



**The Synod of the Southwest  
The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
in New Mexico and Arizona  
5901 Wyoming Blvd., NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109  
(520) 791-9600  
[www.synodsw.org](http://www.synodsw.org)**

Greetings,

I write on behalf of the Native American Ministries Coordinating Committee (NAMCC) of the Synod of the Southwest to ask for your support of its Native American (including the Navajo Nation) Relief for Churches and Families Project.

Earlier this year, the Board of the Presbyterian Mission Agency of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (“PMAB”) invited the Synod to submit a proposal to provide relief for our Native American siblings residing in the Synod of the Southwest in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and its particularly devastating effect on them. In response, the NAMCC submitted a proposal which the Presbyterian Mission Agency (“PMA”) through its Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program (“PDA”) approved and agreed to provide \$250,000 in funding toward this Project. The Synod of the Southwest subsequently approved \$25,000 toward this Project, as well. The total anticipated cost of the Project is \$372,000, of which the Synod, in conjunction with the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, must raise an additional \$97,000 in monetary donations, food, supplies and logistical support.

The Project will provide support to the 29 Native American Churches and Chapels located within the bounds of the Synod of the Southwest over the 6-month period beginning July 1, 2020 by:

1. Providing needed support for those pastors and commissioned pastors to be paid, as they serve their communities (of which there are 2 part-time pastors and 7 part-time commissioned pastors assigned to Native American Churches and Chapels) for an estimated cost of \$87,000;
2. Providing needed support for the basic infrastructure of the churches and chapels as centers of community life (utility costs), for an estimated cost of \$45,000; and,
3. Providing funding for the purchase of food and supplies for distribution to Native American communities throughout the Synod of the Southwest, for an estimated cost of \$240,000.

We ask that you share this giving opportunity with your governing councils, members of your congregations and your friends.

If the desire it to provide a monetary donation, it can be given online by going to the website of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, clicking on the Give Now button and following the directions to give, noting it is for Navajo Support. I would note that giving in this manner will be used not just for support of our Native American siblings on the Navajo Nation, but also the many other Native American Communities throughout the Synod. Monetary donations may also be made by sending a check or money order (no cash please) to the Synod of the Southwest, 5901 Wyoming Blvd. NE - #J-319, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109 and indicating that it is for the Native American Relief Project.

If there is a desire to provide logistical support (including hosting a site for the collection and packaging of the food/supply packages – which could be a different location each month) and/or food and supplies, please contact Sharon Yates at 520.791.9600 or [sharon@synodsw.org](mailto:sharon@synodsw.org) or Conrad Rocha at 505.238.9311 or [conrad@synodsw.org](mailto:conrad@synodsw.org) to discuss the details of how that will be accomplished.

If you wish to learn more, please visit the Synod website at [www.synodsw.org](http://www.synodsw.org) and read and review the Native American (including the Navajo Nation) Relief for Churches and Families Project proposal or contact either Sharon or Conrad.

Thank you for taking this request into consideration.

Ruling Elder Nelson Capitan, Moderator  
Native American Ministries Coordinating Committee, Synod of the Southwest