



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Lynn Trujillo, Secretary
Nadine Padilla, Deputy Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Sherrie Catanach
Public Relations Coordinator, Indian Affairs Department
Sherrie.Catanach2@state.nm.us
505-469-7599

January 8, 2021

Indian Affairs Department Announces Partnership with Navajo Farmers to Provide Food Relief in Northern Agency

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD) announced a partnership with Native American farmers in the Eastern Agency of the Navajo Nation to get food to families in need.

The food distribution project is a partnership between Indian Affairs, the McCune Charitable Trust, and the Shiprock Chapter of the Navajo Nation. Local organic produce is being sourced by the Shiprock Chapter and distributed to families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

IAD is working to ensure that Native American families in the Northern Agency have access to food and that local farmers can market their harvest. This project was supported by a generous contribution from the Santa Fe based McCune Charitable Trust.

“The Lujan Grisham administration is committed to ensuring that food security is a priority for New Mexico’s tribal nations,” said Deputy Secretary Nadine Padilla. “This program will allow Navajo farmers to get their harvest to families throughout the Shiprock Chapter. We’re proud to be working with our partners in philanthropy and in tribal government to get local food to local communities.”

“We are thankful for the support of Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham and the Indian Affairs Department to get food to our Navajo people,” said Shiprock Chapter President Duane “Chili” Yazzie. “Together, we are supporting local farmers and the Navajo people through these food distributions.”

###