

## Featured Keynote

### **“A Perspective of Navajo Adult Prisoners on their Educational Experience: An Examination of the School to Prison.” By Delores Greyeyes, Ph.D**

This will add to the lack of research on the incarceration of Navajo males and their educational experiences, to understand our Navajo men’s stories and perspectives support the debates surrounding the ‘school to prison pipeline, to hear about their educational perspectives, and to include the Navajo men’s stories about how we can improve the educational systems.

#### **Delores Greyeyes, Ph.D Biography**

*My clans are Tó dích’ ii ‘ni, born for the Tó ‘á haní. My maternal grandfathers’ clan is Honágháa hii and my paternal grandfathers’ clan is Ashiihi. I have three beautiful adult girls who are very successful in pursuing their goals in life and thankful that the seeds of my teachings are growing and flourishing. Our family resides in Kayenta, Arizona.*

*I am currently the director for the Navajo Division of Public Safety, the Department of Corrections and planning for new Justice Centers across the Navajo Nation. I have been at my job since April 2003. Prior to taking on this role, I was the Quality Assurance Specialist under the Division of Social Services. As the QA Specialist, I develop their Case Management Continuum and reviews of the cases directly impacting children in out of home placements, pending termination of paternal rights and adoption cases. I did training to help improve services for Navajo Children and Families. Prior to this I spent more than 15 years doing case/social work and supervision within social services.*

*I am a Board of Trustee, Navajo Technical University going on my ninth year and have thoroughly enjoyed helping this organization grow from being a 2 year institution to the a four year institution. NTU named the top 3 Colleges in New Mexico in 2018 and continues to be recognized for its work in the sciences.*

*I hold a BA and MA in Social Work from Arizona State University. In May 2018 I completed the course work and research to complete my dissertation. The focus of my research was: A Perspective of Navajo Adult Prisoners on Their Experiences: From School to Prison, Publish May 2018, Arizona State University. My research comes after searching for material to use in my everyday work as the Corrections Director for the Navajo Nation. There is no research on the topic of why some of our people end up in state and federal prisons and what paths lead them here.*