March 18th, March 25th, and April 1st, 2020. No access to any of the DSR offices will be given to any DSR Customer or the public on these dates.

The closure of Navajo Nation offices, schools and some businesses, due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus, will impact work participation requirements. Therefore, due to the state of emergency declaration, DSR Customers will not be required to comply with work participation requirements for this three-week period. "This decision was made by the DSR, to prevent Customers from potentially exposing themselves to the COVID-19 Coronavirus. This decision allows for DSR Customers to also remain at home during these three weeks," stated DSR Department Manager III, Roxanne Gorman,

To contact the DSR, during the next three weeks, call (866) 347-2403 and leave a voicemail, or email info@nntanf.org. A DSR staff member will get back to you on March 18th, March 25th, or April 1st, 2020. Offices to re-open to the public on Monday, April 6, 2020.

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"WE SHALL SERVE WITH INTEGRITY AND ETHICS, TO EMPOWER INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES BY PROMOTING TÁÁHWÓÁJÍT'ÉEGO THROUGH APPROPRIATE SUPPORT, OPPORTUNITIES AND EDUCATION."