



DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT FOR SELF RELIANCE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Navajo Nation LIHEAP Orientations Off to a Great Start**



**DSR Training Instructor, Arlene Benally provides training to public on the requirements and eligibility for LIHEAP at the DSR Fort Defiance Field Office.**

St. Michaels, Ariz. – Department for Self Reliance (DSR) initiated their orientations for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) eligible applicants on Monday, January 13, 2014, at eight different locations.

LIHEAP orientations are scheduled twice a day at DSR Field Offices or Chapter Houses, first session beginning at 9:00 a.m. and the second session at 1 p.m.

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A PowerPoint presentation on the purpose of LIHEAP, eligibility determination, application process, and types of LIHEAP assistance was given by DSR Training Instructor, Arlene Benally. “Over eighty people attended the St. Michaels orientations today. We had an over capacity crowd for the first day of orientations,” said Arlene Benally.

According to Arlene Benally, some people were turned away because the number of attendees exceeded the room’s capacity limit. After reorganizing with the DSR St. Michael’s Office, Arlene Benally was able to fit in an unscheduled third orientation to accommodate the overflow of people. “I was told I should not turn down anybody. I need to take as many people as possible without violating any fire hazards,” stated Arlene Benally.

In the event of overcrowded session it will be up to the Training Instructor and DSR Field Office or Chapter House Staff to determine if an overflow session can be added.

Louise Querceto of Sawmill, Arizona says, “the orientation was very informative and very educational. I liked that the orientation was both in English and Navajo. It made it very clear.” Louise moved back to the Navajo Nation from Rhode Island in October. “I am on disability and this is my first time applying for LIHEAP. I heard of the orientation this morning from another person who attended.”

You must be a resident of the Navajo Nation for thirty consecutive days or more to be eligible. If you are in need of assistance and you live off of the Navajo Nation please refer to your state’s LIHEAP program.

LIHEAP orientations for the month of February are being finalized and will be ready for distribution before the end of January.

For LIHEAP eligibility requirements or orientation schedule please visit [www.nntanf.org](http://www.nntanf.org), visit any DSR Office or call toll free, (866) 347-2403.

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