

MODERN-DAY MONSTER SLAYERS

Strengthening the Navajo Nation
Criminal Justice System: Battling
Violence, Substance Abuse, & Suicide



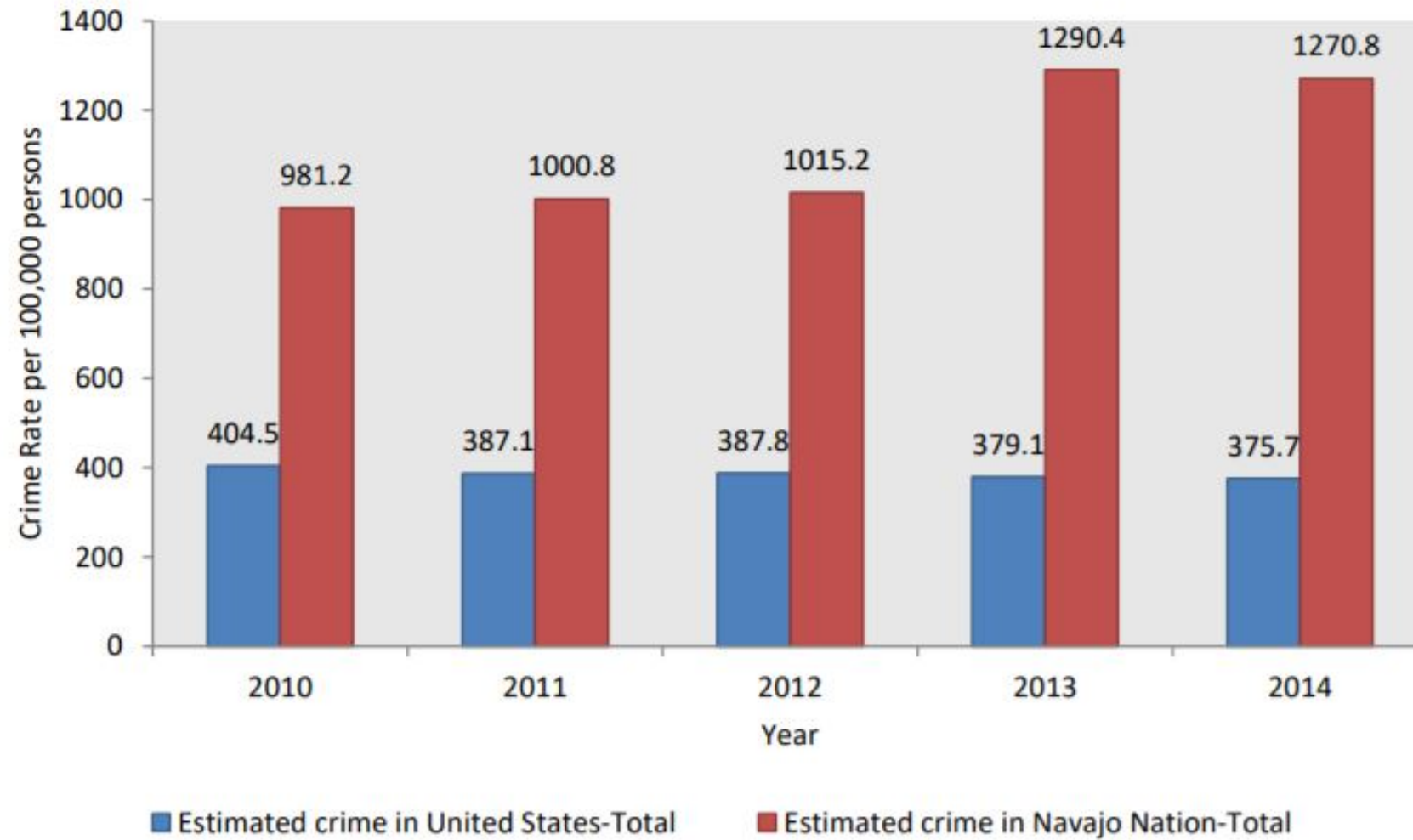


Violent crime on the rise...

- Homicide rate comparable to Chicago
 - NN: 20-33 per 100,000 people
 - Nat'l average: 6-13 per 100,000
- Alcohol underlies all violent crime on Nation
 - Alcohol-related mortality rate for Navajos in AZ/NM: 95.13%
 - Non-Hispanic whites: 8.6%

Year	Total # of service calls re homicide
2012-14	8
2015	20
2016	24
2017	32

Violent crime rate: 2010-2014



State/Tribal/Other	Agency	Violent crime	Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter	Rape (revised definition) ¹	Rape (legacy definition) ²	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Property crime	Burglary	Larceny-theft	Motor vehicle theft	Arson ³	
State Agencies	Arizona Department of Public Safety	67	0	0		1	66	11	3	8	0	1	
FBI 2016 Uniform Crime Report: Tribal Agencies' Statistics (AZ)	Tribal Agencies	Cocopah Tribal	7	0	0		0	7	9	3	5	1	0
		Fort Apache Agency	42	1	18		1	22	0	0	0	0	
		Fort McDowell Tribal	17	0	0		3	14	22	2	16	4	
		Gila River Indian Community	232	8	21		29	174	479	86	324	69	
		Hopi Tribal	30	1	1		1	27	171	72	89	10	
		Hualapai Tribal	45	0	5		1	39	81	23	45	13	0
		Navajo Nation	2,069	24	170		15	1,860	719	204	298	217	
		Pascua Yaqui Tribal	21	0	1		2	18	217	31	183	3	0
		Salt River Tribal	399	0	7		3	389	596	53	492	51	

Navajo Nation resources stats

- Police funded at $\frac{1}{2}$ capacity
 - 14-24 total officers on patrol at any given time
 - 55% of police officer time/resources spent on public intoxication
- Prosecutors funded at $\frac{1}{3}$ capacity
- 44,000+ active case backlog in NN courts



Challenges & barriers

- Public does not have faith or trust in the system
- No consequences = repeat offenders, more violent offenses
- “Revolving door” of alcoholics in & out of jail daily
- Bootlegging is rampant



Battling modern-day monsters

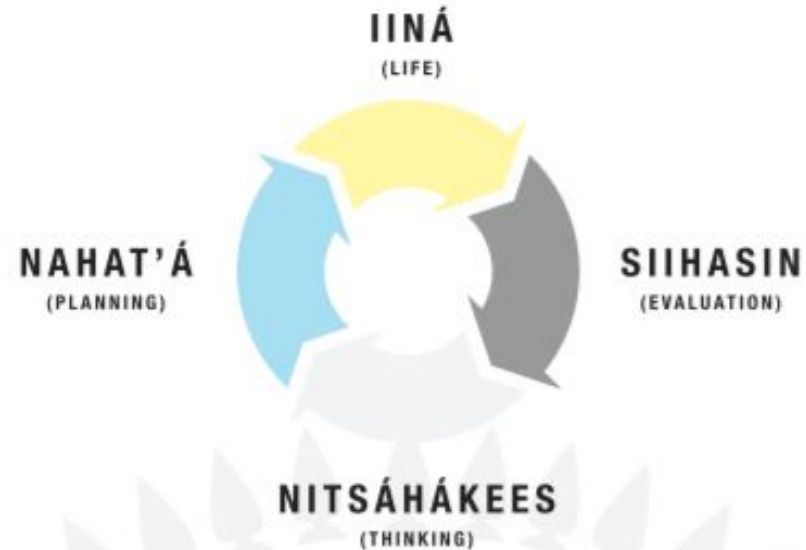
- Conducted multiple needs assessments w/ service providers, leaders, & community members
 - Diné Action Plan
 - 2017 Public Safety Summit
 - 2018 Public Safety Summit
- Identified **violence, substance abuse, & suicide** as causing the most harm to Navajo people

Diné Action Plan

- Employs traditional Navajo problem-solving model to identify issues and develop long-term solutions:
 - *Nitsáhákees* – Thinking
 - *Nahat'á* – Planning
 - *liná* – Living
 - *Siihasin* – Evaluation

We know that to succeed, our plan must be rooted in our Diné values and teaching

DINÉ PLANNING MODEL



The first Diné mandate is to approach a challenge utilizing *Nitsáhákees*, *Nahat'áh*, *liná*, and *Siihasin*.

Nitsáhákees is thinking and understanding. We must bring together people who understand the issues from various perspectives and skills to come to a common understanding of the positive and negative aspects of the subject.

Nahat'á is planning. In this stage we plan solutions that incorporate positive aspects, and ameliorate negative impacts.

liná is life. This is when we implement solutions and monitor outcomes to assure they are positive for the community. We are also mindful that our programs do not change into something that no longer has the benefits we planned to create.

Siihasin is measuring and evaluating. We can modify plans or actions that are not bringing the results we desire, and strengthen those aspects that are most successful.

Modern-day monster slayers

- DAP emphasizes Diné cultural values; incorporates oral tradition
- Story of the Navajo warrior twins teaches us:
 - Diné life is sacred
 - Violence is forbidden
- It also teaches that in order to defeat monsters we must:
 - Work together
 - Use necessary tools & “weapons”

2017 Public Safety Summit

- First Navajo Nation Public Safety Summit in more than 15 years (2001)
- Jan. 30-Feb. 3, 2017 (5 full days)
- Objective: Develop strategic plans and “marching orders” to maximize system effectiveness and use of existing resources

2017 Summit Participants

- Police Department
- Department of Corrections
- Judicial
- Peacemaking
- Supreme Court
- Attorney General
- Prosecutor's Office
- Public Defender
- Social Services
- Natural Resources
- Behavioral Health Services
- Epidemiology Center
- Information Technology
- Telecommunications
Regulatory Commission

Day 1: Situation analysis

- Day 1: *Nitsáhákees* (Thinking)
- **Situation Analysis** –honest assessment of what our system looked like, what we are dealing with here:
 - Crime statistics
 - Existing resources
 - Barriers/challenges
 - Needs/gaps
 - Upstream issues – things that are straining the system and can be dealt with before someone enters the system (e.g. mental health issues)

Day 2: Resource Mapping & Best practices

- Day 2: *Nitsáhákees* (Thinking)
 - **Resource Mapping**
 - What does response look like in various districts?
 - What is the response in different types of scenarios?
 - **Best Practices**
 - What are other tribes doing to address their challenges or to make their systems work better?
 - What best practices can we incorporate into our own system in order to better use our limited resources?

Day 3: Best Practices, Development of Our Vision, and Goal Formulation

- Day 3: *Nitsáhákees* (Thinking) & *Nahat'á* (Planning)
 - **Vision:** What do we want our system to look like?
 - **Goals:** How do we get from where we are now to where we want to be – to fulfillment of our vision?

Day 4: Continue to Refine Vision & Develop Goals

- Day 4: *Nahat'á* (Planning)
- Develop ideal resource map – a response we can work towards
 - Formulate goals to get to ideal response

Day 5: Planning

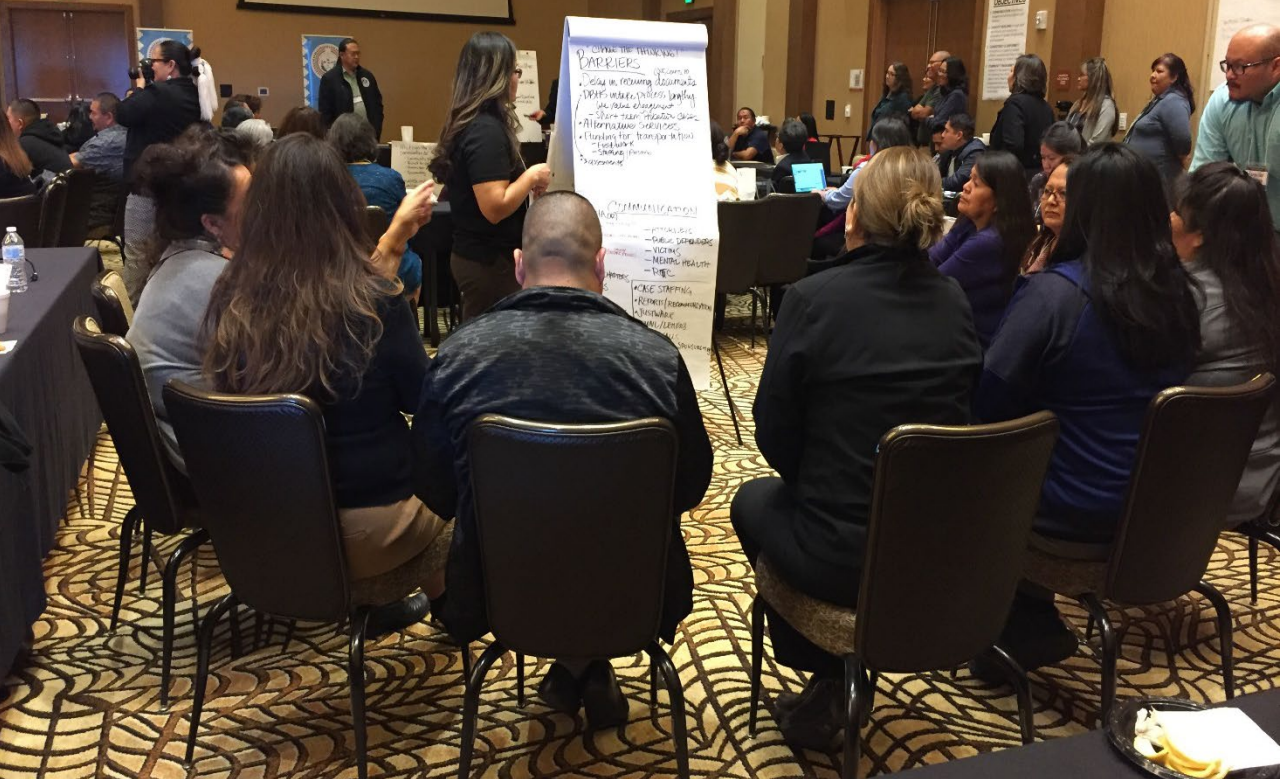
- Day 5: *Nahat'á* (Planning)
 - Phase 1: Stabilize system
 - Focus initial resources
 - Phase 2: Strengthen system
 - Phase 3: Fulfillment of vision
 - Contingency plan
 - Develop in case of extreme cuts to resources

Initial Findings & Objectives

- Identified the three modern-day monsters plaguing our communities:
 - Violence;
 - Substance Abuse; and
 - Suicide
- Barriers & Challenges:
 - System severely under-resourced;
 - Major service gaps; and
 - Public does not have faith/confidence in the system
- Identified four major objectives to work on (The 4 C's):
 - Communication;
 - Capacity Building;
 - Consistency & Uniformity Throughout; and
 - Community Engagement
- Developed “marching orders” for each dep’t/division

2018 Public Safety Summit

- Jan. 29-Feb. 1, 2018
- More than 275 attendees
- Public safety partners worked together to:
 - Share progress reports on “marching orders” over past year;
 - Clarify their various roles and responsibilities;
 - Identify barriers and challenges; and
 - Develop a strategy to continue advancing the 4 C’s in 2018 and beyond
- Emphasis on Information Technology
 - Infrastructure needs & goals
 - Community outreach through social media



2018 Summit: Working groups identify barriers & challenges

2018 Summit Work Product

- Clarified Roles & Responsibilities within public safety system
- Made Recommendations Re: Partners' Roles & Responsibilities
- Developed Marching Orders for 2018
- Identified/Prioritized:
 - Barriers, Challenges & Recommended Solutions
 - Needed Code & Rules Changes
 - Infrastructure Needs
 - Messages to Leadership
- Established District Challenges, Goals & Resource Meeting Schedule

Other Steps to Strengthen Public Safety System

- Proposed amendments to the Navajo Rules of Criminal Procedure
- Proposed amendments to Navajo criminal code
- Advocating for establishment of Public Safety System Fund
- Holding monthly leadership meetings/check-ins
- Filling vacancies (Prosecutor's Office)
- Establishing Navajo POST-certification



THE “MONSTER SLAYER” ACT

- Legislation amending Title 17, Law and Order Code
- Developed thru collaborative Working Group
- Targeted amendments re following criminal laws:
 - Violent
 - Alcohol
 - Intoxicating substances
 - Weapons and
 - Sex-related offenses



Legislation highlights

- Mandatory minimums for serious violent offenses
- Progressive sentencing for repeat offenders
- Creates criminal offenses for “bootlegging” and “possession or sale of drug paraphelia”
- Expands victim’s rights to all crime victims
- Implements longer statute of limitations for certain offenses
- Extends safety hold time for public intoxication offenders