

# **Medical-Legal Partnership Approach**

Building a healthcare team able to identify, treat and prevent health-harming legal needs for patients, clinics and populations.

# MLPs help patients with I-HELP<sup>®</sup> issues



Income supports &  
Insurance



Legal status



Housing & utilities



Personal & family  
stability



Employment & Education

# The Medical-Legal Partnership Approach

## The Medical-Legal Partnership Response

**TRAIN &  
IDENTIFY  
NEED**

**TREAT  
PATIENTS**

**TRANSFORM  
CLINIC  
PRACTICE**

**IMPROVE  
POPULATION  
HEALTH**

Developed by the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership  
[www.medical-legalpartnership.org](http://www.medical-legalpartnership.org)

Individual patient legal interventions are *pathways to finding the policy interventions for improving population health.*

# Diné Bítʼíís báá Ahʼjiteí (DBA) Program

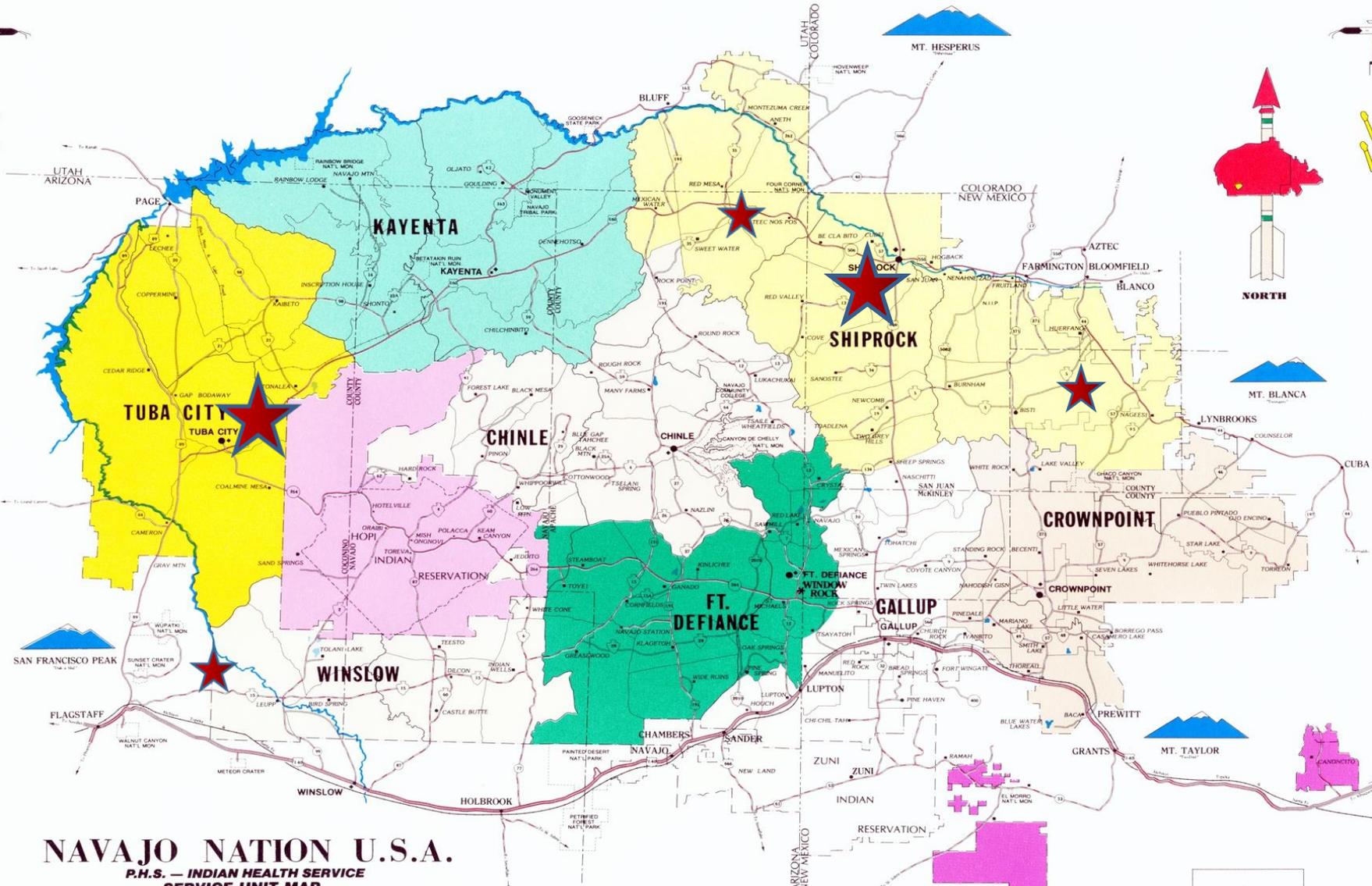
## Legal Partner:

DNA-People's Legal Services, Inc.

## Healthcare Partners:

Navajo Area Indian Health Service  
(Shiprock Service Unit)

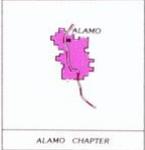
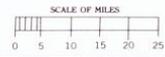
Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation



# NAVAJO NATION U.S.A.

P.H.S. — INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE  
RESERVATION SERVICE UNIT MAP

LEGEND			
	INTERSTATE		CAPITAL
	PAVED ROAD		AGENCY
	GRADED ROAD		TOWN
	STATE		CHAPTER
	COUNTY		HOUSE
	RESERVATION		P.H.S. SERVICE UNIT OFFICE
	CHAPTER		RIVER
	PARKS		LAKE



# Case Example

- **62-Year-Old Navajo Female, Severe Anxiety Disorder**
- **Residing in Public Housing on the Navajo Nation**
- **Anxiety Symptoms Leading Patient to Make Multiple Calls to Law Enforcement**
- **At Risk of Eviction, Homelessness**
- **Legal Protections Available!**

# DBA Program - Shiprock Service Unit

- **Statistics from One-Year Period (11/01/12 - 10/31/13):**
  - 110 medical providers trained to spot legal issues;
  - 318 referrals from 51 different medical providers;
  - 266 patients/family members received legal assistance;
  - Over 600 people helped, including household/family members.

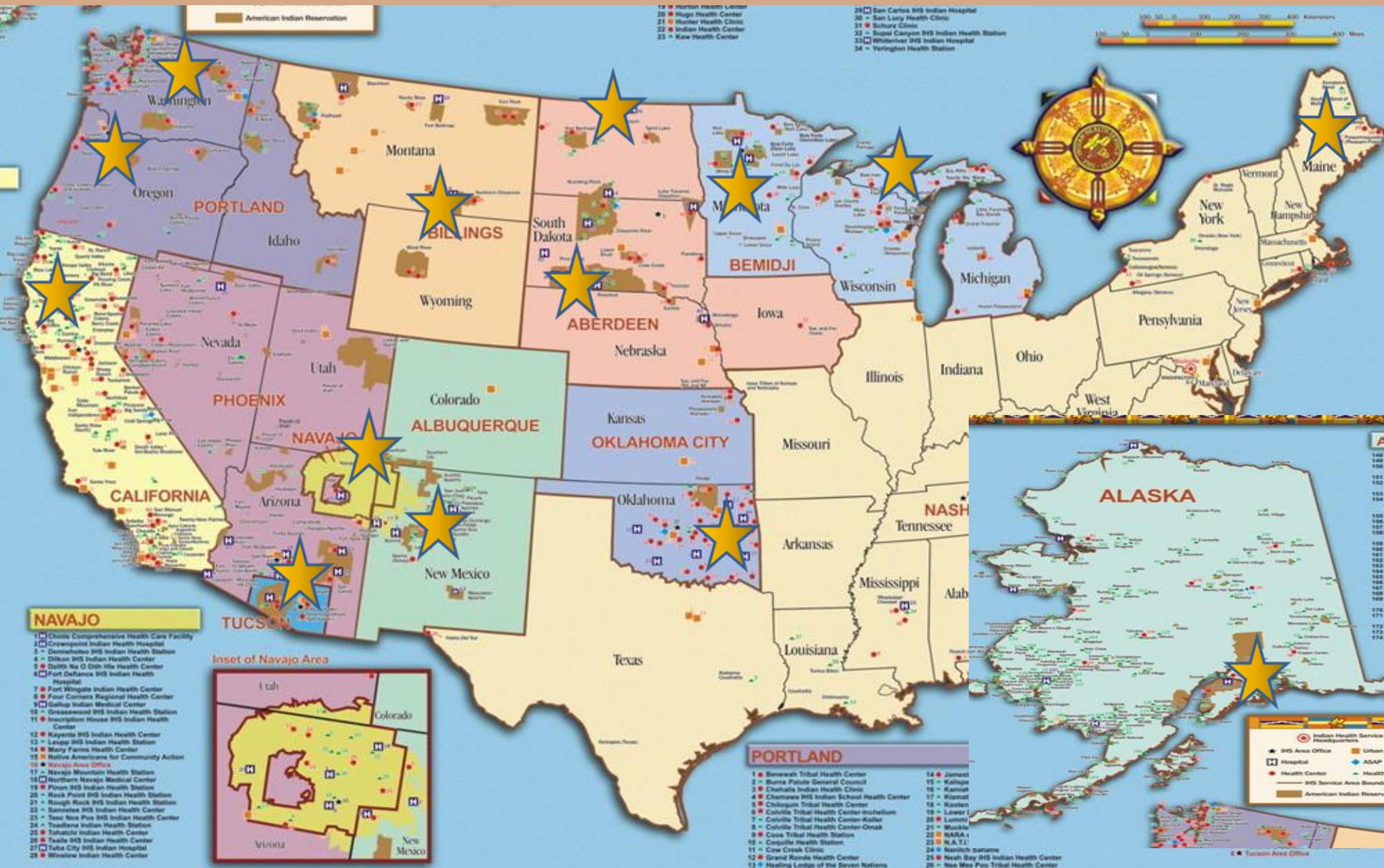
# DBA Program – Shiprock Outcomes

- **Financial:**
  - Increased income or resources for **63 families**.
  - **\$558,477.08** in **one-time monetary benefits** for patient/ clients;
  - New **monthly benefits totaling \$37,673.95** (avg. of \$710.85 per mo.);
  - **Removed \$26,358.83** in unlawful/unwarranted debt.
- **Non-Financial:**
  - New/additional health care coverage 40 adults
  - Medical decision-making (POA, guardianship) 18 adults
  - Safe and affordable housing 14 families
  - Domestic Abuse/Elder Protection Orders 11 victims
  - Increase Special Education Services 9 children
- **Unduplicated Service**
- **Outreach to Vulnerable Sub-Populations**

# Potential for Expansion!

- Proven success with startup and operation of reservation-based medical-legal partnerships on the Navajo Nation.
- Significant overlap in legal services providers (NAILS) and Indian Health Services locations.
- Interested stakeholders in other regions.

# Overlap of NAILS Programs and IHS Facilities

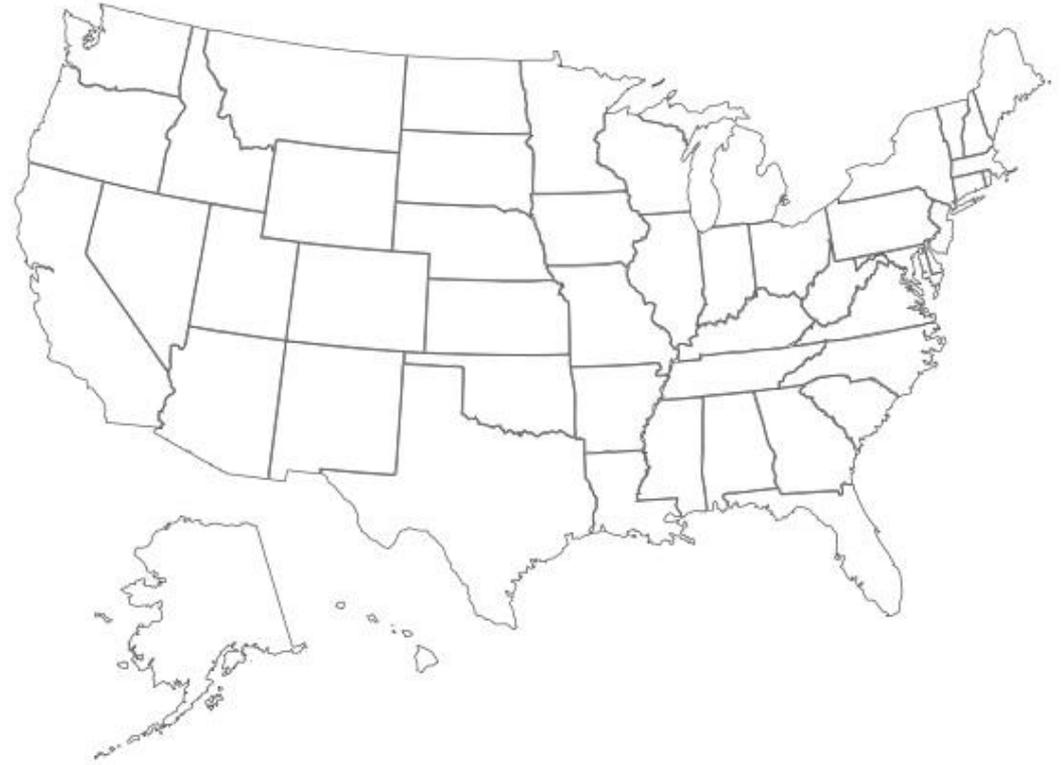


## Find MLP Partnerships in your state

See which health and legal institutions in your community have developed medical-legal partnerships. Each institution links to more information about its medical-legal partnership.

STATE SELECT ▼

Reset



119 Hospitals

112 Health Centers

88 Legal Aid Agencies

28 Medical Schools

37 Law Schools

## For more information:



[www.medical-legalpartnership.org](http://www.medical-legalpartnership.org)



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