



**Empowering Underserved Communities**  
**Building Brighter Futures**



**NEW MEXICO  
CHILDREN'S  
FOUNDATION**



**YEARBOOK  
2025**



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The New Mexico Children's Foundation is dedicated to funding programs and projects that nurture the physical, emotional, educational, and social well-being of children and their families. Committed to serving communities across the state, the foundation responds to both current and evolving needs of New Mexico's children.



## Letter from the President

"Behind every grant is a child gaining confidence, finding hope, or discovering a new passion."



Dear Friends,

This year, the New Mexico Children's Foundation awarded **\$116,000 to 42 nonprofits** serving children in all 33 counties and three Pueblos. Since our founding 33 years ago, we've distributed over **\$2.4 million** to grassroots organizations that nurture creativity, improve health, expand educational opportunities, and provide safety and stability for New Mexico's youth.

From afterschool programs in Gallup and Talpa to literacy initiatives reaching thousands statewide, from cultural education in rural libraries to STEM programs inspiring tomorrow's innovators, our grantees meet critical needs where resources are often scarce. They also deliver vital health and wellness services—from dental care and cancer support to food security and emotional healing.

With 88% of every dollar going directly to grants, your support has a direct and lasting impact. Thank you for believing in the potential of New Mexico's children. Together, we are creating a future where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

With gratitude,

Gary King

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary King", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

President, Board of Directors



## Letter from the Executive Director

"Our grantees are helping children grow and thrive despite significant challenges."



### Reaching New Mexico’s Most Vulnerable Children

Every nonprofit we fund is dedicated to serving children in underserved—and often rural—areas of New Mexico. Our reach extends to all 33 counties and three Pueblos.

We award grants based on where children’s needs are most urgent. This year, we refined our areas of impact to make them easier to understand, but our mission remains broad—addressing food insecurity, dental and vision care, mental and social health, sports programs, caregiver support, and resources for children with cancer and their parents. Unlike any other non-profit in New Mexico, our programs truly span the state to identify and fund non-profits that work with children who need the most help.

New Mexico ranks the lowest in the nation for education, with too many children living in poverty and going hungry. While many move here to enjoy the beauty of the state, thousands of children grow up without the security, resources, and opportunities they need. Some have parents working tirelessly to provide; others lack consistent parental support altogether.

Although our state offers free higher education, the children we help often face barriers that prevent them from even imagining that next step. For many, daily life is about securing their next meal, keeping a roof overhead, or holding onto any sense of stability. Without nurturing and opportunity, too many of these children are left feeling unseen and without hope. We exist to change that.

With gratitude,

Jonika Horton 

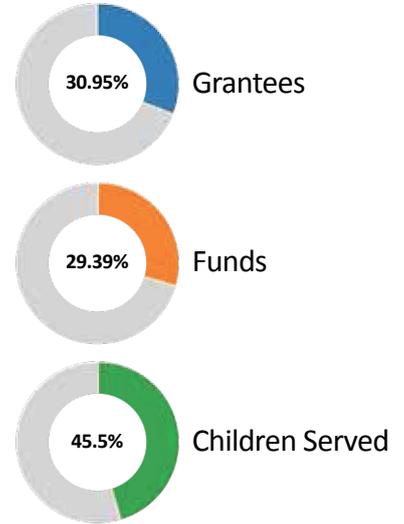
Executive Director  
New Mexico Children’s Foundation





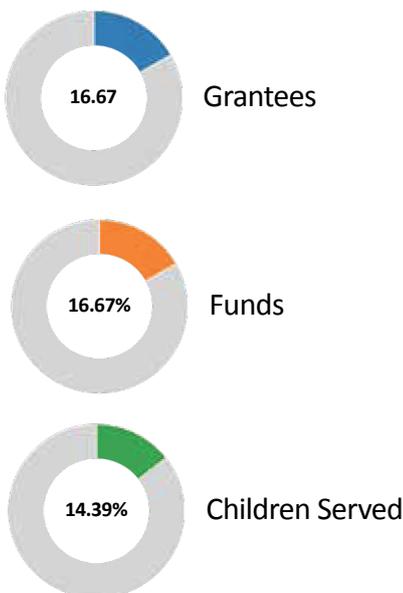
## Strengthening Children Through Food Security, Health & Safety

The New Mexico Children’s Foundation supports a diverse range of programs that address food security, health, and safety for children and families across the state. From Cancer Services of New Mexico and Hero’s Path Palliative Care, which provide emotional, educational, and social support for families facing serious illness, to Free Flow NM, ensuring access to essential female health needs, our funding reaches communities in meaningful ways. Grants also help organizations like the Human Milk Repository of NM, offering life-saving nutrition and comfort to newborns, and Luciente, Inc., addressing both food insecurity and barriers to education in rural areas. Vision screening through NM Lions Operation KidSight benefits thousands of children, while programs like Inspire heART Inc. and the No Squad Youth Organization nurture emotional resilience and social connection. By partnering with grassroots organizations, including the New Mexico Dental Association Foundation, which delivers essential dental care to thousands, we are helping children stay nourished, healthy, and safe —giving them the stability they need to thrive.



## Inspiring the Next Generation Through STEM Education Across New Mexico

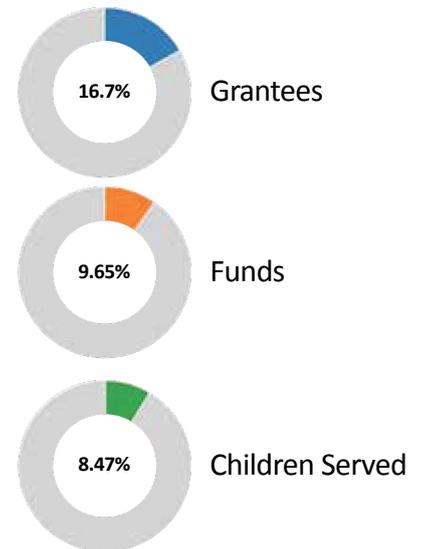
The New Mexico Children’s Foundation supports STEM programs that spark curiosity, break down barriers, and open doors to future opportunities. STEM Santa Fe engages 455 students, combining academic learning with solutions for food security and educational access. Inspired by Science reaches 1,500 students through hands-on educational experiences, while AAUW Tech Trek NM offers 56 girls an immersive STEM camp that builds confidence and skills. The New Mexico Network for Women in Science and Engineering connects 600 students to mentors and resources, inspiring diverse participation in STEM fields. Applied Dynamics Initiative serves 115 youth through educational and social programming, and STEM is Childs Play Foundation reaches 1,000 students with comprehensive STEM engagement. Kids’ Science Café and Magdalena Teen Science Café foster social and educational connections for 60 youth, making science accessible and exciting. Together, these programs prepare New Mexico’s young people to innovate, problem-solve, and lead in a rapidly changing world.





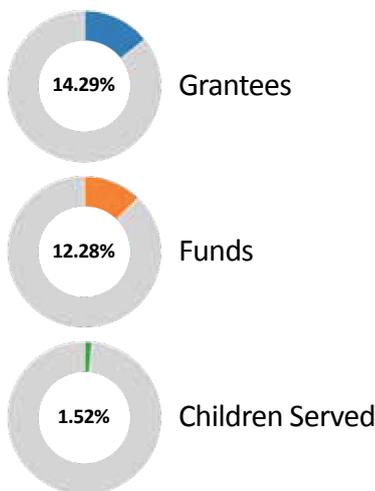
# Afterschool Programs Across New Mexico Open Doors to Learning, Healing, and Hope

The New Mexico Children’s Foundation is proud to support a wide range of afterschool programs across the state, helping to fill critical gaps in care, education, and enrichment for children who need it most. From the Boys and Girls Club of Gallup, which provides physical, educational, and social development to 300 youth, to the Child Counseling Center & Play Therapy Institute, which addresses the emotional and mental health needs of 80 children, these programs reach children in both rural and urban communities. Grants also support organizations like Equine Spirit Sanctuary, offering therapeutic social engagement; the Española Valley Fiber Arts Center, blending cultural arts with education; and Nature Ninos, connecting 1,200 youth to the outdoors through educational experiences. The String Academy of the Southwest brings music education to children during and after school, while the Talpa Community Center works to break down barriers to education and literacy for 250 students. Together, these programs ensure that after school is not a time of risk, but an opportunity for growth, connection, and hope.



# Multi-Day Camps Inspire Creativity, Connection, and Confidence for New Mexico’s Youth

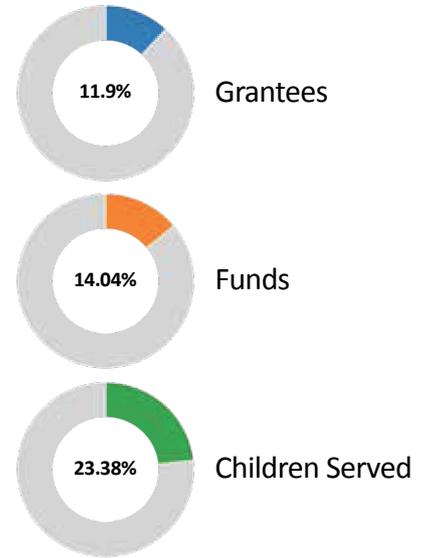
The New Mexico Children’s Foundation funds multi-day camps that provide transformative experiences for children through arts, music, recreation, and personal growth. Chama Valley Arts offers 45 students an immersive arts camp, building creativity and confidence, while Meadow City Academy of Music engages 70 young musicians in intensive skill development. Northern NM Recreation and Outdoor Conservation Foundation connects 60 youth to nature, fostering environmental stewardship and outdoor skills. TCC Creates Inc. provides 24 participants with hands-on ceramics training, blending artistic expression with technical learning. Artrageous Artreach inspires 100 children through dynamic arts-based programs, and Camp Enchantment New Mexico serves 100 youth affected by cancer, offering a safe, supportive environment for healing and connection.





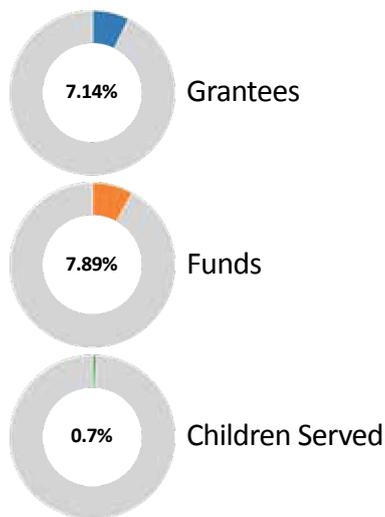
## Empowering Young Readers & Closing Literacy Gaps Across New Mexico

The New Mexico Children’s Foundation supports literacy programs that open doors to opportunity and lifelong learning for children across the state. The Embudo Valley Library & Community Center engages 50 youth in literacy and educational enrichment, fostering a love of reading in a rural community. Global Give-A-Book distributes books to 450 children, ensuring access to quality reading materials at home. Libros For Kids reaches 4,500 children, promoting early literacy and school readiness on a large scale. The Lions Club of Taos serves 600 children with programs that build literacy skills and expand educational resources. In Kirtland, the Kirtland Youth Association works with 550 youth to improve reading proficiency and confidence, helping children strengthen academic skills and prepare for future success. Together, these programs combat literacy gaps, empower young readers, and inspire a brighter future for New Mexico’s children.



## Libraries Preserving Culture and Inspiring Connection Across New Mexico

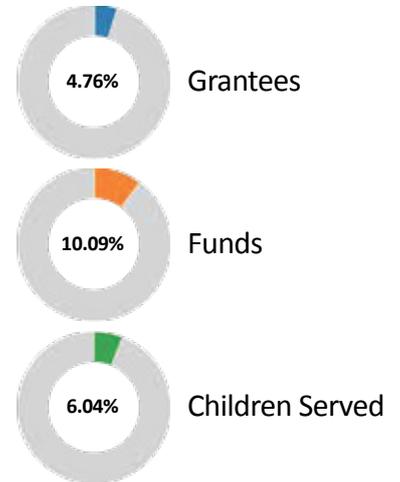
The New Mexico Children’s Foundation invests in cultural education and awareness programs that help preserve heritage, foster understanding, and connect communities. The Pueblo de Abiquiu Library & Cultural Center serves 50 participants by providing access to cultural resources and educational programming rooted in local history and traditions. El Rito Public Library, supported with multi-year funding, reaches 35 children and families with initiatives that celebrate cultural identity while promoting literacy and community engagement. In the remote Gila Valley, the Gila Valley Library serves 100 people, offering not only books but also programs that strengthen cultural connections and broaden perspectives. These libraries are more than places to read—they are vital community hubs where cultural awareness is nurtured, traditions are honored, and children gain a deeper sense of belonging.





# Mentorship and Training Programs Paving Pathways to Student Success

The New Mexico Children’s Foundation supports mentorship and training programs that guide students toward brighter futures. Good News Good Planet Schools, operating through its fiscal sponsor Wise Endeavors, serves 90 youth with a holistic approach that combines social, educational, and emotional development, helping students build skills, confidence, and community engagement. Bridges Project for Education reaches 1,500 students with educational mentorship that helps them navigate the path to higher education, offering individualized guidance on college access, applications, and scholarships. By funding these programs, NMCF ensures that students not only receive academic support but also the mentorship and life skills they need to thrive beyond the classroom.



## 2025 – 2026 Grantee Spotlight



### Inspired by Science

*"The support provided by the New Mexico Children's Foundation is vital to our mission. Without partners like you, we would not be able to offer high-quality, hands-on STEM education to all children across our community. Our curriculum is designed to spark interest in STEM-related fields, and we believe every child deserves the opportunity to explore whether that path is right for them. Thank you, New Mexico Children's Foundation, for your commitment to equity in education and for partnering with us to inspire the next generation of innovators!"* **Deena Antiporda, Executive Director**



# 2025 – 2026 Grantee Spotlight



## Artrageous Artreach

*"The arts open doors to empathy, teamwork, and curiosity in ways nothing else can. Thanks to the New Mexico Children's Foundation, we're bringing our Virtue Education Program to even more communities, with students from across the state coming together at Popejoy Hall to learn, connect, and be inspired. Every performance is a chance to spark confidence and kindness that lasts far beyond the stage."*

**Lauri Francis, Executive Director**



## Ojo Sarco Community Center (OSCC)

*"All functions of the community center and library are primarily supported by community volunteers. The funding that we receive from NMCF is impactful and is crucial for uplifting not just our children, but the entire community! We are grateful for the support. Your investment helps ensure we can continue to provide essential services and opportunities year-round."*

**Kathryn Vigil, Program Director**



# 2025 – 2026 Grantee Spotlight



## New Mexico Lions Operation KidSight

*"We see it every day—a student slipping on a new pair of glasses and lighting up with joy because the world just came into focus. That moment changes how they learn, how they participate, and how they see their future. NMCF's support makes those moments possible for thousands of children across New Mexico."*

**Bryson McCool, Director**



## Bridges Project for Education

*"We are deeply grateful to the New Mexico Children's Foundation for believing in our work. Their support helps ensure that students in northern New Mexico have the guidance and resources they need to pursue their dreams and create brighter futures for our community."*

**Hannah Gunther, Executive Director**





### **Why Regrant?**

At the New Mexico Children's Foundation, we channel the generosity of individuals, businesses, and foundations into grants for nonprofit organizations that serve New Mexico's children. Since 1992, we've proudly funded nonprofits in all 33 New Mexico counties—often in the most rural and underserved areas—helping children access food, healthcare, and education.

Each year, our Grant Committee carefully reviews applications from across the state to ensure that every dollar we award makes a measurable difference in the lives of New Mexico's children and families.

### **Why Give Through the New Mexico Children's Foundation?**

#### **Regranting amplifies impact.**

When you give through a regranting organization like NMCF, your dollars go further. We consolidate contributions from multiple donors—large and small—and distribute them strategically to local nonprofits, extending your reach to communities that might otherwise be overlooked.

#### **Regranting is efficient and effective.**

NMCF's deep understanding of New Mexico's diverse communities ensures that funds are allocated where they're needed most. By relying on our established network and grantmaking expertise, you help empower grassroots organizations that are already creating real, lasting change for children statewide.

#### **Regranting strengthens communities.**

Our collaborative approach builds connections among nonprofits working toward shared goals—fostering partnerships, leveraging collective strengths, and multiplying the overall impact of every gift. Together, we're building stronger, more resilient communities for New Mexico's kids.

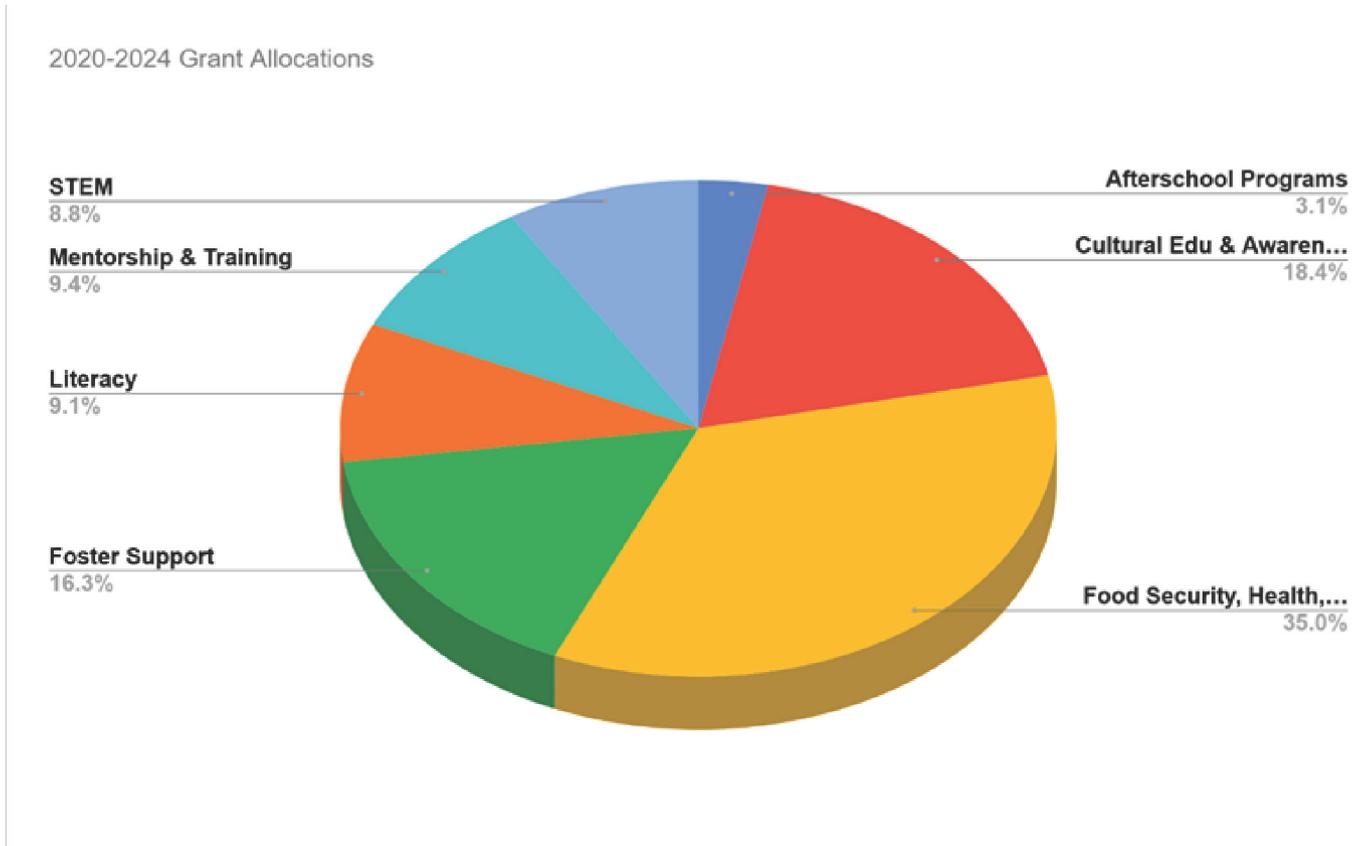
#### **This Is What We Do—And We Do It Best.**

For more than three decades, the New Mexico Children's Foundation has specialized in regranting to the organizations that make the most difference for New Mexico's children. When you donate to NMCF, you're not just giving—you're investing in proven local partnerships that change lives.



# 2020- 2024

Since 1992, the New Mexico Children’s Foundation has been building brighter futures for every child by investing more than \$2.4 million in 292 nonprofits serving children and families across all 33 counties. With 88% of every dollar raised directed to grants, donor support reaches small, community-based organizations—often in underserved and rural areas—that operate with limited resources. These nonprofits play a vital role in filling the gaps for children most affected by government cutbacks.



You can help us continue this work. Join us in building brighter futures for New Mexico’s children by supporting the Annual Grant program today. Every gift, no matter the size, helps us reach more underserved and rural communities, lifting up organizations that too often go unseen. Together, we can ensure every child has the chance to thrive.

Support kids in every corner of New Mexico.

Donate online at [nmchildren.org](http://nmchildren.org) or via mail  
New Mexico Children's Foundation  
PO Box 8182 Santa Fe, NM 87504  
or scan the QR code to the right.





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