



## **NNWO Accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2025 Quarter 4**

The Navajo Nation Washington Office would like to share some of our accomplishments from Fiscal Year 2025 Quarter 4 (July–September 2025):

- The Navajo Nation Washington Office was able to secure the reauthorization of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, which now provides increased compensation, compensation for more illnesses, and compensation for downwinders. This has been a major priority for the Navajo Nation for decades.
- The Navajo Nation Washington Office played a pivotal role in advocating for an exemption for tribal members from the new work requirements for Medicaid and SNAP recipients in the One Big, Beautiful Bill. Those new work requirements are – according to many – likely going to lead to the disenrollment of millions of Americans from Medicaid and/or SNAP eligibility, and we are grateful to our partners for working with us to ensure that tribal members will not be impacted.
- The Navajo Nation Washington Office was able to prevent the closure of the Office of Navajo Hopi Indian Relocation (ONHIR) earlier in the year and was able to secure the transfer of ONHIR’s Padres Mesa Demonstration Ranch along with funding from the federal agency prior to the retirement of ONHIR officials at the end of Q4. The NNWO Director is in charge of securing a long-term solution for the Ranch and is also leading the Nation’s efforts on transitioning ONHIR’s remaining obligations.
- The Navajo Nation Washington Office Summer Internship Program successfully concluded on August 2, 2025, with a total of five interns. The five students, including one who was fully sponsored by NNWO, gained a first-hand glimpse into government and legislative affairs, as well as the intricacies of the unique government to government relationship that the Navajo Nation holds with the United States. This year marked a significant milestone for the program as applications increased from just 5 in 2024, to 52 in 2025. This is a clear indicator of growing interest among students. Interns described their experience with NNWO as “professionally transformative” and noted that it had exceeded their expectations and shaped their career aspirations. Building on this success, NNWO anticipates to increase sponsorship to cover three students for the 2026 Summer cohort.

- The Navajo Nation Washington Office played a pivotal role in securing funding for our Nation's education during Q4. First, NNWO was able to work with the Bureau of Indian Education and Bureau of Indian Affairs to release the hold on our Nation's Johnson O'Malley funds; and second, NNWO's advocacy to the Department of Education – including meeting with Secretary McMahon – helped lead to a one-time investment in Tribal Colleges and Universities of over \$100 million or an over 100% increase in current funding. NNWO is still working with the Department on the allocation of those funds, but we are nonetheless excited for this investment.
- The Navajo Nation Washington Office worked closely with Navajo Environmental Protection Agency and DISA Technologies to secure a permit for DISA uranium cleanup efforts on the Nation. This cleanup effort should begin in the Spring and, unlike uranium mine capping which keeps the uranium in the ground, will remove the uranium from the abandoned mines.