FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 22, 2020

Navajo Nation Department of Diné Education hosts Early Childhood Speaker series on KTNN



The Department of Diné Education (DODE), Office of Special Education & Rehabilitation (OSERS) announced a virtual Speaker Series to discuss Navajo Family Wellness for families with young children. DODE, OSERS administers an Indigenous LAUNCH (I-LAUNCH) grant that works to develop a system of social emotional development across the Navajo Nation.

The Speaker Series was held on December 18 through Zoom and an audio recording will be broadcasted on KTNN AM 660 on December 24 at 6 pm. Tom Chee and Nyla Seweingyawma will speak on Navajo Family Wellness.

Each Speaker Series is provided on three different platforms to spread the information: Live on Zoom, then a video recording is posted on the Navajo Project I-LAUNCH Facebook Page, and then an audio recording is aired on KTNN. Other Speaker Series topics were Growing Home Visiting, Early Intervention and Infant/Early Childhood consultation.

The Early Childhood Collaborative meets weekly and advises the I-LAUNCH team on Speaker Series. The topic and speakers for the January series will be determined early next month.

About the Early Childhood Speaker Series

The Navajo Nation Early Childhood Speaker Series is hosted by DODE/OSERS Navajo Project I-LAUNCH through a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA] grant under OSERS in collaboration with Arizona First Things First Navajo Nation. The Speaker Series is designed to give participants, especially parents and caregivers of children, an opportunity to increase their awareness on early childhood wellness topics.

Developmental screenings are also available and provided by Navajo Project I-LAUNCH staff virtually. If you have further questions, contact Kim Kee, Program Coordinator/Navajo I-LAUNCH at kimkee@nndode.org

For more information on Navajo Project I-LAUNCH, including the developmental screenings and registration links, visit their Facebook page at <u>https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Public---</u> <u>Government-Service/Navajo-Project-I-Launch-102849661518413/</u>