



The Dine' Bike Project was created with the goal of encouraging community wellness personal fitness and family togetherness through biking. Biking has been an integral part of NavajoYES since our inception in the 1990's, but its role has evolved and expanded in recent years. As with all of our programs and much of society, 2020 saw a shift in many of the things that we had come to expect in our daily lives.

The 1991 Tour de Rez was one our first bike initiatives, pre-dating our incorporation by four years, and led to the growth of biking as one of our program's key elements. In 2020, we sponsored the **Tour de Rez Cup Series** of bike races for the second year, offering biking events across the reservation over three seasons. Three of 2020's five races/rides were virtual events, while September's **Chuska Challenge** was a hybrid of virtual, while live and the **Beclabito Bike Race** was a live event in October. Over 200 riders took part in the events throughout the year, with Bernadine Greyeyes of Monument Valley and Tom Preller of Page repeating as TDR Cup champs.



A November delivery of bikes to Navajo Mountain; A whole village of young riders near Black Mesa were the recipients of this fleet of bikes.

Another aspect of the Dine' Bike Project that saw major growth during the pandemic was our **Bike Exchange Program**. Through this program, we receive donated used bikes and then work with local volunteers, families, schools and a few skilled mechanics to restore these bikes. Though our community work days were fewer and smaller during COVID, we were able to restore over 100 bikes and make safe deliveries to kids and families in Chilchinbeto, Shiprock, Navajo Mountain, Monument Valley, Tiis Nazbas, Shonto, Navajo Tech, Page/LeChee, Inscription House, Immanuel Mission and Beclabito. The base of our bike operations continues to be in Beclabito, New Mexico, though the program's reach extends across the reservation.

Although Navajo Nation schools were closed from late March for the remainder of the calendar year, we were able to make some progress in planning for the growth of **Cycle Kids** a program on the Nation. Cycle Kids is a school-based program designed to promote skills and safety on bikes among elementary students and once COVID fades, there will be new programs in Navajo Mountain, Monument Valley, Tohali, with three more on-deck for the 2021-22 school year. Currently, there are Cycle Kids programs in elementary schools at Shonto, Tiis Nazbas, Red Mesa, Kaibeto and Chinle.

High School mountain biking has come to the Navajo Nation, as students from several Dine' communities are taking part in the Arizona Interscholastic Cycling League through NICA-sanctioned, rez-based teams. The Dine' Bike project is proud to support these teams and is excited to have them joining many of the Tour de Rez Cup series races throughout the year.



Left to right: A T'iis Nasbas-bound Gary Fisher; a cruiser for to explore Monument Valley; a Trek MTB all set for some Navajo Mountain adventures

