

**Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board
Meeting Agenda**

Meeting Date: 2026-03-17 Meeting Time: 9:00AM
Location: Virtual

MEMBERS:

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Call for Roll Call:
 - Incovation:
 - Introduction:
- III. Review and Approval of March 17, 2026 Meeting Agenda:
- IV. Review and Approval of October 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- V. Review and Acceptance of Quaterly Reports:
- VI. Acceptance of Approval New Presentations:
- VII. Acceptance of Approval of Returning Presentations:
- VIII. Acceptance and Approval of Serious Adverse Events (SAE)
- IX. Accpetance and Approval of Manuscripts.
 - 1)***Exploring American Indian and Alaska Native Child*

Maltreatment and Resilience in New Mexico NNR-24.505 Dr. Rebecca Giradet, MD, **2)** Mutton-HF (Medically Tailored traditional foods to Optimize Nutrition in Heart Failure): A Randomized Trial of an Indigenous Food in Medicine Intervention" NNR-24.525 Dr. Lauren Eberly, MD. **3)** Revised Manuscript per NNHRRB from January 17, 2026 meeting comments title "Contextual and sustainable considerations for culturally adapted lifestyle interventions for obesity and type 2 diabetes: Perspectives from Native American youth and families." NNR-24.525 Dr. Lauren Eberly, MD, **4)** Psychometric validity of measures related to mental health and substance use in the Family Spirit Strengths home-visiting trial across three native American Communities. -**NNR-23.463 Leonela Nelson. 5)** Validity and acceptability of saliva specimens for detection of respiratory syncytial virus among American Indian children with acute respiratory infection in the Southwest United States. **NNR-19.350 Dr. Laura Hammitt.**

X. Noon Hour Discussion / Report. **1)** Planning Update 2026 Bi-Annual Navajo Research Conference -Dr. Mark Bauer, Dr. Nicole Teufuel-Shone. **2)** NNHRR Bi-Laws

XI. Announcements / Adjournment:

QUARTERLY REPORTS

1. NNR-23.470 **PI:** Lauren Eberly

Improving the Quality of Heart Failure Care for Patients Receiving Care Through the Indian Health Service at the Gallup Service Unit

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quaterly Report covering October 18, 2025 - January 18, 2026

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

Measuring Child Maltreatment Prevalence and Community Protective Factors in New Mexico

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report Covers: July 14, 2025 to March 2, 2026

3. NNR-25.550 **PI:** Sonya Shin

Water is Medicine: Addressing Water Insecurity to Advance Intergenerational Metabolic Health in Navajo Nation.

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Reports covering September 17, 2025 to December 17, 2025 period

4. NNR-11.325 **PI:** Laura Hammitt

Study of a Vaccine for reducing ear and lung infections in children

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering October 1 - December 31,2025 period

NEW PRESENTATION(S)

1. NNR-26.580 **PI:** Tanya Chischilly

Effects of Indigenous Literature on Social Emotional Vocabulary in Students with Disabilities and Behavior Challenge

Reason on Agenda: NEW

Description: Remarks: Request Review and Approval of New Submission; Date Received - 02/26/2026

2. NNR-26.581 **PI:** Tamara Lincoln

The DIR/Floortime Model: A Culturally Responsive Approach to Supporting Social Skills in Neurodiverse Students

Reason on Agenda: NEW

Description: Remarks: Request Review and Approval of New Submission; Date Received - 02/26/2026

3. NNR-26.582 **PI:** Tullus Deschenie

Higher Education Pursuit or Not: Cultural Factors for Navajo Males

Reason on Agenda: NEW

Description: Date Received - 03/02/2026

4. NNR-26.583 **PI:** Ayushka Tiwary

Supporting Vaccine Confidence Through Community-Engaged Health Communication in the Navajo Nation

Reason on Agenda: NEW

Description: Remarks: Request Review and Approval of New Submission; Date Received - 03/04/2026

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

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

Reason on Agenda: NEW

Description: Remarks: Request Review and Approval of New Submission; Date Received - 03/04/2026

RETURNING PRESENTATION(S)

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

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

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Abstract Titled: Vax Up: "*Supporting Vaccine Confidence in Two Service Units in the Navajo Nation*" for the 2026 Arizona Immunization Conference on April 14-15, 2026 in Mesa, AZ

2. 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: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Three (3) Amendments: *REVISED 1) Appendix 6c - Mis-dosing and other Vaccine*

3. NNR-25.545 **PI:** Laura Hammitt

Understanding the Causes of Pneumonia among Indigenous Adults in the Southwest United States.

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation request covering April 23, 2026- April 23, 2027 period

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering April 23, 2025- April 23, 2026 period

4. NNR-20.374 **PI:** Laura Hammitt

Immunogenicity of H, Influenzae type b PRP-OMP vaccines in American Indian and Alaska Native Children (the HibVax Study)

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering April 28, 2026 - April 28, 2027 period

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering April 28, 2025 - April 28, 2026 period

5. 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: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Amendments: 1) provide a resource card with safety information for participation, 2) Remove the upper age limit to allow older men to join the study. REVISED 1) Research Plan (v.8 Feb 26, 26), 2) Consent Form (v7 Feb 25, 26), 3) Screening Consent Form (v3 Feb 25, 26), 4) Recruitment Script (v5 Feb 25, 26), 5) Agency Referral v3 feb 25, 26), 6) Recruitment Flyer (v4 Feb 25, 25), 7) Social Media/Radio PSA (v4 Feb 25, 26), 8) Pre-Eligibility Form (v5 Feb 25, 26). NEW 9) Resource Card - Chinle (v1 Jun 21, 26) 10) Resource Card - Fort Defiance (v1 Ju 21, 26), 11) John Hopkins IRB Approval Letter.

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Presentation Titled: "Restoring Balance: Culturally-Grounded Programs for Native Men's Health Across the Lifespan" at Reservation Economic, on March 23-26, 2026 in Las Vegas, NV

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6. NNR-21.401 **PI:** Jennifer Richards
Evaluation of Azhee Bidziil (Strong Fathers) Program: Improving Outcomes Among Rural Fathers and their Families.
Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation
Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Presentation Titled: *"Restoring Balance: Culturally-Grounded Programs for Native Men's Health Across the Lifespan"* at Reservation Economic, on March 23-26, 2026 in Las Vegas, NV
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7. NNR-25.544 **PI:** Katie Nelson
Paws-itive Change: Towards Solving Dog-Related Challenges on Navajo Nation
Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request
Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering April 23, 2026 - April 23, 2027 period
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- Reason on Agenda:** Annual Report
Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering April 23, 2025 - April 23, 2026 period
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8. NNR-24.501 **PI:** Allison Barlow
In-home Prevention of Substance Abuse Risks in Native Teen Families: Long-term follow-up Study.
Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request
Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation request covering April 16, 2026- April 16, 2027 period
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- Reason on Agenda:** Annual Report
Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering April 16, 2025 - April 16, 2026 period
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9. NNR-23.463 **PI:** Leonela Nelson
Family Spirits Strengths
Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation
Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Two (2) Powerpoint Presentation Titled: *Family Spirit Strengths: A focus on Maternal Mental Health at: 1) 4th Annual Parent & Youth Caregiver Conference in Farmington, NM on March 24-25, 2026, 2) American Indian Suicide Prevention Convening in Mesa, AZ on April 23-24, 2026.*
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10. NNR-22.449 **PI:** Ashley Thacker
Dine' Household Water Survey

Reason on Agenda: Abstract Submission

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Abstract Titled: *Din'e Household Water Survey: Water access, Water Quality and Community Perspectives on Water in Chinle Agency and Fort Defiance Agency fro US Indigenous Data Sovereignty & Governance Summit 2026 on April 15-17, 2026 in Tucson, AZ*

11. NNR-19.360 **PI:** Debra MacKenzie

Navajo Birth Cohort Study/environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes Plus (NBCS/ECHO+)

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Three (3) Modifications: *1) Modified consent form to include the collection of breast milk samples from pregnant participants; 2) Modified protocol to include new sample collection (Breast mile and home water sample) and new surveys, 3) New Sample collection and survey forms and a summary of changes.*

12. NNR-25.563 **PI:** Renee Tsinigine

Socio-economic and health impacts of coal mining and well-being of Din'e residents living within the Peabody Coal Leasehold Area using the Din'e Health Model

Reason on Agenda: Addition of Co-Investigator

Description: Requesting Acceptance and Approval to add Eron Guy as Co-PI. Attachment Part 5 certification and CITI certification.

13. NNR-25.565 **PI:** Sheila Hammer

Identifying the Psychosocial Impact of Cancer on American Indian Cancer Patients

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering November 18, 2025 - February 18, 2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Consent to Participate in *Research Study: Improving Quality of Life: Developing a Psychosocial Survey for Navajo Cancer Patients.*

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of: *1) Eligibility Form Aim I: Qualitative Interview, 2) Participant Demographic Questions, 3) Qualitative Questions to ask participants (AIM 1), 4) Finding Hozho recruitment flyer, 5) Face-to-Face fir semi-structure scripts Part 1&2, Part 3 for #7b and d. 6) Script for Chaper house presentation, 7) Recruitment Emails, 8) Recruitments Script for Social Media, 9) Script for Phone/Zoom calls, 10) Script for leaving Voice messages.*

14. 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 November 19, 2025 - February 18, 2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Three (3) Amendments:

1) requesting permission to take photographs of handwritten notes, 2) Consent Form to provide correct contact information for NNHRRB, 3) add 6 Reseach Staff (RRoan, CTabah, Dr. Lister, KTosie, EDixon, MBlock), CITI and Part 5 Certifications enclosed.

15. NNR-16.258 **PI:** Randall Swaim

Substance use among American Indian Youth attending schools on or near Reservation

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request & Acceptance & Approval of Adjusting the Timing of Navajo Nation School Participant Procedures.

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

Assessing Navajo COVID-19 Risks and Increasing Indigenous Resilience

Reason on Agenda: Add/Change Co-Investigators

Description: Request, Acceptance, & Approval Neilroy Singer to the Project. ATTACHEMENTS: CV & CITI Certification

17. NNR-22.460 **PI:** Ashish Amresh

Project Lets Talk Code

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering April 18, 2025 - April 17, 2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering April 18, 2026 - April 17, 2027 period

18. 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 Poster Presentation title "Walking in Hozho: Dine Family Experiences with Autism

Assessment" at International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) 2026 Annual Meeting in April of 2026

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quaterly Report covering December 1, 2025 - Feburary 28, 2026 period

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

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

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Reports covering; 1)January 28, 2025 - April 27, 2025 2)April 28, 2025 - July 27, 2026 3)July 28, 2025 - October 27, 2025 4)October 28, 2025 - January 27, 2026 periods

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Revised Consent Forms 1)Educators Participating in Professional Development Only on the Navajo Nation 2)Educators participating in professional development and classroom implementation in the Red Mesa Unified School District 3)Community Members Participating in Co-Design 4)Red Mesa Educators Participating in Co-Design 5)Families Participating in Co-Design 6)Parents of Red Mesa Students Participating in Classroom Implementation

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering January 28, 2025 - January 28, 2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering January 28, 2026 - January 28, 2027 period

20. NNR-22.439 **PI:** Ann-Perry Witmer

Contextualization of Rural Infrastructure Systems for Improved Sustainability

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering 1) July 1, 2025 - September 30, 2025 2) October 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering March 16, 2026 - March 15, 2027 period

21. NNR-18.311b **PI:** Nancy Whitesell

Multisite Implementation Evaluation of Tribal Home Visiting (MUSE)

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Conference Abstract title (*Implementing Home Visiting in Native Communities: Findings from the Multi-Site Implementation Evaluation of Tribal Home Visiting (MUSE)*) at the Native Communities Home Visiting Meeting (NHVM) on September 23-25, 2026, at the Town and Country Resort in San Diego, California.

22. NNR-24.500 **PI:** Carmen George

Water is K'e': Multi-level intervention to promote healthy beverage among Navajo Families

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Report covering January 16 - April 16, 2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering April 16, 2025 - April 16, 2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Two (2) Amendments: 1) Add New Form - Self Report Lesson attendance Form, 2) Mailing Address from Primary Cafegiver and Adult Family Members.

23. NNR-18.330 **PI:** Laurie Hudson

Thinking Zinc

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quaterly Report covering October 22, 2025 - January 21, 2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering January 22, 2025 - January 21, 2026 period

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

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

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering January 6, 2025 - January 31, 2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description:

Request Acceptance and Approval of Conference Presentation Titled: *Research Strategies to Understand Helicobacter pylori-associated Stomach Cancer in US tribal communities at World Indigenous Cancer Conference, in Auckland, NZ on April 22, 2026.*

25. 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: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering October 31, 2024 - December 31, 2025 period

26. NNR-23.467 **PI:** David Garcia

Advancing Liver Cancer Prevention for Arizona American Indian Communities

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Reports covering: 1) July 1 - September 30, 2025, 2) October 1 - December 31, 2025 periods.

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Three (3) Amendments: 1) Update Informed Consent removing previous focus on telehealth (Aim #3), 2) to increase sample size 300 to 450 (Aim #2) to characterize and determine risk factors for Liver Cancer, 3) increase sample size with Tribal Clinics Moderator Guide to Add Aim #5 to assess potential for Implementation. University of Arizona Modification Approval enclosed.

Reason on Agenda: Abstract Submission

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Abstract for in-person American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Conference in San Antonio, TX on November 1-4, 2026.

27. NNR-24.494 **PI:** Dana Dabelea

DISCOVERY of Risk Factors for Type 2 Diabetes in Youth Consortium: Navajo-Shiprock Site

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Poster Presentation title "*Identifying Unique Risk Factors for Youth-Onset Type 2 Diabetes (YO-T2D): The DISCOVERY Study*" at the Tribal Public Health Conference 2026 (April 4-7) in Oklahoma City.

28. NNR-21.427 **PI:** Lorenda Belone

Family Listening Program a Culturally-Centered Dissemination & Implementation Project

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering November 2024 2025 - August 2025 period

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering November 16, 2025 - November 16, 2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Quarterly Review

Description: Request Review and Acceptance of Quarterly Reports: 1) February - April 2025, 2) May - July 2025 periods

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval fo Four (4) Amendments; 1) Partnering for Health Improvement and Research Equity (PHIRE) survey Tool, 2) UNM Health Services Consent to PhotoGraph/Video Record, 3) TRT-CAB listening Annual Meeting on December 20, 2025, with Listening program contact information sheet, 4) Participant Receipt Form.

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

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

Reason on Agenda: Conference Presentation

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Presentation title "*MUTTON-HF (Medically Utilized Tailored Traditional Food to Optimize Nutrition in Heart Failure)*" at American College of Cardiology Scientific Sessions in New Orleans on March 29, 2026

30. NNR-24.522 **PI:** Jeremy Keenan

Causes of Visual Impairment in the Navajo Nation

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of: A) Verbal Consent Script for Navajo Community Eye Study - Vision Screening. B) University of California, San Francisco Consent to Participate in a Research Study. C) University of California, San Francisco Approval Letter.

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

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

Reason on Agenda: Abstract Submission

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Abstract titled Feasibility of WIC Food Ordering and Delivery on the Navajo Reserption on April 20-22, 2026 in Chicago, Illinois.

32. NNR-15.199 **PI:** Katie Callahan

REACH for Healthy Navajo Communities.

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering March 17, 2026 - March 17, 2027 period

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report covering March 17, 2024 - March 17, 2025 period.

Reason on Agenda: Add/Change Co-Investigators

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval to add Tammy Yazzie and Hannah Sehn as Co-PI, replacing Katie Callahan. Part V Certifications attached.

Reason on Agenda: Amendment

Description: Request Acceptance and Approve of Anonymous FVRx Participant Survey.

33. NNR-19.337 **PI:** Crystal LoudHawk-Hedgepeth

Kresge Inquiry Project

Reason on Agenda: Continuation Request

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Continuation Request covering January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026 period

Reason on Agenda: Annual Report

Description: Request Acceptance and Approval of Annual Report Covering January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026 period

SERIOUS ADVERSE EVENT

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

Diabetes Prevention Program Outcomes Study (DPPOS)

Reason on Agenda: Primary - Off Site SAE

Description:

Diagnosis: Hospitalization for Inflammatory Arthritis

2. NNR-25.545 **PI:** Laura Hammitt

Understanding the Causes of Pneumonia among Indigenous Adults in the Southwest United States.

Reason on Agenda: Primary - Off Site SAE

Description:

Diagnosis; hospitalized for pneumonia

Last Page and End of Agenda