

AWARD

ThinkFirst Navajo named 2015 USA Chapter of the Year

By The Daily Times staff

FARMINGTON » ThinkFirst Navajo was named the 2015 USA Chapter of the Year by the ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation, a nonprofit that aims to prevent brain, spinal cord and other traumatic injuries through education, research and advocacy, according to a press release from Eve's Fund.

Eve's Fund, a nonprofit that promotes Native American health, started

ThinkFirst Navajo in 2005. The ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation has 190 chapters, and ThinkFirst Navajo is the only one based on a Native American reservation.

"ThinkFirst Navajo was selected to receive the Chapter of the Year award because its programs meet each of the three core elements of the ThinkFirst mission: education, research and advocacy," said Michelle Gibler, committee co-chair of this year's

ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation awards, in a press release. "Members of the ThinkFirst Navajo team travel thousands of miles across three states to deliver injury prevention education to the people of the Navajo Nation."

Since its foundation, ThinkFirst Navajo's Voices for Injury Prevention speakers, who are all Navajos with paraplegia, have educated more than 35,000 Navajo students

about injury prevention and given out hundreds of safety helmets.

"We are so grateful to ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation for recognizing the value of the work we are doing, not only in teaching young Native Americans how to use their minds to protect their bodies, but in advocating for disability rights and improving the quality of life of our VIPs," said Eve's Fund President Barbara Crowell Roy.



From left, Barbara Crowell Roy, president of Eve's Fund; Dr. Robert M. Crowell, founder of Eve's Fund; and Cecelia Fred, one of ThinkFirst Navajo's Voices for Injury Prevention speakers, pose for a photo on May 2 during the 2015 ThinkFirst Conference on Injury Prevention in Washington, D.C. ThinkFirst Navajo was named the 2015 USA Chapter of the Year by the ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation

COURTESY OF THINKFIRST NAVAJO

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