

New Mexico Children's Foundation  
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Permit #32



# New Mexico Children's Foundation

## NEWSLETTER

### Spring/Summer 2015

Dear Friends,

Rain, rain, rain! What a wonderful wet spring we have had. I grew up in a place where people could afford to complain about rain but none of my friends here do—the hikers, bikers, golfers, and tennis players are happy to temporarily curtail their activities to receive this unexpected blessing of rain! Many of you know I am a gardener, and I think a lot about a simple thing like water. When a resource like this comes, I take advantage of it as best I can to manage its effects. My husband and I catch “canale water” in giant pots and pump it out later where it is needed.

Friends who visit from back east are intrigued by our water management practices, but in a state like New Mexico, concern over water is not considered odd; it is routine. We know we have to extend this limited resource. When I became involved in the New Mexico Children's Foundation and learned about the plight of children here (ranked near the bottom on national measures of child welfare), I began to see the Foundation's work similarly.

We do our very best to gather funds, manage them well, and put them to use where we think they will do the most good. About 85% of what we raise goes to youth organizations, very little to our own overhead. This year we selected 47 nonprofits (of 67 that applied) to receive NMCF grants. But those grants are smaller than we would like; many of our grantees are asked to make do with about half of what they really need. Your generous donation would help us provide more to these and other deserving organizations in the future. Help fill our pots!

Finally, I hope to see you at our August 15 gala at the La Fonda, themed “*Color Their World.*” Santa Fe will be observing The Summer of Color, with museums highlighting turquoise, silver, red dye, etc. But for us “color” is about crayons and children's art! Look forward to seeing some wonderful drawings from the youth that we serve--and to the usual good time we have.

Thank you very much for your ongoing support.

Kathy Schulz, President

<p><b>New Mexico Children's Foundation</b></p> <p><b>Board of Directors 2014-2016</b></p> <p>Kathy Schulz, President</p> <p>Katherine Basham, Vice President, Events</p> <p>Cynthia McCreary, Vice President, Donor Relations</p> <p>Richard Sandoval, Treasurer</p> <p>Janice B. Quinn, Secretary</p> <p>David Dodge, Immediate Past President</p> <p>Sara Armstrong      Ann Kenyon</p> <p>Margo Barr            Mimi Kingsbury</p> <p>Lois Chiarito         Sean Martinez</p> <p>Tricia Elmer            Nora Miller</p> <p>Aaron Enloe           Jane Reid</p> <p>Diane Jack             Tim Vigil</p> <p>H. Patrick Jack        Toni Wanic</p> <p>Kristi Wareham</p> <p>Henry Howell, Youth Representative</p> <p>Carol Robertson Lopez, Executive Director</p>		<p><u>Comings and Goings:</u></p> <p>Many thanks to Ann Bealle for her outstanding service on the Board of Directors from 1999-2015.</p> <p>Thank you to out-going board members Jack Campbell, Cleveland Gardner and Mary Roberts for their dedicated service.</p> <p>We enthusiastically welcome Henry Howell, who joins our Board as Youth Representative. Our former Youth Representative, Wyeth Carpenter, is off to Oberlin College.</p> <p>Best wishes to all!</p> <p><u>Mission Statement:</u> <i>To support small programs state-wide that serve the physical, mental, educational and social needs of children and their families.</i></p>
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## NMCF ADDS A SECOND VICE PRESIDENT



Katherine Basham

The Board of Directors held a retreat this spring and reviewed the leadership structure of NMCF. Because we raise every dollar we give to our nonprofits, the job of Vice President as the Chair of Development has been huge. The Board decided to split the job and create a second Vice President. Katherine Basham will continue to serve as Vice President and be in charge of Events. She is chairing our Annual Gala, *Color Their World*, on August 15, 2015 at La Fonda. Cynthia (Syndii) McCreary was elected Vice



Syndii McCreary

President of Donor Relations. Syndii is working closely with the Board to prepare a long term Donor Development Plan for NMCF. This plan will be an outstanding tool to ensure our long term sustainability and to raise the money we need to support New Mexico's children. Congratulations and thank you to both of these talented and amazing women!!

### Fundraiser for Summer Programs



NMCF's recent fundraising request raised close to \$6500 for our grants to summer programs. Thank you for your generosity and support of NM children.



### Jeanette Miller In Memoriam

The life of long-time Executive Director of the New Mexico Children's Foundation was celebrated this spring at the Hotel Santa Fe. In lieu of flowers, the family, Jay Miller, Melissa Barker and Duncan Miller, asked that donations be made to the NMCF in her memory.

These contributions are greatly appreciated. Alice King and Jeanette worked together many years to improve life for children and families. We will long honor the memory of Jeanette Miller and thank her for her efforts on behalf of NM children.

### Best Wishes to Diane and Patrick Jack!



The New Mexico Children's Foundation celebrated its first wedding between two members of our Board. The happy couple suggested that in lieu of traditional gifts that wedding guests and well-wishers consider a donation to the New Mexico Children's Foundation. What a lovely gesture to the children of New Mexico! Thank you to those who donated. Diane is chairing the Silent Action for *Color Their World*, our Annual Gala. The Silent Auction promises to be fabulous!



**New Mexico Children's Foundation**

**Annual Gala to benefit New Mexico's children**

# COLOR THEIR WORLD

Date: **August 15, 2015**

Location: **La Fonda Hotel**

Time: **6:30 p.m. Cocktails**

**7:30 p.m. Dinner**

**8:30 p.m. Dancing**

**Live Entertainment by the ever-popular Soulstice**

**Color Their World Art Contest Winning Entries**

**Fabulous Silent Auction with items to interest everyone, whether you are a traveler, a sports person, an arts buff or just a good shopper.**

**Call 505-9862043 for more information and to purchase tickets!**

### Tickets:

\$150 per person  
\$1200 for a table of 8  
\$2000 or \$5000  
sponsorships  
available.

### Grants Funded for 2015-2016 (continued)

**Villa Therese Catholic Clinic**, \$2000, *Santa Fe*. The Clinic, staffed by volunteers and paid staff, provides integrated children's medical and dental services for the uninsured.

**Wings of America**, \$2,000, *Zuni, Jemez and San Felipe Pueblos*. Running and fitness camps to promote healthy lifestyle choices among American Indian youth ages 6 to 18 years. Promotes positive self-images and self-betterment.

**Wings for L.I.F.E.**, \$4500, *Roswell surrounding areas*. Wings for L.I.F.E. (Life-skills Imparted to Families through Education) provides an afterschool program that promotes positive behaviors to reduce risk-taking behaviors and serves as a prevention program to prevent young children and youth from becoming involved in the juvenile justice system.

**Young Fathers of Santa Fe**, \$2400, *Santa Fe*. Provides young fathers with support in choosing healthy lifestyles for themselves and their families and assists young fathers in sustaining stable and nurturing relationships that promote their children's well-being.



**Like us on Facebook!!!! Simply type in New Mexico Children's Foundation.**

## Grants Funded for 2015-2016 (continued)

**Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project**, \$1500, *Velarde*. Summer Youth Intern Program provides archaeological training and stewardship for local youth at this historical site.

**NM Center for Therapeutic Riding**, \$1000, *Santa Fe County*. Therapeutic horseback riding classes for children with disabilities and internships for youth.

**NM Kids Matter**, \$1000, *Bernalillo County*. Ensures that children in foster care are receiving essential educational services.

**NM Suicide Intervention Project**, \$4,000. *Santa Fe and Rio Arriba Counties*. Comprehensive youth suicide prevention through risk assessments, counseling, peer-based help and awareness.

**Northern Youth Project**, \$4500. *Rural Communities around Abiquiu*. Program combines art, agriculture, community service and leadership to create a well-rounded and youth-centered organization that includes a productive, large garden.

**Ojo Sarco Community Center**, \$2000. *Ojo Sarco-Taos County*. Books, activities and music programs for children to promote literacy and summer lunch program.

**Pueblo de Abiquiu Library and Cultural Center**, \$1000, *Abiquiu-Rio Arriba County*. Summer reading program for children, Heroes and Heroines.

**Reins for Life**, \$1500. *Dexter*. Therapeutic horse riding as well as speech and behavioral therapies for children of all abilities including children with visual impairment, special needs and autism.

**Silver Bullet Productions**, \$2000, *Rural and Tribal New Mexico*. This award-winning program provides film workshops that teach students to develop a thesis and write, direct and produce films on topics selected by local communities over a two year period.

**Southwest Youth Services**, \$2000, *Albuquerque and Central NM Pueblos*. Programming under Native Youth Wellness Corps promotes healthy and empowered youth through soccer clinics, soccer play and the Annual Indigenous Soccer Cup Tournament.

**Story of Place**, \$2000, *Santa Fe*. Following citizen and community education, students conduct research in order to formulate and implement a project to benefit the community. Students learn youth civic leadership and job training skills.

**Talpa Community Center**, \$1,000, *Village of Talpa and Taos County*. Children engage in ceramics, sewing, quilting and reading activities during this summer program.

**Tarnoff Art Center**, \$2,000, *Pecos, Rowe and San Miguel County*. Summer arts program where students participate in a range of activities with art, meditation, yoga and skill building activities.

**Truchas Service Center**, \$2,500, *Truchas*. Provides a four-day-a-week preschool for children 3 to 5 and is the only program in this area to prepare children to succeed in kindergarten.

**Valencia County Literacy Council**, \$3000. *Los Lunas*. Family Literacy Pre-school provides child-centered instruction to develop literacy in children ages birth to 5 years with parents reading daily to their children and staff providing a lending library and numerous educational activities.

## NMCF Grants Process

Late January each year, the request for grant proposals is issued by the NMCF. We post these grant guidelines on our website and send them to prior applicants, recipients, community foundations, chambers of commerce and nonprofit organizations. We try to keep the application standard from year to year because we recognize that most of our nonprofits do not have paid grant-writers and this task is undertaken by a volunteer or an over-worked program director. Applications are due mid-April. To qualify an organization must operate as a 501-c-3, provide services to children and families in New Mexico and have a budget less than \$300,000. We are willing to provide operating costs and are willing to fund new programs.

This year the Grants Committee has ten members of the Board of Directors and is chaired by David Dodge. These individuals carefully reviewed and evaluated each grant. The Committee then met and selected 47 of 67 applications for funding. The Grants Committee takes its work very seriously and nonprofits can be assured that their applications receive thorough scrutiny.

The nonprofits selected for funding are listed in following pages of this newsletter. If you know of an organization that could benefit from our funding, please send an email to [info@nmchildren.org](mailto:info@nmchildren.org) and we will make sure to send information to them for 2016-2017.

### ***Surprise \$1000 Donation Received***

We recently received a donation via PayPal (which is easily done on our website [www.nmchildren.org](http://www.nmchildren.org)) and I wrote to thank the donor, Nick Gallegos an Accountant at the University of New Mexico and received this response:

*Actually this donation is from the Albuquerque Philanthropic Fantasy Football League. We just finished our first year and each team played for a charitable organization, but only the winning teams' organization would get the \$1,000 donation. The New Mexico Children's Foundation was the winning organization this year. We are happy to donate to such a great cause. I personally feel very thankful I was able to find 15 other participants to take part in this league. I hope we can continue this league year after year to help make a difference to local charities in New Mexico.*

**Congratulations to Nick and all the members of the Albuquerque Philanthropic Fantasy Football League for making a difference in the lives of New Mexico's children!**

### **Embudo Valley Library Honored**

We were thrilled to learn that the Embudo Valley Library, a nonprofit funded by the NMCF for many years, was one of 10 recipients of this year's National Medal for Museum and Library Service. The National Medal is the nation's highest honor given to museums and libraries for service to their communities. Embudo Valley Library was founded in 1992 in a rented room with volunteer librarians. Twenty-three years later, the library proudly serves the community in a new, state-of-the-art facility providing public library service, four youth literacy programs, and cultural and economic development opportunities. It serves communities from Velarde to Vadito, New Mexico, a population base of roughly 8,500 people. In 2014, there were 17,507 patron visits to the library. The New Mexico Children's Foundation is proud to sponsor community libraries such as the Embudo Valley Library.

## NMCF Grants for 2015-2016

At its May meeting, NMCF approved 47 grants totaling \$110,000 as follows:

**Andele Tutors**, \$3000, *Southern Dona Ana County*. Summer program that trains and uses college students to serve as mentors and tutors in order to raise skills in reading and math for 200 children during an eight-week summer program.

**Asombro Institute for Science Education**, \$3000, *Las Cruces*. Promotes hands-on science activities that develop science literacy and critical thinking skills. Curriculum incorporates science into language arts and math standards.

**Aspire After Care Learning Program**, \$2500, *Santa Fe*. Provides structured, nurturing environment with homework help and tutoring as well as enrichment activities.

**Assistance League of Chaves County**, \$3000, *Roswell and Chaves County*. Operation School Bell provides new school clothes and supplies for children in need from grades K-8<sup>th</sup> and provides age-appropriate books for these children.

**Bernal Community Center**, \$1500, *Bernal and San Miguel County*. Youth Recreation Program in remote area with lending library, computer lab, recreational sports and exposure to cultural traditions.

**Bike Works**, \$2000, *Silver City*. The Earn-a-Bike Program allows youth to obtain a bike in exchange for volunteering at the facility where participants learn how to maintain and repair their bicycles and how to safely and efficiently ride bicycles through bicycle-related activities.

**Boys & Girls Club of Bloomfield**, \$3000, *Bloomfield*. Afterschool program provides Kidz Lit Reading, that increases motivation to read and builds literary skill, and programs on healthy eating, internet safety and community service activities.

**Boys and Girls Club of Sierra Blanca**, \$2500, *Ruidoso*. Power Hour program gives academic support for youth in their out-of-school time to drive academic success.

**Camp Corazones**, \$4000, *New Mexico*. Provides a summer camp at no cost to children age 5 to 12 years with or impacted by HIV/AIDS.

**Cancer Services of NM**, \$3000, *New Mexico*. Provides education and support to the children of New Mexico's cancer patients with Family Cancer Resource Bag to help newly diagnosed parents explain their cancer diagnosis to children and Family Cancer Retreat

**Canones Early Childhood Center**, \$3000, *Canones*. Project Literacy Outreach brings early childhood education, child development and early/emergent literacy services to the underserved population of rural, isolated, minority families in northern New Mexico.

**Children of Promise**, \$1500, *Des Moines, Capulin and Folsom*. Operates a food pantry, summer and afterschool activities as well as clothing and household supplies for families in need.

**Children's Grief Center of New Mexico**, \$3000, *Central New Mexico*. Provides free support groups for children, teens, young adults and their caregivers that are grieving the death of a loved one.

**Compassionate Touch Network**, \$3000, *Santa Fe & Albuquerque Area*. Trains facilitators for classroom presentations on mental illness. Goals are to recognize its symptoms, to get appropriate treatment, to understand the importance of early diagnosis and treatment and to promote compassion and remove stigma.

**Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) First Judicial**, \$2000, *Santa Fe, Rio Arriba & Los Alamos Counties*. Provides advocacy for abused children in juvenile proceedings and trains volunteers to serve as advocates for children in foster care.

**Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Fourth Judicial**, \$2000, *San Miguel, Mora & Guadalupe Counties*. Provides advocacy for abused children in juvenile proceedings and trains volunteers to serve as advocates for children in foster care.

**Down Syndrome Foundation of SE NM**, \$3000, *Roswell & Southeastern New Mexico*. Summer day camps to strengthen children's physical skills as well as provide therapy opportunities including speech. Goal is to help support families of individuals with Down syndrome of all ages.

**Eagles' Wings Youth Ranch**, \$2000, *Mountainair*. Summer camp and mentoring program focused on prevention and early intervention centered around relationships to help youth succeed.

**El Rito Library**, \$2000, *El Rito*. Promotes literacy for 2-5 year-old toddlers who come to the library twice a week for different activities that include math, science and story time. The grants also assists in creating a space for pre-teens and teenagers.

**Equine Spirit Sanctuary**, \$1500, *Taos area*. Horses Helping Kids combines therapeutic riding and equine-assisted learning to help kids with special needs gain life skills.

**Family Promise of Albuquerque**, \$1000, *Albuquerque*. Provides safe shelter and basic needs for homeless families with support for finding employment and permanent housing.

**First Tee of Santa Fe**, \$2000, *Santa Fe*. Through golf, youth are taught life skills to help them thrive socially, academically and athletically with measureable results.

**Gerard's House**, \$4000, *Santa Fe*. Provides emotional and psychological support for children who are experiencing a life crisis because of the death of a loved one. The long-term goal is to help end self-destructive behaviors because of unresolved grief and loss.

**Gila Valley Library**, \$3000, *Gila Valley in Northwestern Grant County*. Promotes children's literacy through library programs for youth from 2 years to 12<sup>th</sup> grade in a large rural area.

**Interfaith Leadership Alliance of Santa Fe**, \$2,000. *Santa Fe*. Provide homeless families with the support they need to become stable and sustainable through a two year plan for independent living.

**Kirtland Youth Association**, \$2,500. *Kirtland and San Juan County*. All-day summer recreation and literacy programs at two locations with breakfast and lunch provided.

**Los Alamos Arts Council**, \$600, *Los Alamos*. Through theatre program, offers children the opportunity for self-exploration, development of social and communication skills, self-discipline, strong work ethic and understanding of team concept.

**Many Mothers**, \$2500, *Santa Fe County*. Provides free, in-home care and support to any Santa Fe family with a newborn to improve the health and development of our youngest residents.