# The National Center and Navajo Nation partnership

https://bridges4mentalhealth.org/hub/uncategorized/the-national-center-and-navajo-nation-partnership/

National Center for Adoption Competent Mental Health Services

# Building Bridges to Improve Mental Health in Navajo Nation

The Navajo Nation is collaborating with the National Center for Adoption Competent Mental Health Services to **improve mental health outcomes for our children and families who experienced child welfare systems.** The National Center is providing technical assistance that **bridges the gap** between child welfare and mental health systems to increase access to the child welfare competent mental health services that children and families need.




*Up to 80% of children in foster care have experienced significant mental health issues.*

## Why Do We Need to Close This Gap?

The lack of collaboration between both systems creates significant barriers to children and families being able to receive the child welfare competent mental health services they need. These children and families face:



**Mental health interventions that aren't designed for their specific needs and experiences**



**Mental health service providers who aren't trained in child welfare competency**

**Building and sustaining cross-system collaboration will help:**

- Create a cross-system network to help children and families access and complete mental health services.
- Equip the Navajo Nation workforce in multiple systems with knowledge about child welfare/adoption competent mental health services.
- Equip the Navajo workforce with child welfare and permanency competent knowledge.

NC one pager