

COMMUNITY NEWS

New Nation's ASA manager appointed

BY DON DECKER,
YAN News

Dazhoni Scott is the new ASA (Alcohol and Substance Abuse) Program manager as of December 2, 2019.

Mrs. Scott is part Dine' from her mother and Hopi-Tewa on her father's side.

She brings extensive professional experiences being employed, in the past, as a psychotherapist for the Native American's for Community Action, INC. (NACA) in Flagstaff for 3 years.

Mrs. Scott provided mental health and substance abuse therapy to primarily Native American clients of Flagstaff and the surrounding tribal areas.

Originally from the heart of the Navajo Nation in Salinas Springs, AZ, Mrs. Scott graduated from Chinle High School and enrolled at Northern Arizona University, receiving a Bachelor's of Arts in Criminal Justice and Biology degree. Subsequently,



Dazhoni Scott is the new manager of the ASA program

attending the University of Arizona obtaining a Masters of Arts Degree in Counseling with a Rehabilitation and Mental Health Emphasis.

Prior to working for NACA, she spent eight and half years employed as the Operator of the Coconino County Comprehensive One-Stop in Flagstaff. The

One-Stop center operates under the auspices of Goodwill of Northern Arizona.

"I was the manager of the One-Stop services which had 10 different services for individuals returning to employment, rehabilitation and career counseling. The services were designed to help clients to reach their goals, employ-

ment and career planning. Every county in the U.S. is mandated to have One-Stop Services, Coconino County is the second largest county in the U.S. to have such a center," said Mrs. Scott.

Mrs. Scott is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) through the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners and Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC). In addition, she is a Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF), an International Certification (via through her former affiliation with Goodwill of Flagstaff One-Stop Center).

Mrs. Scott feels counselors should live in communities where they work. She and her husband have relocated to the Verde Valley. "It was a family commitment," recalls Mrs. Scott when she and her family decided to move to Verde Valley. "If I'm going to do this, we're all going to do it—to assure that it be done well" she recalled

when they decided to move close to Middle Verde.

"As a family, we are committed to making a change", she added about their new location.

Mrs. Scott said that counselors need to feel balanced and healthy in their line of work.

"You have to be well, to help others and have good boundaries—a good life style to be able to support others to be well," she added.

Interestingly, her and her husband belong to a traditional indigenous church which has shown them how to help others in their daily struggles in life. "We have truly dedicated ourselves to helping the people," said Mrs. Scott.

Her personal belief systems is an integral part of her professional work as a therapist. "It's my strength. I use it as my medicine, to have a spiritual foundation of who I am. Ceremony is attributed to my success, to help me to be a well person so that I am able to serve others."

Mrs. Scott said that the psychological barriers to mental wellness can be attributed to substance abuse, domestic violence and not having a healthy balance. She speaks about "intergenerational trauma" affecting the native people through their experiences such as attending boarding schools which has had a latent effect on family off-springs in later life.

"Our parents have experienced this and have passed these along generations" she added.

Acknowledging the antecedents of the past and "addressing that with today's climate" to resolve and find solutions to wellness is a key aspect to Mrs. Scott helping her clients in the counseling setting.

"I'm happy to be here and I'm passionate about what I do, to serve the people-it is a life-long passion for me to help my fellow native people," she said.

Community walk a huge success

BY ROBIN HAZELWOOD,
Diabetes Coordinator

The Turkey Trot was held the weekend of November 23 in MV and Clarkdale was a great success for the Diabetes Awareness Month.

I would like to thank all the participants who came out and council members who showed their support for YAN Diabetes and Wellness Programs.

All together we had

130 participants and it was great to see everyone come out and do a little exercise.

The MV bike winners were, Dawn Beauty, Zayna Turner, Renee Gonzalez, and Savannah Sanders.

I would also like to thank Ron Juan, Linda Rocha, and Brandy Gyce for all their help in making this a successful event.



Clarkdale walkers (l to r) Anthony De La Torre, Jonathan Hood and Serenity De La Torre collect their awards for participating



Anette Mendez of Clarkdale and Marvin walking the course in Clarkdale



Carol Carillo collecting a Basha's gift card.

Social service starts weekly storytelling

BY DON DECKER,
YAN News

Wendy Wiki, elder of Yavapai-Apache Nation, met with children from the Nation and told winter stories in early December. This was also an opportunity for the children (about 12 of them) to make some holiday greeting cards using glue, art paper, glitter, scissors and colored pencils while listening to Mrs. Wiki tell the stories.

Jason Stuart, Social Service Director said Mrs. Wiki was the first speaker appearing and he expects to have a story teller visiting with the children every Friday henceforth. He has a good response from other elders who want to volunteer and to visit with the children of the community for Friday Storytelling Hour.

All children are invited to the Friday Storytelling Hour.

Photo by Jason Stuart, Social Service



Wendy Wiki story teller.

YAN HOUSING

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professionals representing the states of Arizona, New Mexico and West Texas.

With this vast amount of professional experiences, Mrs. Beauty is qualified to face the challenges of being the director of tribal housing.

"I really like it and it's different than working in finance. There are a lot of issues but it's nice to figure out the solutions to situations that are occurring here at housing," she said.

Now that the Clarkdale tax credit housing is being wrapped up by October of this year Mrs. Beauty said the housing department does not end its

responsibilities.

"We need to make sure that not only have we expanded, but that we have the capability to continue serving the tenants. This means we can't continue growing without making sure we have the resources to continue the services," she said.

Mrs. Beauty said that the housing development also has a ten-

dency to impact other services the Nation provides and says that the manpower must be present to address these services.

"Once this is done, then there'll be considerations for more development. I don't know if they'll be tax-credit of other types of housing (i.e., Section 184 housing)," she added.

"We want to make

sure that we have safe and adequate housing for our tribal members".

Presently, there are about 100 tribal members who still need housing according to Mrs. Beauty.

Elders are considered top priority for the housing program. In addition, the waiting list for housing requires adherence to strict time frames and making

sure individual housing applications are updated.

Mrs. Beauty is married to Thomas Beauty and have 3 grown children.

In addition, the family has 2 god-daughters who joined through the traditional Apache Na'ee'ese ceremonies.

Mrs. Beauty's parents are Mrs. Beauty and the late Ric Evans of Middle Verde.