

Leaving It Better Than They Found It

The Navajo Nation has over 250,000 people living in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. Indoor plumbing and electricity are modern conveniences that about half of Navajos live without.

Eleven years ago, when John Aldax went to the president of the Kaibeto Chapter to ask if he could help in the Navajo community, the president was reluctant. He had seen other groups come onto the reservation with pushy attitudes and assumptions that they were welcome. John assured him that this was not the case with him and his team; there was no agenda other than to serve the Navajo people. After talking candidly in the president's living room, he agreed to let John and his team come.

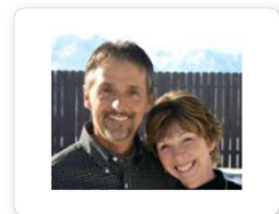
The first year the Navajo people wouldn't even talk to John and his team, which was a lot smaller than the 200 people it is today. But they continued to go back year after year. After the third year, people started to remember John and the team, now called Points of Impact, and the great work they did.

One project that really gets attention every year is when John and his team clean the sheep pens. That means shoveling sheep manure. The Navajo people are so surprised that anyone would voluntarily do such a task.

And every year, for the first three years, one man named Phillip asked John, "Why do you come out here to help us?" And John always replied, "Because Christ came from heaven to help us, and we want to follow His example and serve others."

Now the Points of Impact teams stand out in a good way and are known by everyone in the community. The focus of the trip is to always leave the community better than when they came. They build homes, fix plumbing, paint, work on schools and churches, and do anything that needs to be done.

While the physical work is important and the Points of Impact teams leave the community in better shape than they found it, the spiritual work that happens on the trips is the most important part. Sharing the love of God with the Navajo people truly leaves the community with something better.



Missionary Focus

John Aldax and his wife Beth have been serving in local church ministry since 1985. The Navajo ministry connection developed 11 years ago when John began leading mission teams to serve on the Navajo reservation in Arizona. John was appointed as a Specialized missionary by Missions Door in 2002.

These week-long trips to the Navajo reservation are instrumental in the discipleship of the youth and adults who attend, encouraging each person to grow in the Lord and allowing Him to work in their lives. The students also learn an appreciation for the Navajo culture.

Points of Impact trips also help build the relationship between the Navajo people and their local church. The teams partner with pastors, church planters and other church congregations, which increases church awareness among the Navajo people and bridges a way into the community.

Missions Door – Specialized Ministry Points of Impact Short-term Missions to the Navajo

*Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.
Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.*

Proverbs 3:3-4



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