



# New Mexico Children's Foundation

## WINTER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

Being a child in New Mexico in the past year has been a challenging endeavor. For many years, we have struggled with a significant rate of children in NM growing up in poverty and that face issues such as food insecurity and a lack of healthcare infrastructure. With the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic, our youth have been forced to shelter at home, making education a challenge from pre-K to college, adding to the problems we face in providing high quality health care.

In this time of crisis, the New Mexico Children's Foundation is determined to step up our efforts to provide funding for quality programs throughout our State to address these new challenges. When Alice King founded this organization 28 years ago, she could not have predicted the difficulties presented to children by this global pandemic. However, she had the foresight to know that community leaders and local volunteers would have the best concepts for dealing with the challenges facing their children under any circumstances.

We are so impressed with the work our 30 grantees have done to support young people and provide quality programs for our families in trying times. We have included some of their stories in this newsletter so you can see for yourself what your support brings to children and families in underserved communities throughout New Mexico.

I am more than proud to be affiliated with these amazing volunteers and providers.

I am also humbled by the financial and moral support provided by the hundreds of people and entities that support the Foundation.

Thank you for continuing to care about children in our State.

I wish you the best New Year ever in 2021.

Sincerely,

Gary King, President  
Board of Directors

**SAVE THE DATE!!**

***'GOING PLACES WITH THE NEW  
MEXICO CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION'***

**2021 ONLINE AUCTION**

**SEPTEMBER 8-14th 2021**

**BID ON NM'S BEST DRIVE-TO EXPERIENCES**

***STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS...***



## It Takes a Village to Raise a Child

NMCF remains the only nonprofit that provides funding for children’s programs throughout the state. We salute the amazing efforts this past year of our partner organizations that NEVER gave up to help the vulnerable communities they serve.

**‘This spring, staff and volunteers have delivered 185 lunches, 96 weekend backpacks, 306 dinners, 57 grocery boxes, 39 bags of toiletries and school supplies to 18 youth and their families.’**

**–High Mountain Youth Project**

**‘Wings for LIFE’s awesome staff opted to continue our programs knowing it meant mailing lessons and following up with phone calls each week to remain connected with over 300 youth.’** *-Wings for LIFE, Roswell*



**‘We built *Grab-N-Go* bags with sport equipment, school supplies, math and ELA workbooks plus educational board games.’**

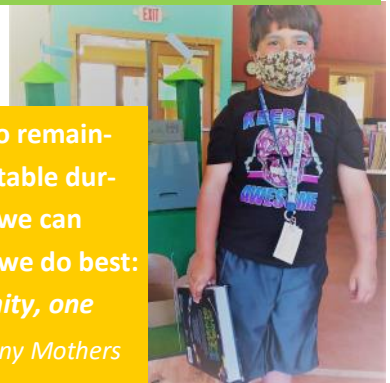
**–Kirtland Youth Project**

**‘In a year where at-risk children of our community have felt especially isolated, depressed, and anxious, NMCF’s contribution has been paramount to being part of a solution. With your assistance our organization helps remind kids they are part of a community that encourages and cares for them.’**

**–Common Bond, NM**



**‘We are committed to remaining flexible and adaptable during this crisis so that we can continue to do what we do best: *Improve the community, one child at a time.*’** *–Many Mothers*



**SEEKING A GRANT FOR 2021-2022?** Please visit [www.nmchildren.org](http://www.nmchildren.org) to see if your organization qualifies and learn how to apply. Deadline to submit applications is **MARCH 12, 2021**. Write us with questions: [info@nmchildren.org](mailto:info@nmchildren.org)

## Meet the Children's Foundation's Newest Board Members

The NMCF Board of Directors welcomes Dixon, New Mexico, native Dan Sanchez and Santa Feans Bill Saubert and Glenda Hogan.

Along with several years of volunteer service with local non-profits, Judge Sanchez has forty years' experience with New Mexico's Magistrate, Municipal, Metropolitan, and District Courts, and with the Court of Appeals, New Mexico Supreme Court, Federal District Court, and the 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals.

Mr. Saubert, originally from Montana, retired to Santa Fe in 2010 after a successful consulting career in the business and finance sectors. Under his ownership, Bill currently employs twenty New Mexicans in four UPS stores located in Albuquerque and Santa Fe. Bill has served on several non-profit boards offering his business and financial expertise. He also hosts two radio shows on KSFR.

Glenda Hogan chose Santa Fe as home in 1988. Ms. Hogan enjoyed a long career in financial management and is currently pursuing her bachelor's degree in nursing at the Santa Fe Community College. She has served on the event committee for the Cancer Foundation for New Mexico, as president of her church's executive board, and as a volunteer for the Christus St. Vincent Cancer Center. She holds designations as a Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor and a Certified Nurse Aide.

We are delighted Bill, Dan and Glenda chose to share their expertise, many talents, and valuable time with us!



## Richardson - Zah COVID-19 Fund Offers Relief to Diné Families

Established April 2020 in partnership with the New Mexico Children's Foundation, **The Governor Bill Richardson – Peterson Zah COVID-19 Navajo Families Relief Fund** has raised almost **\$275,000** to purchase and deliver vital supplies of nitrile gloves, face shields, 3-ply masks, and hand sanitizer to locations in New Mexico, including Crownpoint, Church Rock, Huerfano, and Nageezi. With additional partner, Molina Healthcare, the Fund is dedicated to supporting the immediate health care needs to tribal clinics, hospitals, non-profits, and needs of families on the Navajo Nation due to the pandemic.

## Grants Awarded for 2020-2021:

Thanks to Sara Armstrong, *Chair*, and Board Committee: Jessie Groothuis, Valerie Ingram, Gary King, Mary Bednar, Nora Miller, Donna Pedace, Cathy Mogharreban and Chuck Pacheco for their dedicated, thoughtful and thorough attention as members of the Grants Committee!

**Assistance League of Chaves County**, \$1500, *Roswell*. Supports two programs for elementary students in need. K-8th grade students are brought to chapter house to “shop” for brand new clothing and leave with a bag of new clothes, shoe vouchers, books, wide grins, and a renewed sense of confidence.

**Bookkids**, \$1500, *Santa Fe*. Promotes literacy and the love of reading by providing books for Santa Fe public school children to own and enjoy. Schools are selected based on student need.

**Bridges Project for Education**, \$2000, *Taos*. Provides counseling and support for students, especially those who are first generation in their families to pursue postsecondary education.

**Camp Enchantment New Mexico**, \$2500, *Albuquerque*. \$2500, Serves ages 7 to 17, who have experienced cancer and serves approximately 75 children in treatment or in survivorship from cancer at Manzano Mountain Retreat for Camp Enchantment.

**Cancer Services of New Mexico** \$1500, *Albuquerque*. The largest general cancer education program in New Mexico and the largest program of its type in the United States serving young children and teens.

**CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocates, First Judicial District**, \$4000, *Santa Fe, Rio Arriba and Los Alamos Counties*. Provides advocacy for abused children in juvenile proceedings and trains volunteers to serve as advocates for children in foster care.

**Common Bond New Mexico Foundation** \$2000, *Albuquerque*. To keep kids safe, we immediately switched our previously in-person meetings to a digital platform. We now continue supporting our youth with U-21 Online. This digital safe space uses several social media, gaming, and video conferencing tools. We can continue to support our kids with check-ins and online social activities.

**Compassionate Touch Network**, \$2000, *Albuquerque, Rio Rancho & Santa Fe*. Trains facilitators for classroom presentations on mental illness. Aims to recognize its symptoms, to get appropriate treatment, to understand the importance of early diagnosis and treatment and to promote compassion without stigma.

**ELEVATE**, \$500, *Santa Fe*. This Health and Wellness Program is an educational enrichment program which fosters a growth mindset in children, uses rock climbing as a way of solidifying these lessons and skills.

**El Pueblo de Abiquiu Library & Cultural Center** \$4000, *Abiquiu*. Teaches local youth to care about their betterment and that of their families. Involving youth in local job development is a key learning experience.

**El Rito Public Library**, \$4000, *El Rito*. Toddlers and their caregivers are invited to the *STEM to Read* pre-literacy program; the goal is to develop literacy and scientific thinking by active, engaged learning activities.

**Embudo Valley Library**, \$3300, *Dixon*. Adjusting to COVID-safe formats; over 9 wks, supplied 430 Grab’N Go kits, and hosted two outdoor events and two on-line multi-day workshops (stop-action animation & teen writing)

**Embudo Valley Tutoring Association**, \$4000, *Dixon*. Provides free tutoring to strengthen the educational opportunities for children in the rural area surrounding the Rio Grande Valley of Rio Arriba County.

**Fathers New Mexico**, \$2000, *Santa Fe*. Focuses on the role of father, developing strategies through group discussion and programming to support healthy fatherhood.

**Friends of the Espanola Library**, \$1000, *Espanola*. Fosters a love of reading among 2,600 preschoolers.

**Gila Valley Library**, \$3000, *Gila Valley, Grant County*. NMCF made it possible for academic plans to continue, reaching students through virtual programming. Students were offered instruction on insects, metamorphosis, bridge building, and motion and physics, from highly qualified field experts and educators.

**High Mountain Youth Project**, \$3000, *Ruidoso*. Adopted a policy for the reopening of the Drop-in Center to students according to NM Dept of Health and CDC guidelines. Our staff transformed the Evening Drop-in & Study Center program into a day program to accommodate our most academically at-risk students.

**Imagination Library of Luna County**, \$1500, *Deming*. Provides age appropriate books, by mail, free of charge, to preschool children from birth until they turn five years of age.

**Kirtland Youth Association**, \$4000, *Kirkland and San Juan County*. Offers all-day summer recreation, literacy and mathematic skill development programs with breakfast and lunch provided.

**Literacy Links - Leamos**, \$2500, *Silver City*. Provides and delivers free schoolbooks to school age children.

**Locker #505 Students Clothing Bank**, \$1500, *Albuquerque*. Provides appropriate school clothing to K-12 Bernalillo County students in need.

**Many Mothers**, \$3000, *Santa Fe*. We started an **Adopt a Family** program, pairing volunteers with income-eligible families that had intense needs. *A total of 16 families were supported by 15 volunteers, who were happy to gift each family with warm clothes, educational toys for the family's babies and children, plus a gift for the mother.*

**NM Lions Operation KidSight, Inc.**, \$3000, *Las Cruces*. In this extraordinary year, welcome funds from NMCF were used to cover the vision services for 8-18 year old students. Without the grant funds, we would have had to deny those students the vision care they needed.

**Northern Youth Project**, \$4000, *Abiquiú*. Programs supports opportunities for rural Northern New Mexico youth providing FREE programs and activities year-round through hands-on art, agriculture, community service, and leadership projects.

**Santa Fe Alliance for Science**, \$3000, *Santa Fe*. Provides STEM enrichment activities in schools, interacts one-on-one with thousands of students at school.

**STEM Santa Fe**, \$2000, *Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico*. Hosted a virtual conference for 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls to encourage young women to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

**Valencia County Literacy Council**, \$4000, *Los Lunas*. A family literacy pre-school provides child-centered instruction to develop literacy in children up to five years with parents reading daily to their children and staff providing a lending library and numerous educational activities.

**Villa Therese Catholic Clinic**, \$4000, *Santa Fe*. The Clinic, staffed by volunteers and paid staff, provides integrated children's medical and dental services for the uninsured.

**Wings for L.I.F.E.**, \$3500, *Roswell & surrounding areas*. 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.

**LET'S GO GREEN!** Please use enclosed envelope to share your email address, for receipt of **NEW** Digital newsletter. **THANK YOU.**



## New Mexico Children's Foundation Appoints New Executive Director

The New Mexico Children's Foundation selected Eileen Berry as its new Executive Director in May of 2020, succeeding Carol Robertson Lopez upon her retirement.

Ms. Berry brings a broad range of fundraising, leadership experience, and relationships to NMCF. She has served as Director of Development for the Cancer Foundation for New Mexico, Development and Marketing Director for the Santa

Fe Desert Chorale, Development Director for the Moab Music Festival, and Donor Relations Manager for the Bozeman Symphony. Most recently, Ms. Berry was Associate Director of Institutional Advancement for the Institute of American Indian Arts. She also served on the board for Performance Santa Fe. A resident of New Mexico since 2005, she holds a bachelor's degree in Art History from St. Michael's College in Vermont and is a 2001 graduate of Leadership Santa Fe.



## New Mexico Children's Foundation Announces Timely Partnership

Many of us are wondering when our turn will arrive for receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, and NMCF can happily report it got its own version and shares terrific news that the **Jack Kagan Foundation** has committed \$45,000 toward the Foundation's Grant Program over the next three years. In this most unprecedented time for children and families, knowing that a portion of our granting funds are secured through 2023 is truly a shot in the arm.

**THANK YOU** to the Kagan family for their generous support.



# 2020 Lily Pad Lounge Fundraiser

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The New Mexico Children's Foundation hosted its first virtual fundraiser in 2020, offering our wonderful supporters the opportunity to gather with us, from the safety of their own pad, the **Lily Pad Lounge**. Facing gathering restrictions we were able to come together and raise **\$50,000** in support of the efforts of our dedicated grantees who quickly adapted programming in response to the immediate needs of their vulnerable communities, some expanding their missions to offer and deliver food boxes, offer rent and utility support for children and their families.

**THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!**

**New Mexico Children's Foundation**

**P O Box 8182**

**Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504**

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Evangeline Tinajero

Eileen Berry, *Executive Director*  
PO Box 8182, Santa Fe, NM 87504

**GROWING STRONGER FOUNDATIONS FOR NEW  
MEXICO'S CHILDREN SINCE 1992.**

**New Mexico Children's Foundation provides funding to small, community-based non-profit programs designed to foster the physical, emotional, educational, and social development of New Mexico children and their families.**

