

LOCAL

Newport Resident honored for 20 years of service to Native American youth

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Key Points AI-assisted summary ⓘ

- Newport resident Barbara Crowell Roy was honored for her two decades of service to Native American youth through the ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation.



Barbara Crowell Roy, President
Eve's Fund for Native American Health Initiatives

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Barbara Crowell Roy, a Newport County native, was recently honored with the Dr. David and Donna Cavanaugh Distinguished Service Award by the ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation at its annual conference in Boston. Founded by neurosurgeons nearly 40 years ago and with over 100 chapters in the United States, ThinkFirst's mission is to prevent brain, spinal cord, and other life-altering injuries through education, research, and advocacy. The Distinguished Service Award recognizes individuals who have made a lasting contribution to injury prevention in the spirit of Dr. David and Donna Cavanaugh, founders of the ThinkFirst chapter in Louisiana. Roy accepted the award on April 15 on behalf of herself and her former husband, the late Dr. Robert M. Crowell, in recognition of their two decades of volunteer work in Native American health and injury prevention.

Roy grew up in Middletown and graduated from the former St. Catherine Academy. She returned to Newport permanently in 1998 and has since devoted her retirement years to advancing health, education, and wellness for Native youth through Eve's Fund for Native American Health Initiatives (aka Eve's Fund), the nonprofit she co-founded with Crowell in 2005 following the tragic loss of their daughter, Eve Erin Crowell, at age 30.

Among Eve's Fund signature programs is ThinkFirst Navajo, a culturally tailored injury prevention initiative that has reached nearly 70,000 K–12 students across the Navajo Nation, which extends across northeastern Arizona, northwestern New Mexico, and southeastern Utah. The Crowells' work has also included safety helmet and child car seat distributions, literacy and mental health advocacy, and educational scholarships for Native youth.

For more information about Eve's Fund and ThinkFirst Navajo, visit EvesFund.org. To learn more about ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation, visit ThinkFirst.org.

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