



Nazlini Chapter holds groundbreaking ceremony for Nazlini Senior Center

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PHOTO: Council Delegate Kee Allen Begay, Jr. provides remarks during the Nazlini Senior Center groundbreaking ceremony at the Nazlini Chapter House.

NAZLINI, Ariz. — On Thursday, Council Delegate Kee Allen Begay, Jr. of the 24th Navajo Nation Council joined President Jonathan Nez, Nazlini Chapter Officials and Nazlini community members for the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Nazlini Senior Center.

“I thank our Nazlini Chapter Officials for continuing to care for our elders and this new senior center will directly benefit our elders,” said Delegate Begay (Tachee/Blue Gap, Many Farms, Nazlini, Tselani/Cottonwood, Low Mountain). “This groundbreaking ceremony is the first step and I am excited our elders will be able to see their new building as the new social hub of the Nazlini Community.”

The current Nazlini Senior Center was built in 1986 then renovated in 1993 to serve over 375 Navajo elders with meals, recreation activities, transportation and supported services. Due to the age of the building, the Nazlini Senior Center continues to be cited as structurally deficient and unable to meet the safety and capacity standards from Indian Health Service’s Office of Environmental Services.

Furthermore, the safety issues prompted the Nazlini Chapter to submit Chapter Resolution NAZL-JULY-22-065 to request \$2 million from the Sihasin Fund to cover the project shortfall and to address the impacts of inflation. In addition, the Nazlini Chapter allocated \$75,000 to help cover costs of the senior center.

“The CPMD staff work diligently with all of our Chapters across the Navajo Nation to address various issues and needs in order to enhance the quality of life of our Navajo people,” said Speaker Seth Damon (Bááhaalí, Chichiltah, Manuelito, Red Rock, Rock Springs, Tséyatoh). “I thank my colleagues of the 24th Navajo Nation Council and President Jonathan Nez for passing Resolution CJY-30-22 to cover project shortfalls for much needed services in other Navajo communities.”

The new senior center will be a 3,915 sq.ft. facility equipped with large dining areas, a commercial kitchen, wellness/fitness room, accommodations for ADA accessibility and offices for staff.

In July, the 24th Navajo Nation Council passed resolution CJY-30-22 to allocate \$2 million from the Sihasin Fund for the Nazlini Chapter Senior Center Project. The resolution was then signed into law by President Jonathan Nez at the beginning of August this year.

“I would also like to thank my colleagues of the 24th Navajo Nation Council for allocating an additional \$3.2 million for the Tselani/Cottonwood Chapter,” added Begay. “I look forward to attending the groundbreaking ceremony for their new senior center soon.”

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