

Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date: 2026-10-20 Meeting Time: 9:00 AM
Location: Virtually

MEMBERS:

B. Alex Montoya, BCH - *Community Health Education, Navajo Culture (HEHSC)* ☐
Christine Samuel, PhD. - *Nursing, Education (HEHSC)* ☐
Delvin Yazzie, MPH - *Epidemiology, Public Health+ (OPVP)* ☐
Emily Bartlett, - *Emergency Medicine (NAIHS)* ☐
Floyd Ashley, MA - *Scientific Education (HEHSC)* ☐
Jonathan Hale, BS - *Chair - Animal Science, Health Safety (HEHSC)* ☐
Mae-Gilene Begay, MSW, BS - *Community Member, Public Health (HEHSC)* ☐
Nanibaa' Garrison, Ph.D. - *Bioethics and Genetics (OPVP)* ☐
Paula Mora, MD - *Medicine, Chief Medical Officer (NAIHS)* ☐
Sonya Shin, MD - *Vice-Chair - Medicine, Nutrition, Public Health (OPVP)* ☐
Veronica Clark, MA, PhDc - *Education, Nutrition (HEHSC)* ☐

OLD BUSINESS:

I. Meeting Call to Order:

II. Roll Call:

- Invocation:

- Introductions:

III. Review and Approval of October 20, 2026 Meeting Agenda:

IV: Review and Approval of *April 21, 2026 and August 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes*:

NEW BUSINESS:

V. Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Reports:

VI: Acceptance and Approval of New Presentations:

VII: Acceptance and Approval of Returning Presentations:

VIII. Acceptance and Approval of Manuscripts:

1) Perceptions and Experiences of Restorative Justice in Indigenous-Serving Rural Schools, for review and approval prior to submission for publication. NNR-19.349 Dr. Tasha Seneca Keyes, PhD, MSW

Relation Accountability in Research: Navigating Tribal Sovereignty through the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board. *NNR-26.572 DeLysse Karen Begay, M.Ed, Dr. Howard Willis, PhD.*

IX. Acceptance and Approval of Series Adverse Events (SAE):

X. Noon Hour Discussion: **Revised Navajo Research Code - Dr. Garrison.**

XI: Announcements / Adjournment:

QUARTERLY REPORTS

1. NNR-25.570 **PI:** Matthew Greer

Connected Care: A Community Health Worker (CHW) Based Linkage Model for American Indian and Alaskan Native (AIAN) Radiation Oncology Care

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Reports covering 1) April 1, 2026-June 20,2026, 2) December 13, 2025 - March 31,2026 periods

2. NNR-25.569 **PI:** Devon Denny

Din'e Bizaad (Navajo) Language Project

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering June 16,2026 - September 15,2026 period

3. NNR-26.592 **PI:** Kimberly Yazzie

Citizen Perspectives of Energy Pathways in the 21st Century on the Navajo Nation in the Southwest U.S.

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering June 15 - September 25, 2026 period

4. NNR-25.568 **PI:** Joseph Hoover

Cultivating Water Resilience with an Indigenous Community in the Southwest US

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering May 19 - August 18, 2026 period.

5. NNR-26.579 **PI:** Alan Kelley

Nizhonigo Ohoo'aah Doo Ak'i'idiitxiih (A beautiful Approach to Acquiring Knowledge)

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering May 18, 2026 to September 18, 2026 period.

6. NNR-16.234 **PI:** Karletta Chief

To Litso, the water is Yellow: Investigating short term exposure and risk perception of Navajo communities to the Gold King Mine toxic spill

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering July - September 2026 period.

7. NNR-21.398 **PI:** Karletta Chief

Assessing Navajo COVID-19 Risks and Increasing Indigenous Resilience

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering June 17 - September 17, 2026 period.

8. NNR-25.548 **PI:** Susan Gross

Feasibility of a WIC food ordering and delivery service on the Navajo Nation.

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering May 20, 2026 - August 19, 2026 period.

9. NNR-19.332 **PI:** Gyan Nyaupane

Understanding the changing relationships of Indigenous peoples with their natural environments: A cross-cultural Study

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering February 2026 - April 2026 period.

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering May 2026 - July 2026 period.

10. NNR-26.584 **PI:** Arpan Yagnik

Assessing Menstrual Health Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices Among Three Navajo Nation Chapters

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering July 1, 2026 - September 30, 2026

11. NNR-23.468 **PI:** Juliet Lee

Healthy Native Nations: Identifying Effective Alcohol Policies for American Indian Tribes

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering July 18, 2026 - October 17, 2026 period

NEW PRESENTATION(S)

1. NNR-26.597 **PI:** Jennifer Richards

Doulo: A Formative Approach to Engaging Native Men in Their Birth Support Journey

Reason on Agenda: NEW

Description: Remarks: Request for Review and Approval New Study; Date Received - 09/28/2026

2. NNR-26.598 **PI:** Ashley Lowe

Stock Albuterol for Every School Program (SAFE) on the Navajo Nation

Reason on Agenda: NEW

Description: Remarks: Request for Review and Approval of New Study; Date Received - 09/28/2026

3. NNR-26.599 **PI:** Raifu Durodoye Jr.

Mid-Phase Education Innovation Research (EIR) Grant - Literacy Instruction for Tribal Education

Reason on Agenda: NEW

Description: Remarks: Request Review and Approval of New Study; Date Received - 09/29/2026

4. NNR-26.600 **PI:** Alana Bitsue

Linguistic Security in Indigenous Governance: A Comparative Study of How Cree and Din'e Language Traditions Shape Food Sovereignty and Land Governance Across the USA and Canada

Reason on Agenda: NEW

Description: Remarks: Request Review and Approval of New Study; Date Received - 10/01/2026

RETURNING PRESENTATION(S)

1. NNR-25.552 **PI:** Eudora Redhouse

Naasdi Focused: Evaluating NativeSTAND together with the Navajo Summer Youth Employment Program

Reason on Agenda: Final Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval to Close Study. Attached is the thumbdrive with the data collected.

2. NNR-26.571 **PI:** Natalie Reed

Current Breastfeeding Knowledge Score Amongst Navajo Women

Reason on Agenda: Final Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Final Study 1) Final Report covering January 20, 2026 - August 4, 2026 period, 2) Dissemination Plan

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering January 20, 2026 - August 4, 2026 period

3. NNR-26.589 **PI:** Crystal Cook

Housing Experience of Native Americans Living On and Off Reservation Lands in the State of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Three (3) Amendments: 1) Updated submission for Part Three: Research Project description, 2) Updated submission Part Four: Informed Consent Form, and 3) Updated documents to replace previous documents for the following attachments and appendix: Attachment 6.4A, Attachment 6.4B, Appendix B, Appendix EA, Appendix EB.

4. NNR-24.505 **PI:** Rebecca Girardet

Measuring Child Maltreatment Prevalence and Community Protective Factors in New Mexico

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Five (5) Modification of Incentive Verbiage and Addition of Team Members. Attachments: 1) UNM COI Forms from all study members, 2) NAU IRB Acknowledgment Letter, 3) CITI Trainings from additional team members, 4) CV/Resumes from all study members, 5) Subaward budget demonstrating support for additional team members members (Dr. Kien and Tohonnie).

5. NNR-22.456 **PI:** Dornell Pete

Navajo ABID Study II: Helicobacter pylori risk and treatment experiences in Navajo Adults

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering July 1 - September 25, 2026 period.

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of 2 Presentations Title: Navajo ABID Study II: Helicobacter pylori risk and treatment experiences in Navajo adults at the 1) American Association for Cancer Research Cancer Health Disparities Conference in Atlanta, GA on October 20, 2026 and at the 2) IHS/Northern Arizona University Cancer Symposium in Phoenix, AZ on November 9, 2026

6. NNR-23.487 **PI:** Dornell Pete

Navajo ABID Study III: Effects of Helicobacter pylori on the human gut microbiota in the Navajo ABID Study

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request and Acceptance of Two (2) Quarterly Reports covering: 1) May 1 - July 31, 2026, 2) July 1 - September 25, 2026 periods.

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Abstract titled: 1) "*Research Approaches to understand Helicabacter pylori-associated Stomach Cancer in tribal Communities in October*" on October 20, 2026 in AACR Cancer Disparities Conference in Atlanta, GA . 2) on November 9, 2026 at Cancer Care Symposium in Phoenix, AZ.

7. NNR-15.231 **PI:** Hannah Sehn

Engaging Patients and Stakeholders to Improve Cancer Outcomes in Navajo Nation

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering December 15, 2026 to December 15, 2027 period.

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering December 15, 2025 to March 15, 2026 period.

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering March 15, 2026 to June 15, 2026 period.

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering June 15, 2026 to September 15, 2026 period.

8. NNR-17.287 **PI:** Hannah Sehn

Understanding the Structural Barriers and Opportunities to Improve Cancer Treatment on Navajo Nation

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering December 19, 2026 - December 19, 2027 period.

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering December 19, 2025 - March 19, 2026 period.

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering March 19, 2026 - June 19, 2026 period.

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering June 19, 2026 - September 19, 2026 period.

9. NNR-25.564 **PI:** Xindi Hu

Nexus of water intake, water security, and climate resilience: a systems science approach to improving water security and community health in a changing climate

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering April 1, 2026 - August 31, 2026 period.

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Review Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering October 2026 - October 2027 period.

10. NNR-24.510 **PI:** Ronda Jenson

Advancing Hozho in Autism Assessment (AHAA) for Din'e Families

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Conference Presentation Title: Advancing Hozho In Autism Assessment: Insights from Practitioners Working with Navajo Families at the 2026 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana on November 19, 2026.

11. NNR-20.389 **PI:** Olivia Lindly

Parents Taking Action to Improve Autism Services Access for Navajo Families in Northern Arizona: Intervention Adaptation and Pilot Trial

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Conference Presentation Title: Adapting Parents Taking Action for Dine Families Through Hozho at the 2026 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana on November 20, 2026.

12. NNR-23.492 **PI:** Kristin Mitchell

NATIVE-RISE (Risk Identification for Suicide and Enhanced Care)

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of amendment to revise protocol due to an implementation barrier that has delayed the clinical trial start date. Attached: 1) Removal of IHS provider notification of individual patient risk, 2) Addition of provider-level education (twice-yearly in-service) on suicide risk and protective factors identified during NR Model development and refinement, 3) Continued distribution of community resource cards to emergency departments of participating IHS service units to be provided to all patients rather than just those that are indicated at risk, and 4) Revisions to the safety monitoring and sample size sections.

13. NNR-24.513 **PI:** Jennifer Richards

The Hastiin Bidziil (Strong Man) intervention: A study to measure effectiveness of a secondary prevention program aimed at reducing substance use among Native men ages 18-26

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Abstract Title: Family Centered Wellness: Culturally Strengthened Programs for Native Men's Health Across the Lifespan for the American Public Health Association Conference from November 1-4, 2026 in San Antonio, Texas.

14. NNR-19.364 **PI:** Jennifer Richards

Replication of Respecting the Circle of Life (RCL) - Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program with Navajo Youth and Families

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering November 19, 2026 to November 19, 2027 period.

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering November 19, 2026 to November 19, 2027 period.

15. NNR-15.232 **PI:** Laura Hammitt

Etiology of pneumonia and burden of pneumococcal pneumonia in hospitalized American Indian adults

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation request covering November 17, 2026 to November 17, 2027 period.

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering November 17, 2026 to November 17, 2027 period.

16. NNR-25.567 **PI:** Laura Hammitt

VAX31-103 Study: A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-Blind, Active-Controlled Clinical Study to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, and Immunogenicity of VAX-31 in Healthy Subjects 50 Years of Age and Older with Immunobridging to Subject 18-49 Years of Age

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation request covering November 18, 2026 to November 18, 2027 period.

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering November 18, 2026 to November 18, 2027 period.

17. NNR-24.524 **PI:** Laura Hammitt

VaxUp: Supporting Vaccine Confidence in Two Service Units in the Navajo Nation

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering 2025-2026 period.

18. NNR-22.457 **PI:** Joshua Allison-Burbank

Language is Medicine: A Language Nutrition Intervention to Prevent Development Delay in Dine Children

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation request covering November 15, 2026 to November 16, 2027 period.

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering November 15, 2026 to November 15, 2027 period.

19. NNR-25.544 **PI:** Katie Nelson

Paws-itive Change: Towards Solving Dog-Related Challenges on Navajo Nation

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Presentation Title: Time for paws-itive change: Exploring dog-related challenges with Navajo Nation Upper District 18 using One-Health approach at the American Public Health Association annual meeting on November 1-4, 2026.

20. NNR-24.532 **PI:** Kristin Searle

Early Childhood maker Literacies: Fostering computational thinking among Navajo youth and Educators

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering January 28,, 2027 - January 28, 2028 period

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Reports covering: 1) January 28, 2026 - April 27, 2026, 2) April 28, 2026 - July 27, 2026 period

21. NNR-02.110 **PI:** Vallabh Shah

Diabetes Prevention Program Outcomes Study (DPPOS)

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Quarterly Report covering April 1,2026 - June 30,2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Change in Investigators

Description: Approval to Disseminate DPPOS Newsletter - Summer 2026 Vol. 3 period

22. NNR-24.525 **PI:** Lauren Eberly

Medically Tailored Traditional Meals To Improve Heart Failure Care in the Gallup Service Unit

Reason on Agenda: Abstract Submission

Description: Request Acceptance Approval for Poster and abstract for presentation at the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions, November 9th 2026, Chicago, Illinois. Title: *"Food is Medicine Program Perspectives from Indigenous Farmers and Ranchers Participating in a Cardiovascular Health Program"* period

23. NNR-24.504 **PI:** Shawn Jordan

Culturally-Situated Immersive Virtual Learning and Engineering Design to Build STEM Capacity in Din'e Communities

Reason on Agenda: Approval for Dissemination

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Dissemination of a conference paper. Title: *"Culturarally-Situated Immersive Virtual Learning and Engineering Design to Build STEM Capacity in Dine Communities"* period

24. NNR-26.571 **PI:** Natalie Reed

Current Breastfeeding Knowledge Score Amongst Navajo Women

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Acceptance and Review of Quarterly Reports covering 1) January 20,2026 - April 20,2026 2) April 20, 2026 -

July 20, 2026 periods

25. NNR-26.572 **PI:** Howard Will

Collaboration to Improve Classroom Engagement and Outcomes for Native American and Rural Student

Reason on Agenda: (Other)

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Conditional Approval Update for updated list of participating schools for Fall 2026 and Spring 2027 period

26. NNR-11.321 **PI:** Christine Samuel-Nakamura

Uranium in the plant-animal-human food chain near abandoned mining sites and structures in an American Indian community in Northwestern New Mexico

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering August 21,2025 - August 21,2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering May 21,2026 - August 21,2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering August 21,2026 - August 21,2027 period

27. NNR-17.284 **PI:** Delvin Yazzie

Navajo Nation Healthy Dine' Act: An Implementation Study

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Reports covering 1) March - May 2026, 2) June - August 2026 periods

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering August 21, 2025 - August 20, 2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering August 21,2026 - August 20, 2026 period

28. NNR-18.309 **PI:** Christine Buzinde

Cultural Mapping for the Western Area Tribal Parks including the Former Bennett Freeze Area

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of continuation Request covering 1) July 2023 - July 2024, 2) July 2024 - July 2025, 3) July 2025 - July 2026, 4) July 2026 - July 2027 periods

29. NNR-14.185 **PI:** Sheldwin Yazzie

Assessing Indoor Radon Exposure on the Navajo Nation.

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering May 1 - July 30, 2026 period. *TABLED item from September 15, 2026 Meeting.*

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering July 30, 2026 - July 30, 2027 period. *TABLED item from September 15, 2026 Meeting.*

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering July 30, 2025 - July 30, 2026 period - *TABLED item from September 15, 2026 Meeting.*

SERIOUS ADVERSE EVENT

1. NNR-26.578 **PI:** Laura Hammitt

VAX31-105 Study: A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-Blind, Active-Controlled Clinical Study to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, and Immunogenicity of VAX-31 in Healthy Subjects 50 Years of Age and Older with Prior Pneumococcal Vaccination

Reason on Agenda: Primary - Off Site SAE

Description:

Diagnosis: Alcohol withdrawal

Last Page and End of Agenda