



CANONCITO BAND OF NAVAJOS HEALTH CENTER INC.

TOUR GUIDE SCHEDULE



- Stop One** • To'Hajiilee Community School
 - Willinda Castillo & Team
- Stop Two** • To'Hajiilee Movie Site
 - Jimmy Secatero
- Stop Three** • To'Hajiilee Senior Citizens Center
 - Nora Morris
- Stop Four** • To'Hajiilee Administrative Offices and Court
 - Sherrilyn Apache
- Stop Five** • Canoncito Band of Navajos Health Center
 - John Billison & Dr. Carolyn Morris

PROFILE: TO'HAJIILEE, NEW MEXICO

PROFILE

- One of 110 Navajo Chapters
- One of 3 Navajo Communities not connected to the larger land base
- Population: 1,650 (Estimate)
- Land Base: 121,000 square miles
- Encompasses three counties: Bernalillo, Cibola and Sandoval
- 497 homes in the community To'Hajiilee Community Members share a zip code with Laguna Pueblo

CHAPTER OFFICIALS

- Chapter President: Ronnie Hurley
- Chapter Vice President: Nora Morris
- Chapter Secretary/Treasurer: Jordan Etcitty
- Land Board Member: Delores Apache
- Chapter Community Services Coordinator: Sherrilyn Apache
- Chapter Accounts Maintenance Specialist: Valerie Martinez

NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL DELEGATE

- Navajo Nation Council Delegate: Norman Begay

BERNALILLO COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1

Barbara Baca

APS SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 5

- Crystal Tapia-Romero
- Tres Volcanos K-8th grade
 - West Mesa High School 9th-12th

CNM COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD DISTRICT 1

Charles N. Ofelt

PRC DISTRICT 4

Gabriel Aguilera

LEGISLATORS

- State Senator District 22: Benny Shendo
- State Representative District 69: Michelle Paulene Abeyta
- US Congress District 2: Gabe Vasquez

UTILITY PROVIDERS

- Electric Provider, Continental Divide Electric Co-Op
- Water Provider, Canoncito Water Project
- Telephone/Internet Provider, Sacred Wind

WILLINDA CASTILLO, CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR, TO'HAJIILEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL (EC, PRE K-12)

- Lawrence Platero, TCS Board President

JOHN BILLISON, INTERIM CEO

CANONCITO BAND OF NAVAJOS HEALTH CENTER

- Chad Abeyta, CBNHC Board Chairman

OTHER ECONOMIC GENERATOR: MOVIE/FILM PRODUCTION

- Since 2019, fifteen (15) tribal lands and pueblo have been used for seventeen (17) productions (this includes To'Hajiilee).
- Most notable or recognized productions: Breaking Bad (To'Hajiilee); Dark Winds (Tesuque); Rez Ball (Navajo Nation)

NOTABLE TITLES FILMED IN TO'HAJIILEE INCLUDE

- Sicario
- Glass Castle
- Hell or Highwater
- Breaking Bad
- Dodge Ram Commercial
- 1 Disney Movie
- Do not litter in New Mexico "Breaking Bad" actor commercial

NEEDS:

- **Community Center/Administration Building**
 - **Current building is condemned. Received state funding from Rep Abeyta to demolish the current building.**
 - **Capital outlay request currently led by Bernalillo County Commissioner**
- **Water Meters for all homes**
 - **Capital outlay request**



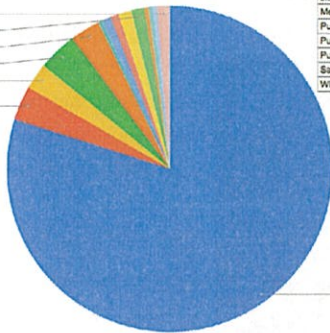
TO'HAIJILEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

"Home of the Warriors"



To'Hajiilee Community School Tribal Enrollment

Non-Native American	73.9%
Pueblo of Laguna	1.30%
Other	0.04%
Shoshone	0.04%
Western Navajo	0.04%
Fort Defiance	0.04%



Other Tribal Enrollment Percentage

Jicarilla Apache	0.04%
Mescalero Apache	0.04%
Pueblo of Jemez	1.30%
Pueblo of San Felipe	0.04%
Pueblo of Zuni	0.04%
Santo Domingo	0.04%
White Mountain Apache	0.04%

ABOUT US:

- To'Hajiilee Community School is a community oriented school, over an area of about 123 square miles, and is 32 miles west of Albuquerque.
- The school has a current enrollment of around 263 students, from grades Pre-K through 12th.

OUR 2026 AIMS

Pre-K Program: Funds: \$18,373,925

Madison Francisco, 6th grade
Elayne Costello, Teacher Mentor

Please fund our state funded Pre-K building at the new school campus.

The community had a Daycare Center under the Navajo Nation years ago, and because of a lack of funding and building space, the service no longer exists for the community.

TCS entered into a contract for services with the state for a pre-k program in SY 2015-16 and have continued to offer those services since. Where the TCS Pre-School Program is housed, flooding has created anticipation that the facility will be condemned and demolished, leaving the Pre-School Program without a place to be housed. Pre-K enrollment is often up to 20 students yearly, all who will be adversely affected by the loss, without a building space.

In order to prevent the community from losing access to Pre-K services and day care, we are requesting funding for new facilities. The project is to plan and design a new Early Childhood Learning Center, to provide services to the community's children, from infant to five years of age. This facility will benefit the Navajo people who are members of the To'Hajiilee Chapter.

We will put funds into phases up to \$18,375,925 over the next few years (2026, 2027, 2028 and 2029). These funds will enable us to design, construct, and furnish our Early Childhood Center, allowing us to take better care of our community and their youngest.

	Total Project Cost
Planning - Phase 1	\$100,000
Design - Phase 2 (Eng/Arch)	\$610,000
Construction - Phase 3	\$17,101,375
Furnish/Equip/Vehicles - Phase 4	\$562,550
Total	\$18,373,925

Tutoring/Summer School: Funds: \$200,000

Myles Abeyta, 7th Grade
Katrina Nez, Director of Family Engagement / Student Council

Please fund afterschool tutoring and summer school initiatives for all students in New Mexico.

The funding allows us to give students a safe, supportive space to keep learning, with teachers who care, and the extra help the students need. It will also enable students who are finding themselves challenged by their lessons and outside situations the time and attention they require to grasp the concepts, and methodologies from their classes so they don't fall behind.

The goal for the project is a comprehensive afterschool and summer program that will increase the student's test scores from their current standing, and into the next benchmark. All programs will be aligned to the common core curriculum and enrichment, such as technology, health & wellness, film, pop culture, mentoring, tutoring, community collaborations, and hands-on activities, aimed at increasing the students academic, social, physical, and emotional wellbeing.

Our overall, the primary intention has allowed us to create four major student and family objectives:

1. 85% of students participating in the program full-time and for a minimum of 30 days or more will show improvement in reading and math determined by the NWEA MAP assessment.
2. 85% of the students participating in the program will take part in at least 20 enrichment activities within the program by the end of the school year.
3. 50% of families who are participating in the program will attend a minimum of 2 Family Nights.
4. 85% of the students participating in the program will take part in 5 cultural activities by the end of the school year.
5. 85% of the students participating in the program will take part in 5 wellness activities by the end of the school year.

School Based Health: Funds: \$650,000

Natalie Nez, 3rd Grade
Ms. Jojie Ceniza, Gifted & Talented Teacher / Special Education Coordinator

Please allocate funding to support school based health centers that include hiring staff to support student well-being.

With these funds, we can be better equipped to diagnose and handle student health issues onsite, rather than solely relying on outside resources.

We plan to hire a full-time onsite registered nurse, ensuring that we have a certified medical practitioner during school hours.

We will implement the School-Based Health Center (SBHC) model, as recommended by the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) and presented on the website "<https://nmhealth.org>".

Implementing this program will ensure the following:

- Rapid response to student health issues, like food allergies and schoolground injuries.
- Manage and maintain supplies for chronic diseases, like asthma, diabetes, and so forth, onsite.
- A central point of communication and information on the medical and general health issues and concerns, for students, parents and staff.
- Development and implementation of codified health and emergency response methods and practices onsite, which we can disseminate to staff and students, enabling everyone to respond to emergency situations in a faster, more focused and capable manner.

According to a study by Pennington, Nicole & Delaney, Beth (2008) called The Number of Students Sent Home by School Nurses Compared to Unlicensed Personnel, from The Journal of School Nursing, 18% of students seen by a non-licensed staff member were sent home, whereas only 5% students seen by a licensed nurse were sent home.

To'Hajiilee is about one-hundred and twenty three square miles. This is a great distance for a parent to pick up their child. The impact of sending a child home is far greater than them just missing school hours. Single parent/guardian families, often grandparents raising their grandchildren, or household with a single mode of transportation, often have to leave their jobsite to gather and tend to their child's needs, may lose hours of household income.



T'áá hó ájítéego t'eiya
It's up to you to make good things happen
- NAVAJO PROVERB

67 Tribal Rd N-7071, Unit #3438
170 Warrior Lane, Bldg. 634
To'Hajiilee, NM 87026



TO'HAIILEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
"Home of the Warriors"

Phone: 505.908.2426

<https://tohajiileeschool.com>

School Safety and Security: Funds: \$180,451

Khyran Guerro, 12th Grade
Melissa Begay, School Counselor/Student Council

Please fund school safety grants or capital outlay funding for safety initiatives for all students in New Mexico.

Incidents of gun shootings both fatal, and nonfatal, have been steadily increasing in Albuquerque.

To'Hajiilee Community School is only fifteen minutes from Albuquerque, and has seen an increase and escalation of lockdown events in the area.

For this reason, we are requesting resources to help us acquire tools, and implement stronger safety and security measures

and protocols to keep our students, parents, staff, and visitors safe in these increasingly challenging times.

Of the total \$680,451 amount we need, we have already been awarded \$500,000 through grants. We are asking for the remaining \$180,451.

The list of vulnerabilities we will be securing with these funds are:

- 1) **Mass communication / Police Notification**
Cost: \$389,903
A) Messaging Display System / Spotlight, a district wide remote lockdown and interactive map and communication system.
B) The Informed Classroom and Beyond, / Classroom Phones and Mobile Alert a system to ensure staff and students receive timely and clear alerts, even in noisy hallways and spaces.
C) Teacher Microphone, a single platform for classroom communications and paging.
D) Cybersecurity Advantage, to prevent tampering with the alert system server.
- 2) **An electronic access control system integrated with police access**
Cost: \$227,244
Access security with Key FOB access for teachers, staff, and police.
- 3) **Visitor access controls, integrated with the above system #2**
Cost: \$10,451
Door buzzers and door intercoms, integrated with cameras.
- 4) **Integrated Panic Buttons and lanyards for all staff**
Cost: \$45,553
Includes mobile phone integrated panic button.
- 5) **Handheld metal detectors for detecting weapons**
Cost: \$1,000

To'Hajiilee Community School Board Members and Administration

Lawrence Platero, President; Bertha Bruce, Vice-President;
Pamela Hurley-Vandever, Secretary/Treasurer; Jordan Etcitty, Member;
Raelynn Ray, Member; Willinda Castillo, Chief School Administrator
Contact: willinda.castillo@tohajiilee.com

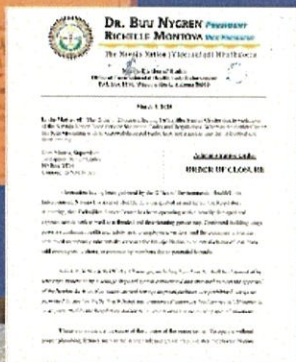
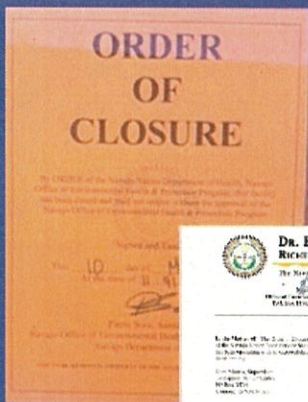
WELCOME NM Indian Affairs Members



TO'HAJIILEE SENIOR CENTER To'hajiilee, New Mexico



MEALS ON WHEELS: Hot nutritious meals are delivered to qualifying individuals at home. Each participant must be assessed annually. Those individuals determined to be homebound under state guidelines will be eligible to receive meals. Mobile Meals provided balanced meals consisting of meat or other protein food, vegetable, fruit, bread, beverages and dessert (low sugar desserts are provided for those who are diabetics). Hot meals are available Monday – Friday. Mobile Meal services are available all area of To'hajiilee. The Senior Center was built August, 1987, Funded by a Private Foundation, of Santa, Fe. NM



**Home
Delivery
Only**

2026 CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUESTS

NMP# 2892 To'hajiilee Renovation -
\$1,500,000.00

NMP# 2916 Heavy Duty Vehicle -
\$112,000.00

Proposed Project
NMP# - To'hajiilee New Senior Center
\$12,000,000.00

NMP# - Warehouse/Storage/Garage
\$180,000.00



Company: Copper Penny Plumbing LLC
Contact: Albertson & Karen Bedonie
Phone: (505)870-3844
Email: copperpenny.bedonie@gmail.com

Title: Tohajiilee Senior Center
Group: Folder: 4/4/2025 14:18
Created: Fri, 4/4/2025
No. Items: 31

(1)



Grease Trap

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Deteriorating grease trap non-usable condemned

(2)



Grease trap

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Deteriorating condemned non-usable expired. Will need to be pumped and disposed of. Considered hazardous. Landfills will not take.

(3)



Mop sink

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Cold side of the faucet is leaking entire faucet will need to be replaced.

(4)



Mop sink faucet

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Faucet outdated and leaking. Will need replacement.





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(5)



Gas Line

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

No safety shut off valve. Bent pipe at the bottom this will need replacement.

(6)



Underground main water leak

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

The leak apparently has been present for quite some time. The calcium deposits from the hard water is showing in the dirt. The negative space under the sidewalk shows that the water has eroded the dirt. This leak will need to be excavated, found, and replaced or repaired.

(7)



Underground leak

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Pipe buried under the sidewalk is leaking

(8)



Leach Field

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

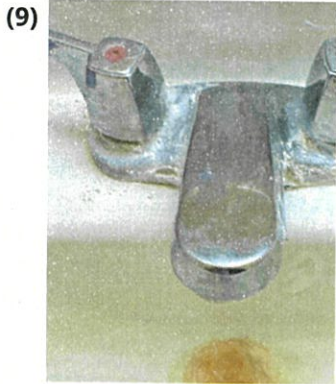
LF is expired. The line is filled with sand and is saturated. Therefore, the line is no good. No more water can be taken by the field and will backup soon, permanently. The solution is to put in a new field 400 feet.





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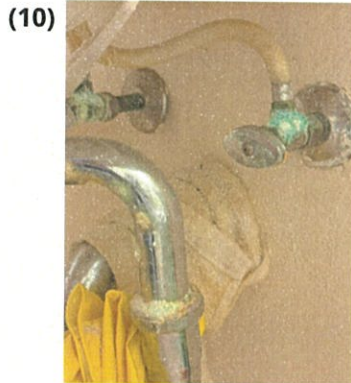
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Bathroom faucet woman's

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

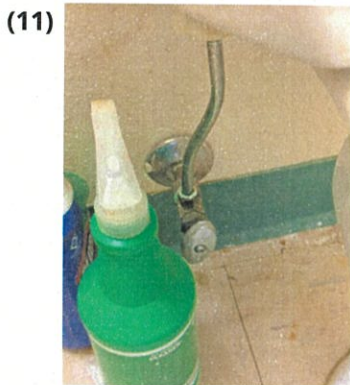
Faucet is leaking and showing excessive corrosion. The faucet will need replacement.



Supply line and angle stop

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

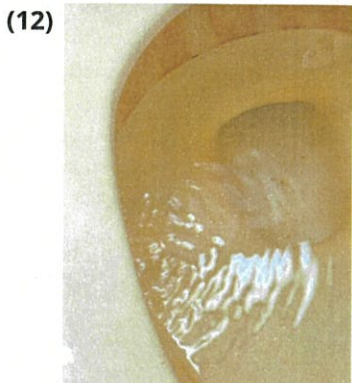
Under the sink angle stop and supply lines are heavily corroded and will need to have replacement done. Faucet is expired plumbing is expired. This is showing more than 20 years.



Toilet angle stop

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

The angle stop and supply line show excessive age in the angle stop is malfunctioning and cannot be shut off. Toilet is leaking.



Toilets

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

The ripple in the water is a constant leaking toilet. This leak can waste hundreds of gallons of water per week. Toilet is expired and outdated. Toilets are too small and are not ADA compliant.





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(13)



Kitchen sink

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Sewer smell coming from the sink. Sink is not too sewer smell coming from the sink. Sink is not to plumbing code plumbing code. P trap is missing. Multiple adapters are stacked.

(14)



Kitchen sink

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Kitchen sink is not to plumbing code. Duct tape was used to fasten the adapter to the sink strainer replacement is needed.

(15)



Kitchen sink

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

The entire sink plumbing system needs to be replaced. The piping is not to plumbing code and is deemed illegal.

(16)



Shower

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Leaking faucets leaking handle. Replacement is required.





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(17)



ADA Restroom Sink

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

ADA restroom shower area is being used as a storage. The pedestal sink in this area is not ADA compliant. Against plumbing code.

(18)



ADA Restroom Shower #2

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Not in use. Used as a storage area.

(19)

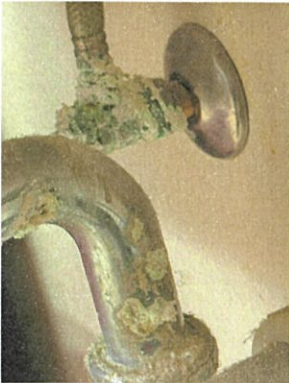


Toilet

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Toilet supply line shows heavy corrosion. Sediments are apparent therefore internal building plumbing is a factor.

(20)



Under bathroom sink

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Further corrosion replacement is needed angle stops are not usable. Leaking is occurring.





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(21)



Toilet

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Toilets are over 20 years old and there's leaking happening around the floor. Seals and rubber pieces are expired. Replacement is required.

(22)



Sink

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Another set of faucets, angle, stops, and drainage all need replacement and are expired .

(23)



Handwashing sink

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Sink is leaking needs a new faucet. The drain/strainer is rusted through and is leaking waste water.

(24)



Toilet

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Toilet is running bad float devices. Rubber gaskets are old and cracked. Angle stopped is corroded and malfunctioning. Toilet will need replacing.





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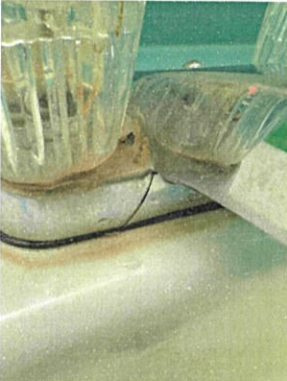


Toilet

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Toilet is not ADA compliant. Toilets gaskets are also cracked and will need replacement.

(26)



Faucet

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Faucet is cracked and leaking. Will need replacement.

(27)



Sink handwashing

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Faucet is unusable handles are broken. Will need replacement.

(28)



Additional

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

All angle stops on every fixture will need to be replaced. They are over 20 years old and are expired.





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(29)



Kitchen sink

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

1 inch air gap is required unconventional kitchen utensils are used for the kitchen drain

(30)



ADA Bathroom

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

Pedestal sinks are not ADA compliant this restroom is used as a storage facility.

(31)



Corrosion

Created: Fri, 4/4/2025

All angle stops are expired and will need replacement.

Thank you for supporting a Navajo Small Business





CANONCITO BAND OF NAVAJOS HEALTH CENTER INC.

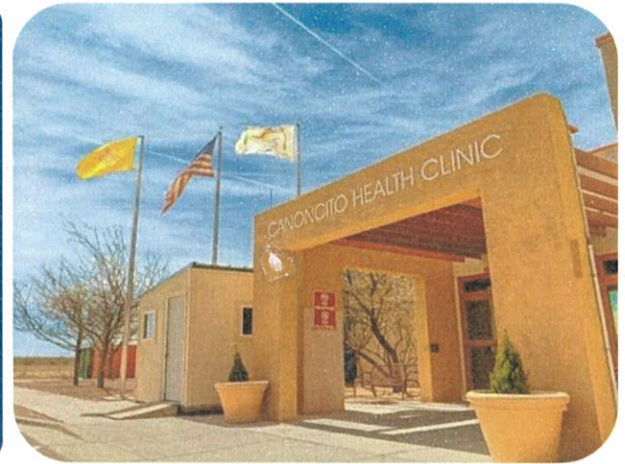


The Mission of CBNHC: is to promote the spiritual, mental, and physical well-being of the Canoncito Band of Navajos / To'hajiilee area with comprehensive, culturally, sensitive, and community-oriented healthcare.

The Vision of CBNHC: is a health campus of quality and excellence, where individuals and families are empowered to be healthy through all stages of life.

The To'Hajiilee (Canoncito Band of Navajos) community is a rural, non-contiguous section of the Navajo Nation located approximately 35 miles west of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Spanning more than 121 square miles, it is home to Navajo (Diné) residents. To'Hajiilee is geographically isolated, with limited infrastructure, transportation, and healthcare access—creating significant barriers to essential services. Despite these challenges, the community maintains a strong cultural identity where Navajo language, traditions, and values remain central to daily life.

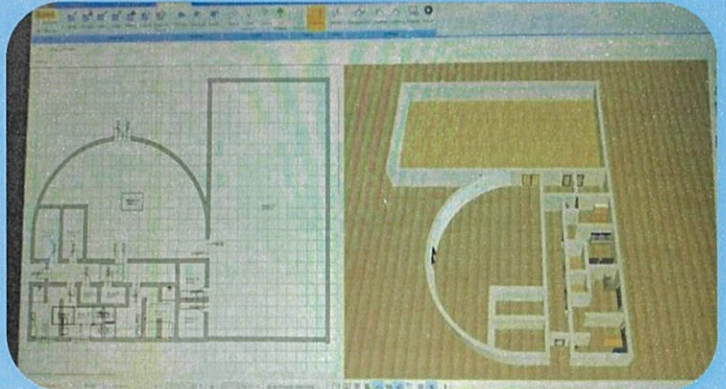
From October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025, the Canoncito Band of Navajos Health Center proudly served **27,840 patient visits**, reaching not only To'Hajiilee residents, but also individuals across Cibola, McKinley, Sandoval, and Bernalillo counties. The population experiences high rates of poverty, limited economic opportunities, and health disparities—factors that make investments in healthcare infrastructure and culturally grounded wellness programs essential to improving quality of life and advancing health equity for future generations.



2026 CBNHC STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

WELLNESS CENTER/ TRADITIONAL HEALING GROUNDS EXPANSION BUILDING PROCESS (\$500K)

- Plan & Engage: Gather community input, define project needs, and secure approvals.
- Design: Site assessment, architectural plans, and cost estimates.
- Approve & Fund: Finalize budget, obtain permits, and secure funding.
- Build: Hire contractors, prepare site, and construct expansion.
- Equip & Finish: Install equipment, cultural features, and complete interiors.
- Open: Final inspections, blessing ceremony, and program launch.



NEW HEALTH CENTER BUILDING PROCESS (\$41 MILLION)

- Plan & Engage: Engage community and leadership, finalize scope and site
- Design: Architectural and engineering plans, cost estimates, environmental reviews.
- Fund and Permit: Secure funding, finalize budget, obtain all required permits.
- Build: Hire contractors, prepare site, and construct new facility.
- Equip & Finish: Include medical equipment, telehealth systems and furnishing.
- Open: Complete inspections, certifications and hold community opening.





CANONCITO BAND OF NAVAJOS HEALTH CENTER INC.



KEY ISSUES WITHOUT EXTERNAL SUPPORT

Limited Financial Resources: The community does not have sufficient funding to cover construction, infrastructure, or equipment costs on its own.

Workforce Shortages: Lack of specialized personnel to manage large-scale construction and healthcare operations.

Infrastructure Gaps: Limited access to utilities (power, water, broadband) makes large projects harder to implement independently.

Regulatory & Technical Barriers: Complex permitting, design, and environmental requirements require technical assistance and expertise.

Geographic Isolation: Rural location increases transportation and construction costs, reducing feasibility without funding support.

Health Disparities: High rates of chronic disease and behavioral health issues create an urgent need for investment that exceeds local capacity.



CBN HEALTH CENTER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Expanded access to primary care, behavioral health, and telehealth services close to home.
- Promoted cultural healing and trust through Navajo-centered care.
- Addressed social determinants of health by connecting families to food, housing, transportation, and wellness resources.
- Expanded behavioral health services, including mental health, substance use support, supportive employment and culturally informed therapy.
- Provided education and prevention programs for chronic disease, youth wellness, and community health.
- Created local jobs and strengthened the community workforce.

HEALTH DISPARITIES

The To'Hajilee (Canoncito) community faces high rates of chronic disease (diabetes, heart disease, cancer) and behavioral health challenges (depression, PTSD, anxiety, substance use) well above state and national averages.

Alcohol-related illnesses and deaths are significantly higher than the U.S. average. These disparities are worsened by limited infrastructure—unreliable utilities, no grocery or wellness facilities, transportation gaps, and provider shortages.

Social determinants of health such as poverty, food insecurity, and limited education access further increases risk.

LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT AND ASK

Strategic investment in the \$500,000 Wellness Center/ Traditional Healing Grounds Expansion and \$41 MILLION for New Health Center will directly address these inequities by expanding access to care, strengthening prevention, and integrating culturally rooted healing practices in the community.



CBN Health Clinic
129 Medicine Horse Dr.
To'Hajilee, NM 87026
Main: 505-908-2307
Fax: 505-908-2310

Behavioral Health
129 Medicine Horse Dr.
To'Hajilee, NM 87026
Main: 505-908-2571
or 505-908-2307
Fax: 505-908-2310

Primary Care/Community Health
129 Medicine Horse Dr.
To'Hajilee, NM 87026
Main: 505-908-2307

Finance Department
Main: 505-908-2380
Fax: 505-908-2316
accounting@cbnhc.org

Dental/ Pharmacy
129 Medicine Horse Dr.
To'Hajilee, NM 87026
Main: 505-908-2307
Fax: 505-908-2310

MAILING: P.O. Box 3338
Canoncito, NM 87026



IMPACT STATEMENT - IMPROVING WELLNESS, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, PRIMARY CARE, AND TRADITIONAL HEALING ACCESS IN TO'HAJIILEE, NEW MEXICO

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Canoncito Band of Navajos Health Center (CBNHC) is spearheading a coordinated effort to improve health outcomes and equity for the To'Hajiilee community in New Mexico. Through two major strategic investments—a **\$500,000 Wellness Center and Traditional Healing Grounds Expansion** and a **\$41 million New Health Center Construction Project**—CBNHC is **addressing long-standing health disparities with a holistic, culturally grounded approach.**

These investments will significantly expand access to high-quality, comprehensive care while honoring traditional Navajo healing practices. The Wellness Center and Traditional Healing Grounds will provide vital space for community wellness activities, traditional ceremonies, and preventive health programming. The new Health Center will increase healthcare delivery, increase service capacity, and integrate behavioral health, primary care, and cultural healing under one roof. Together, these projects represent a major step toward health sovereignty—building infrastructure that supports both modern medical excellence and Navajo values of balance, wellness, and community connection. By investing in culturally responsive care, CBNHC is setting a model for sustainable, community-led health systems that strengthen physical, mental, and spiritual well-being for generations to come.

BACKGROUND: CANONCITO BAND OF NAVAJOS HEALTH CENTER

The Health Center exercised P.L. 93-638 (Public Law 638) in July 2016, authorizing Cañoncito Band of Navajos Health Center (CBNHC), a Tribal Organization, to contract and self-govern the day to day operations of health services and programs offered through a Title 1 Contract with Health and Human Services. This means that the organization withdrew money from Indian Health Services (IHS), and the clinic is now governed by the Cañoncito Health Board and other local officials, with input from tribal members. The mission statement of the CBN Health Center is to provide quality outpatient Behavioral Health services, substance abuse treatment, intervention, rehabilitation support, referral for Dine Traditional services for those who require Behavioral Health support, Dine Services and those who wish to recover from substance use/or dependence along with providing quality Prevention and Outreach education to the To'Hajiilee community.

CBN Health Center has a total of 12 programs for the following services: Behavioral Health, Dental Clinic, Diabetes Management, Health Clinic, Community Health Representatives (CHR), Patient Benefits Advocate, Patient Referred Care (PRC), Speciality and Primary Care, and Medication Assistance Program and Pharmacy. The focus of CBNHC Inc. is rebuilding a culture of health with collaboration between tribal government, the health center and the younger generations, and finding ways to connect with the patients, using the patient-center model. CBNHC Inc. addresses and provides direct support to community residents social determinants of health needs' such as water distribution for households with no access to clean water, food distribution, and others like income and social protection, education, unemployment, housing and basic amenities, early childhood development, social inclusion, structural conflict, and access to affordable health services.

NEEDS STATEMENT: TO'HAJIILEE COMMUNITY

The To'Hajiilee community—also known as the Cañoncito Band of Navajos—is a non-contiguous section of the Navajo Nation lying in the rural parts and counties of Bernalillo, Cibola, and Sandoval. It covers 78,887 acres and is part of the Navajo Nation Easter Agency. To'Hajiilee is approximately 25 miles west of Albuquerque, NM. According to the Navajo Nation Population Profile, To'Hajiilee has a total of 1,649 including American Indian/ Alaskan Natives and non-Natives. To'Haajilee services urban Native Americans in metropolitan areas, like Albuquerque.

The To'Hajiilee (Canoncito) Navajo community faces a critical and persistent health crisis rooted in both social and structural inequities. Rates of chronic disease—particularly diabetes, heart disease, and cancer—remain significantly higher than state and national averages. Many residents experience limited access to early detection, regular screenings, and consistent disease management, resulting in poorer health outcomes and preventable complications. In addition to physical health concerns, behavioral health conditions are widespread and often untreated. High prevalence of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and substance use disorders reflects the compounded effects of intergenerational trauma, isolation, and limited access to culturally competent care. These challenges are exacerbated by a shortage of local behavioral health providers and the absence of integrated treatment facilities within the community.



Contributing to this state of need are significant social determinants of health: limited transportation options, the absence of nearby grocery stores or wellness facilities, inadequate utilities, and aging or insufficient healthcare infrastructure. These barriers make it difficult for residents to maintain preventive care routines, access healthy foods, or participate in wellness activities that support long-term health.

Traditional healing is not only complementary to Western medicine—it is a core component of Navajo well-being, emphasizing harmony, balance, and connection to the natural world. In To'Hajiilee, community members have consistently expressed the need for formalized spaces for ceremony, teaching, and cultural healing alongside modern clinical care. Expanding access to traditional healing services—through dedicated grounds, cultural programming, and collaboration between traditional healers and medical providers—is essential to restoring balance in the community's health system. Meeting this need will strengthen trust, improve care engagement, and ensure that wellness for the To'Hajiilee community reflects both modern health standards and the enduring wisdom of Navajo tradition.

FUNDING REQUEST #1

WELLNESS CENTER/ TRADITIONAL HEALING GROUNDS EXPANSION — \$500,000

The Canoncito Band of Navajos Health Center (CBNHC) seeks \$500,000 to expand its Wellness Center and Traditional Healing Grounds — a targeted initiative designed to strengthen prevention, wellness, and the integration of cultural healing within the community.

This project will enhance the existing wellness facility to provide:

- Culturally grounded spaces for Navajo traditional healing ceremonies, talking circles, and community gatherings.
- Integrated behavioral health services addressing mental health and substance use through culturally safe and trauma-informed approaches.
- Fitness and wellness programs focused on diabetes prevention, cardiovascular health, and youth engagement.
- Telehealth and supportive infrastructure to increase access to care while keeping services close to home.
- Safe, accessible wellness spaces where elders, youth, and families can participate in healthy, community-based activities.
- The expansion will enable CBNHC to meet urgent preventive and behavioral health needs while reinforcing the community's cultural and spiritual foundation. In addition, the new services will enhance long-term sustainability by generating revenue through Medicaid and other reimbursement sources.
- Investment in this project will directly support a healthier, more resilient To'Hajiilee community grounded in Navajo wellness and tradition.

FUNDING REQUEST #2

NEW HEALTH CENTER CONSTRUCTION PROJECT — \$41 MILLION

The Canoncito Band of Navajos Health Center (CBNHC) is requesting \$41 million to construct a new Health Center that will serve as a cornerstone for accessible, high-quality, and culturally responsive healthcare. This comprehensive infrastructure investment will establish a modern facility capable of meeting the growing medical, behavioral, and specialty care needs of To'Hajiilee residents and surrounding communities.

The new Health Center will include:

- Primary and specialty care clinics to expand access to essential medical services.
- Behavioral health and substance use treatment programs that provide integrated, trauma-informed care.
- Laboratory, pharmacy, urgent care, and telehealth services to ensure continuity and coordination of care.
- Traditional healing integration within clinical services to honor and strengthen Navajo wellness practices.
- Expanded space and infrastructure to support workforce growth, modern medical equipment, and essential utilities such as power, broadband, and water.

This \$41 million investment will transform healthcare access by addressing more than 27,000 clinic visits To'Hajiilee and nearby areas of Sandoval, Cibola, McKinley, and Bernalillo counties. By reducing travel burdens, improving early intervention, and addressing long-standing health disparities, this project will build a sustainable foundation for health equity and community resilience. Investment in this new Health Center is an investment in the future health, dignity, and self-determination of the To'Hajiilee Navajo community.



LONG-TERM COMMUNITY IMPACT

The combined investments of \$500,000 for the Wellness Center & Traditional Healing Grounds Expansion and \$41 million for the New Health Center Construction Project will create lasting change in the health and well-being of the To'Hajiilee Navajo community. Together, these projects will:

- Increase access to both culturally grounded and modern healthcare services.
- Reduce the burden of chronic disease and prevent avoidable hospitalizations through early intervention and wellness promotion.
- Strengthen behavioral health care by integrating traditional healing, talking circles, and trauma-informed approaches.
- Support workforce development and create meaningful employment opportunities for local residents.
- Improve community infrastructure, including reliable power, broadband, water, and transportation systems.
- Build trust and cultural safety within healthcare delivery, ensuring care that honors Navajo values, language, and healing traditions.
- These transformative investments will not only expand healthcare capacity but also restore balance, strengthen resilience, and sustain wellness for generations to come in To'Hajiilee.

LEGISLATIVE AND TRIBAL LEADERSHIP ALIGNMENT

This initiative is aligned with and supported by key political leaders and tribal governance, including:

- Michelle "Paulene" Abeyta, State Representative, NM House District 69
- Melanie Stansbury, U.S. Representative, NM 1st Congressional District
- Gabe Vasquez, U.S. Representative, NM 2nd Congressional District
- Teresa Leger Fernández, U.S. Representative, NM 3rd Congressional District
- Martin Heinrich, U.S. Senator for New Mexico
- Ben Ray Luján, U.S. Senator for New Mexico
- Benny Shendo, State Senator District 22
- President of the Navajo Nation & Navajo Nation Council
- To'Hajiilee Chapter Government Officials

Their partnership ensures the project is aligned with federal, state, and tribal health priorities.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

- UNM- Community Crisis & Psychiatry Program
- Albuquerque Area Southwest Tribal Epidemiology Center- 988 Crisis Line & TOR Tribal Opioid Response
- Health Care Authority- BH/PC/EMR Development
- NM Department Of Health- SDOH & MAT
- BHSD- Supportive Employment
- Presbyterian Community Health
- To'hajiilee NAC/ Faith Base/ Ats'iis Naabik'iyati
- New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils

CBN HEALTH BOARD MEMBERS

- Chad Abeyta, Board Chairman
- Lawrence Platero, Board Vice Chairman
- Liza Yazzie-Salas, Secretary
- Nora Morris
- Stella Begay



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