

Special Issue 12 • February 24, 2021

Extensive Power Outage Planned for March 10

An upgrade to improve the quality and reliability of power to the Pueblo of Zuni area will require CDEC to perform an extensive outage on March 10, 2021, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The outage is necessary for CDEC to disconnect power lines from the old Zuni substation equipment and to reconnect to the new substation.

It's critical for those in the Zuni area who depend on electricity-powered medical equipment to have batterypowered backups or make arrangements to stay in a location with access to electricity during this outage. CDEC is working with publicsafety officials, schools and other Zuni agencies to ensure the area is fully aware of the upcoming planned outage.

In an effort to reduce the outage time, crews will work as diligently as safety allows to make the power line switchover to the new substation equipment. Thank you, in advance, for your understanding and patience as we complete this \$2.3 million investment to improve our service to you.

Zuni Youth Enrichment Project Distributed 500 Self-Care Kits in Time for Valentine's Day



Here in Zuni, Covid-19 is very much present in everyday life. Students are still remote learning, and families are remaining safer at home as much as possible. To help community members focus on their own wellness during these isolating and often stressful times, the Zuni Youth Enrichment Project assembled 500 self-care kits and distributed them on Friday, February 12.

Of the 500 kits, 170 went to partner programs, including Zuni Education &

Career Development Center (ZECDC), Zuni Senior Center, Zuni Veterans Program, and the Zuni Social Services Program. Each kit included a "make your own heart" pillow; stationary to write positive letters to loved ones; baking tools such as a rolling pin, heart-shaped cookie cutters, and heart molds; family-friendly board games; a healthy-baking recipe book; and a \$20 voucher for fresh fruit and vegetables at Halona Marketplace.

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Post Office Boxholder Zuni, New Mexico 87327



To reach the Pueblo of Zuni COVID-19 information center, open every day from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., call:

(303) 917-3181, (505) 782-7114, or (720) 576-4014

A Glimpse into What We Offer:

A:shiwi College and Career Readiness Center

By Bobbie J. Shack, Director of Student Services

Many of you have passed by our campus and probably wondered what we do now that UNM-G has left. It's been over two years since their departure, and two years that members of your own community, professionals in their careers, have spent developing programming that benefits many aspects of the Zuni community and creates opportunities to:

- 1. Support our local educators—As parents, aunts and uncles, and grandparents, we trust the teachers, educational assistants, and administrators in our school district to provide an education that will benefit our students. New Mexico came under scrutiny that, statewide, schools were failing to meet the needs of students who are low-income, students of color, English Language Learners, and students with disabilities. With our children's educations and futures in the hands of ZPSD staff and faculty in mind, we've partnered with Zuni Public School District to address some of these needs.
- 2. Strengthen the Importance of Zuni Language and Culture—Our language is what makes us A:shiwi. We understand that as Native people, our success in the Western world is reliant on our successful use of the English language. This does not mean our language has no worth, that our culture is less than. Instead, it's what gives us our strength. Our cultural treasures, our grandparents, are passing away and taking with them their knowledge of our history, our culture, and our language. To change this course, our faculty at ACCRC have been working tirelessly to create a series of coursework to reintroduce and reinforce our language. Most importantly, this coursework is recognized at the university level,

THANK YOU HEALTHCARE WORKERS



as we have partnered with Navajo Technical University to create these classes and have them accredited as a part of college coursework.

- 3. Garner Entrepreneurships—Our community is blessed to have artisans who add beauty into this world through their crafts. Silversmithing, stone-carving and fetish-making, pottery, textiles like woven belts, kilts, mantas, painting and printwork are just but a few of the types of art that are handmade by ourselves, our relatives, friends, and family members. Each artist is, in fact, a business owner (an entrepreneur). Successful business owners understand there are many aspects to owning a successful business, including communications skills, marketing, and presentation. With the internet, customers are worldwide. Soon, we'll offer seminars and other programming to help you develop your business into an even more successful one.
- 4. Strengthen Individual Competence and Enhance Self-Reliance—Our cultural background and heritage are two aspects that we should take pride in. We were born to people whose ancestors carried with them the knowledge to live and thrive in the landscapes we travelled through in our search to find Halona I:diwanna, the Middle Place. This knowledge is precious. We're fortunate to have people in our network who have this expertise still and who are wanting

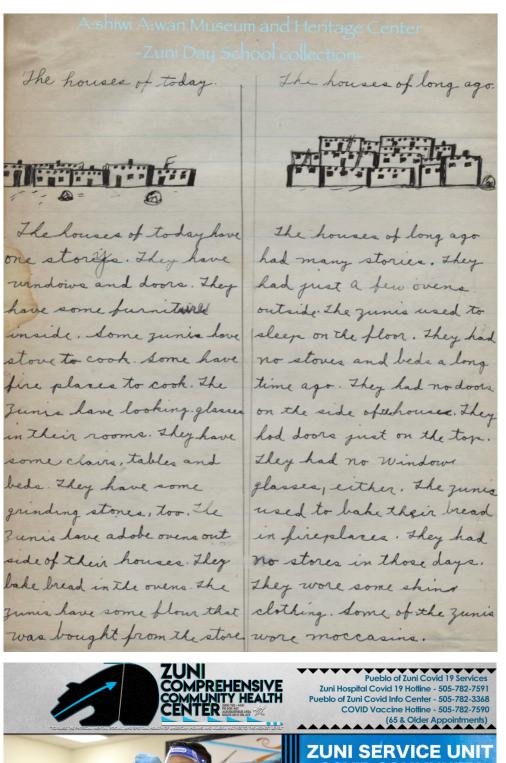
to share this with our community through seminars and summits that will reintroduce you to this ancestral knowledge of water, of planting and gardening, and other means of self-reliance.

5. Matriculate Post-Secondary Graduates—Our campus is an instructional site of Navajo Technical University. NTU offers a number of certificates: associate, bachelor, and even master's degrees. Their coursework is accessible to students who enroll at our site. Our campus has the faculty to provide general education courses like English and Communication, Math, History, Psychology and coursework for Early Childhood Multicultural Education (ECME), and Zuni Language. We have a strong mix of faculty, with a number of Zuni instructors teaching at the college level. Our top four programs include ECME Bachelor and Associate degrees, Information Technology, General Studies, and Bookkeeping. We are also working toward providing Culinary Arts as certificate and associate degree programs as well, complete with a professional kitchen! Interested? Contact Bobbie.Shack@ashiwi.org for information on how to get started. I am your point of contact from start to finish as an NTU student.

As you can see, we've been busy with all of you in mind. This is a *glimpse* into what we do—there's more!

The Houses of Today • The Houses of Long Ago

From the A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center



The image at left is of a class assignment, year unknown, from the Zuni Day School, and kept in a collection at the A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center.

Houses in Zuni have continued to change since then. In 2021, what details characterize a house of today? How do houses of long ago differ?

The next issue of the *A:shiwi A:wan Messenger* will present photos from readers of their houses of today and long ago. To participate, take a closeup snapshot of any single detail of your house that you think makes it a house of today or a house of long ago, and include a comment about why you chose this detail. Send up to three snapshots. If you prefer another medium such as painting or drawing, send a photo of your work.

Photos and comments will be published anonymously. Send to: <u>sixfootfireline@ashiwi.org</u>

Future issues of the *A:shiwi A:wan Messenger* will include historical photographs of Zuni and of Zuni cultural materials, along with prompts for readers and their families to build new connections between Zuni's past and present.

If you have a photo or object that you think tells a story about past and present in Zuni, write to the email address above and include a snapshot or description. All ideas are welcome.

Risk COVID-19 or Get the Vaccine? Learn the Facts

While contracting and surviving COVID-19 may result in some degree of immunity against contracting it again, the dangers of severe illness and death from COVID-19 should not be underestimated.

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine will vastly reduce the risks of serious health consequences from the virus, and is an important step for our community to move beyond the pandemic.

Learn about the benefits of the COVID-19 vaccination here:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/vaccines/about-vaccines/vaccinebenefits.html



Help keep our community safe * Wear a Mask * Social Distance | Avoid Large Gatherings * Wash & Sanitize

ZUNI SERVICE UNIT COVID COMMUNITY VACCINATIONS

Currently vaccinating 18 and up. To schedule an appointment call 505-782-7590

We ask that you continue to provide a working contact number. Due to high demand you may be placed on a wait list. We kindly ask for your patience, as we continue to vaccinate the Zuni Service Area. E'lah'kwa | Ahehee'

ZYEP continues from page 1

"We wanted to make sure that everyone could feel the love during these challenging times," said Andrea Pepin, ZYEP's program manager. "In lieu of traditional Valentine's Day items, we wanted to share activities that would bring families together and help people feel more connected. Preparing meals, baking, creating art, writing letters, and playing games — all of these things encourage wellness, and they bring joy."

Pepin noted that community members were grateful to receive these items. Many took to social media to post photos of their projects.

ZYEP's wellness kits have been a deeply appreciated staple of the Covid-19 pandemic era. Since March 2020, the nonprofit youth organization has distributed more than 4,000 kits, with different themes and contents. Next on deck: spring distributions related to physical activity, agriculture, and water conservation.

"Last spring, as soon as we realized it was no longer safe to bring together large groups of kids, we quickly adapted our operations to meet the needs of the moment," said Joe Claunch, ZYEP's executive director. "We knew we couldn't offer our large, in-person youth programs, but we also recognized that we could still find a meaningful way to engage with our kids and our families."

In keeping with ZYEP's holistic approach, each of the 2020-21 kits have included nutrition, physical activity, art, mental health, and cultural resources that encourage healthy lifestyles. The youth project partnered with 20 funding organizations and hundreds of individual donors to make the initiative possible.

"Our assessments confirm that the kits have a positive impact on several levels," Claunch said. "They bring families closer together while they engage in healthy activities, they increase our children's intake of fruit and vegetables, and they contribute to positive experiences and happy memories until we can gather together again."

ZYEP Storytelling and Art Projects Provide Youth with Cultural Opportunities and Needed Support During Pandemic

Thanks to remote-learning technology, dedicated staff and community partners, and a little extra resourcefulness, the Zuni Youth Enrichment Project was able to offer its Zuni Winter Storytelling Project and Middle School Art Elective to local youth during the 2020-21 school year. Both annual programs provide valuable, culturally relevant opportunities for creative expression.

The **3rd annual Delap'na:we Zuni Winter Storytelling Project** is currently under way. This year, a team of community members, artists, teachers, and others are working together to turn the final performance into an animated production. Youth performers will do voiceovers for the characters, and ZYEP also will use Zoom to record some scenes in which family members will interact.



Twenty-one young people have been participating in a weekly Zoom theater camp that teaches the various elements of theater and how to act in a public performance. The meetings incorporate activities such as team building, voice exercises, and acting exercises to prepare participants for rehearsals and voice recording sessions.

Once they have a prepared script, the youth participants will begin formal rehearsals. The final performance will be available to the Zuni community in a secure online venue in mid-February; this is a strict storytelling timeframe that meets appropriate cultural guidelines.

"Delap'na:we are traditional oral stories that were a main form of entertainment, bonding, and education for Zuni people in the past," explained Tahlia Natachu, youth development coordinator. "Our goals for this project are to provide cultural education around delap'na:we and give our youth an opportunity to use the Zuni language. We also want them to gain mentors, build meaningful intergenerational relationships, and provide young people with a safe space to connect with each other during this difficult time when they are separated from extended family members and friends."

As Delap'na:we was practiced less often in the 20th century, a 1960s philanthropist named Doris Duke invested in Zuni Pueblo so the community could record storytellers sharing these stories. The audio recordings captured many hundreds of hours, and in 2018, A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center approached ZYEP to collaborate on a project that would bring these recordings to life through theater.

"In November, we met with our community partners to brainstorm how we could still provide this program for the sakes of our participants and our community," Natachu said. "The last two years had a big impact, and we felt this year, especially, our community needs the performance they need to hear these stories. Since we were adapting all of our other programs for remote learning, we decided to do the same with our Oral History Theater."

ZYEP also invested in visual arts during this school year. The youth project's **Middle School Art Elective** took place from October 13 to December 17, 2020 with 11 youth participants at Zuni Middle School; instructors included Natachu, fellow ZYEP team member <u>Kiana Etsate-Gashytewa</u>, local master artist and public health advocate Mallery Quetawki, and middle school Zuni language teacher Diane Cooche.

"The focus of the class was resilience through art, and each week, we focused on topics like self-care, mental health, culture as strength, art as history, art as a message, and so much more," Natachu said. "ZYEP staff delivered all art materials to students, and then we gave our presentations and had class discussions over Zoom. We also provided mentoring, checking in with each student every week to see how they were doing. We want them to know their community cares about them."



During the elective class, students created a digital story of their experience, taking pictures and documenting what they did and how they felt. They wrote artist statements that explained their work. They also created a collaborative mural, which Quetawki put together.

ZPSD Implementing COVID-safe Protocols

As we continue to progress through the 2020-2021 school year, ZPSD would like to share the efforts being made to ensure our buildings are safe. We want to assure you that we have been working very hard to prepare our schools for when the time comes to bring students back into the buildings. We will be following all New Mexico Public Education Department guidelines and protocols as well as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) health and safety guidelines. ZPSD currently has not identified a date for any type of return to face-to-face instruction but we will be prepared when that day comes. As the health and safety of our students and staff is paramount, the following safety measures have already begun to be implemented:

- Daily screening of all ZPSD staff and visitors before they are allowed on any campuses, including temperature checks and symptom questionnaires. Everyone wears a mask
- Regular hand washing/hand sanitizing by all staff
- Daily cleaning procedures of highly touched surfaces
- Weekly deep cleaning of the entire building



These measures will be added once any face-to-face instruction begins:

- Daily screening of all students before they are allowed on campus, including temperature checks and symptom questionnaires
- All students will be required to wear masks the entire day unless eating or drinking
- Restrict unessential campus visitors
- Increased sanitation efforts (daily cleaning procedures of highly touched surfaces such as desks, doors, restrooms, etc.)
- Regular hand washing/hand sanitizing by all students
- Students/desks will be spaced 6 feet apart
- Open windows/doors, weather permitting
- Each classroom will have a standalone air purification system

 Students will need to bring a pre-filled water bottle with them to school (labeled with their name)

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- Buses will be disinfected after each route
- Breakfasts and lunches will be Grab & Go with no group gatherings
- The school sites nurse assistants will be closely monitoring all students and staff for COVID-19 symptoms

During transitions, students and staff will maximize distancing, maintaining a 6-foot distance whenever possible. This includes classroom transitions and any other time students are not at a desk. Students will follow the traffic arrows on the floor, as well as other important signage throughout the building. To minimize contact between students, school sites will restrict the number of students going to the restroom at any given time. Students will need to sanitize and/or wash their hands thoroughly after using the restroom.



It's hard to eat through a mask, so this will be the one period in the day when students can remove them. We're ensuring that space between students will be maximized by using classrooms, and weather permitting, outdoors for meals.

Students will stay with their cohorts during breakfast and at lunch so that we can effectively contact trace. Staff monitoring meals will have their masks on and be safely distanced from everyone. Students will wear appropriate clothing for comfortable meals and breaks outside.

Lastly, clean is the name of the game. Our custodial staff will thoroughly clean and sanitize all rooms between cohorts. These deep cleaning sessions will take place twice weekly, to ensure that all classrooms and high-touch surfaces and spaces are clean and safe.

ZYEP continues from previous page

"Each student painted a wooden square that became part of the mural," Natachu explained. "The paintings represented what they wanted to contribute to the community. The mural's overall message and purpose is to bring strength and hope to our people during this challenging time. When you look at all the different paintings, you see each student's positive contribution and vision of strength and hope."



Quetawki is creating a digital version of the mural so viewers can access it online. Clicking on each individual painting will take the viewer to that youth artist's digital story.

"Through this art elective, we seek to teach students about the power of art," Natachu said. "Art teaches history, continues traditions, preserves culture, and imagines the future."





MIKEY.O."2021"

ARE YOU SCHEDULED FOR THE COVID VACCINE? IF YOU ABSOLUTELY CANNOT KEEP YOUR APPOINTMENT, PLEASE CALL ZUNI IHS AT LEAST ONE DAY IN ADVANCE

LET NO VACCINE SHOT GO TO WASTE

~ ZUNI TEEN HEALTH & FAMILY WELLNESS CENTER ~



"New" Health Clinic Eligibility Criteria: The Zuni Teen Health & Family Wellness

Center (ZTH&FWC) Staff are happy to announce that their contracting agency has approved their proposal for increasing the age eligibility for health clinic services. ZTH&FWC will now provide health care to patients 9 to 30 years of age. Clinic services include prenatal exams, well-woman exams, health physicals, family planning, immunizations and more! We would also like to welcome Dr. Nadra Crawford as our Teen Health & Family Wellness Liaison.



Behavioral Health Service information: The ZTH&FWC Behavioral health staff

provides counseling which is a therapeutic relationship that empowers individuals and families to improve their mental health, life functioning, and overall wellbeing. The purpose of counseling is to help individuals gain insight into their problems and become more aware of their emotions, thoughts, and behaviors. It is confidential and a goal-based collaborative process to en-

hance a person's effectiveness and ability to cope. Most of us experience difficulties that can interfere with success or sense of wellbeing. These include but not limited to trauma, anxiety, depression, grief, substance use, self-harm behavior, low self-esteem, and family discord. The two licensed counselors at TH&FWC work with you to help identify and can help you understand what is getting in the way of making the changes you want in your life. Most individuals that utilize our counseling services find that once they come in, they feel validated and find some relief and hope because they begin facing their difficulties instead of avoiding them. We invite you to come in and talk to our licensed Counselors and decide together if counseling might be useful.

Welcome back , Robert! ZTH&FWC is happy to welcome back Robert Waatsa. Robert is a

New Mexico board certified Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) and a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Addiction Counselor (LADAC). He holds a Master of Arts (MA) in Counseling from Western New Mexico University. Robert is emphatic and has a genuine ability to connect with clients which allows him to work effectively with adolescent and adult clients. He has a passion for providing quality care and believes every individual has the innate capacity to heal from their experiences. He implements Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, and Motivational Interviewing treatment interventions in his practice. During the therapeutic process, he assists clients in the discovery of their strengths, self-awareness, and healthy coping skills in addition to social and life skills. He also incorporates the client's spiritual beliefs into the treatment protocol to address client needs holistically. His evidence-based and multicultural approach allows him to address emotional and behavioral issues for clients from diverse backgrounds.

Robert has completed four years of graduate studies toward a doctorate degree in Clinical Psychology (Psy.D.) at Argosy University and Northern Arizona University. His previous experience in clinical training includes working with adults designated as seriously mentally ill (SMI) in the treatment of trauma, depression, bipolar, anxiety, and schizophrenia at Southwest Behavioral & Health Services, Phoenix, AZ. He also trained and was employed at Native American Connections, Phoenix, AZ, working with adolescents and adult in both outpatient and inpatient settings in the treatment of substance abuse and co-occurring disorders.

The ZTH&FWC staff have continued in providing services throughout the pandemic and we encourage community member to utilize services that have been created to support the physical, social, emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being. Services include Health Care, Behavioral Health Counseling, Health & Prevention Education Services. Please feel free to reach out and ask about our services, by calling 782-5719 or 782-2717. We will be happy to assist you.

Elahkwa, ZTH&FWC Staff

Zuni Youth! Scan Here!



- Ages 14-18
- Explore career
 opportunities
- Learn life skills
- Earn a stipend
- Scan to register
- See page 8 for more!

AFS-USA Offers Virtual Exchange Program Scholarships

The New Mexico Area Chapter of AFS-USA has launched **\$200 partial scholarships** for students to participate in our portfolio of virtual exchange programs called AFS <u>Global You</u>.

Basic eligibility:

- Ages 14-17
- Must reside in New Mexico, the El Paso TX metro area, or Southwest Colorado
- Fill out a simple application for their desired chapter of Global You and enter the relevant coupon code (see below)
- Submit a brief letter of reference from a teacher, guidance counselor, mentor, club advisor, or coach

Choose your desired Global You program: <u>Adventurer</u> or <u>Changemaker</u>.

Global You Adventurer:

- Introductory program for students looking to develop intercultural skills and connect across cultures
- Enhance understanding of privilege, power, inequality, empathy, and communication styles
- 5-week program
- \$315 (- \$200 partial scholarship) = **\$115** discounted price
- Earn the AFS Global Competence Certificate
- <u>Apply Here</u> and enter the Coupon Code NMGYA

Global You Changemaker:

- Intercultural program for students passionate about global issues and social change
- Develop the skills outlined in Adventurer above, PLUS social innovation and design thinking taught by the University of Pennsylvania
- Learn how to research, design, and prototype an original social impact project
- 12-week program
- \$490 (- \$200 partial scholarship) = **\$290** discounted price
- Earn the Advanced Certificate on Global Citizenship for Social Impact, by AFS and the University of Pennsylvania
- <u>Apply here</u> and enter the Coupon Code NMGYC

ZUNI TEEN HEALTH & FAMILY WELLNESS CENTER PRESENTS...



"MAINTAINING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC"

Zoom Meeting Presentation



WHEN: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 TIME: 2:00pm-3:30pm

Registration Deadline: Monday, March 1, 2021

Join our presentation for tips on staying healthy and sane during the COVID-19 Pandemic!

Please contact Dawn Gashytewa at the Zuni Teen Health & Family Wellness Center at 505-782-5719 or email dawn.gashytewa@ashiwi.org to register or for more information.

Feb 16 - April 15, 2021

Location: Zuni Public

Library

Mon-Fri: 9AM-3PM

CLOSED FROM

12PM-1PM

Drop Off Option ONLY!

ph: (505) 782-7102

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NM TAX HSKP/UNITED WAY, ZECDC & ZUNI PUBLIC LIBARY PINSTRI

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Zuni Public Librar

Tribal Council and ZECDC Facilitate CARES Act Financial Assistance to Tribal Members

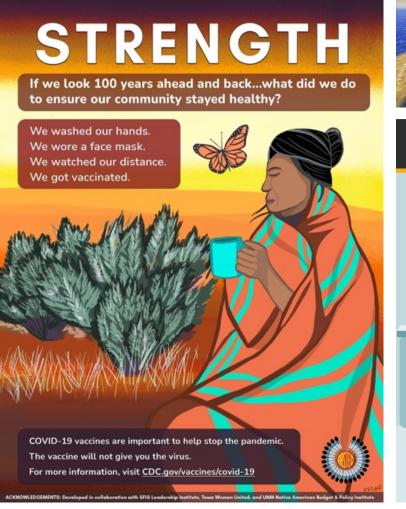




On December 9, 2020, the Zuni Tribal Council approved tribal resolutions to support and provide a 2nd distribution of COVID-19 Emergency Financial Support Assistance through the CARES/Treasury and NM CARES funds to Zuni enrolled tribal members who met eligibility criteria during the initial distribution. Zuni enrolled tribal members that received the first COVID-19 Emergency Financial Support Assistance received the 2nd distribution.

The Zuni Education & Career Development Center (ZECDC) took the lead in June 2020 in creating and administering this huge endeavor as an effort to help the Zuni people alleviate the financial hardships caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. Although this past year has been quite challenging for all, the ZECDC and Pueblo of Zuni Finance staff dedicated long days and hours in processing COVID financial assistance payments.

The commitment of these program staff exemplify the mission and vision of the Pueblo of Zuni, and we humbly thank the ZECDC and POZ staff for their dedication, diligence, hard work and efficiency. Elahkwa.



Zuni COVID-19 Test Results

As of February 21, 2021, the following information is being released by Emergency Management and the Pueblo of Zuni. Updates are received through the Ramah/Zuni Service Unit (IHS); test results reflect non-tribal and tribal members.

Total Tests Performed by Zuni Hospital Lab 2/21	10,975
Total Negative to date:	8,419
Total Positives to date:	1,449
Total Positive Test Results for Zuni Community as of 2/21:	1,188
Number of New Positives for 2/19 -2/21 for Zuni Community:	0
Total Recoveries as of 1/24:	979

*Total number of recoveries include family members exposed to COVID-19 who did not take a COVID-19 test.

ZUNI INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE AND PUEBLO OF ZUNI EMS/FIRE, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR DEDICATION IN SERVING THE

ZUNI COMMUNITY. YOU MAKE A GREAT DIFFERENCE IN OUR LIVES!



WE APPRECIATE YOU!





CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

