PROGRAM



TURN THE PAGE AND ENGAGE BY RONNIE DUKES



47TH ANNUAL | SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2025



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR EMILY KALTENBACH, CABINET SECRETARY



Anchorum is proud to sponsor the 47th Annual Conference on Aging!

Across our state, older adults are the heart of our communities. They are raising grandchildren, caring for loved ones, volunteering their time, and passing down wisdom that strengthens us all.

We honor your contributions, your resilience, and your role in shaping a healthier New Mexico.

Thank you.



MAP & LEGEND

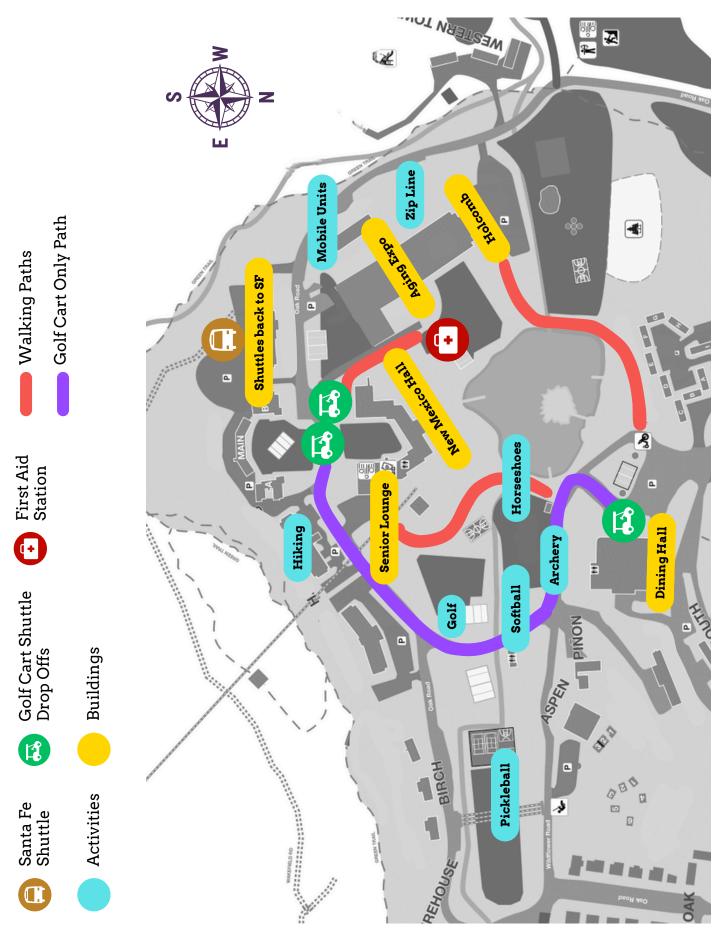




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Our mission is to serve and inspire the state's older adult community to live active, healthy lives and enhance their connections within community. The department is a leader in developing programs and building partnerships that support lifelong independence and healthy aging, providing connection, resources, and advocacy for older adults and those living with disabilities.



For more information about New Mexico Aging Services, visit <u>aging.nm.gov</u> or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, X and YouTube @New-MexicoAging.



LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR



Dear Friends,

Welcome to Glorieta Conference Center and the 47th Annual Conference on Aging!

This year's theme, "EngAGE as You Age," gets right to the heart of what I believe about getting older in New Mexico. It should be about staying connected, staying active, and staying engaged in the community you've helped build.

I know the challenges our seniors face. I hear about them every day. The prescription costs that force people to choose between medication and groceries. The healthcare appointments that require driving hours across our vast state. The loneliness that comes when communities don't invest in bringing people together. That's exactly why we've gotten to work.

Over the past few years, we've eliminated the vast majority of taxes on Social Security income, money you earned that should stay in your pocket. We've expanded Medicaid so more families can access the healthcare they need without going broke. We've launched prescription drug initiatives that are already saving New Mexicans thousands of dollars. And we've invested in programs that keep healthy, affordable food accessible in every corner of our state.

This conference is about so much more than policy. Over the next three days, you'll participate in workshops that actually matter to your daily life. You'll try pickleball and go stargazing because staying active and curious doesn't have an expiration date. You'll find resources that can help you right now. And yes, you'll dance to Al Hurricane Jr., because that's who we are in New Mexico.

I'm proud that this conference brings together nearly every community in our state, from the Four Corners to the border. You represent the wisdom, the resilience, and frankly, the backbone of New Mexico. The stories you'll share, the connections you'll make, and the knowledge you'll take home. That's how we build a state where everyone can age with dignity.

Take advantage of every session, every conversation, and every moment you have here. When you head back to your communities, take what you've learned and use it.

New Mexico is better because of you. Always has been, always will be.

Con respeto,

Michelle Lujan Grisham Governor of New Mexico



LETTER FROM THE CABINET SECRETARY



Dear Conference Attendees,

Welcome to the 47th Annual Conference on Aging! I am so grateful you are here. This gathering brings together an inspiring mix of New Mexicans—older adults, caregivers, advocates, service providers, and community members—all learning, sharing, and connecting with each other.

This year's conference is full of incredible opportunities. You'll find engaging speakers, hands-on workshops, health and wellness activities (including pickleball and ziplining!), cultural performances, and a resource expo chock full of supports for you and your loved ones. I encourage you to explore, to try something new, to learn from each other, and take home information that will enrich your life and your community.

At Aging and Long-Term Services, we know that the needs of older New Mexicans are evolving, and we are committed to evolving with you. That means facing challenges with creativity and determination. Our team is working hard every day to improve those services that you count on.

Thank you for being here and being part of this year's event! I hope over these few days that you learn something meaningful, make a new connection, and leave feeling inspired for the future. Together we are building a New Mexico where every person can age with joy, dignity and purpose.

With gratitude,

Emily Kaltenbach Cabinet Secretary

Enery Kalt

New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department



PROGRAM ARTWORK — "TURN THE PAGE AND ENGAGE"



About the Artwork

This comic-inspired artwork celebrates staying engaged at every age. From swimming and singing to painting and birdwatching, each panel captures moments of connection, creativity, and care. You'll see friends sharing a scooter ride, artists at work, and scenes of gentle support from caregivers—reminding us that aging well is about community, activity, and joy at every stage of life.

About the Artist

Ronnie Dukes is a Black artist based in Chaparral, New Mexico, and serves as a caregiver for his aging mother-in-law. An illustrator who also inks and colors comics, he earned an A.A.S. in Computer Animation and is the Chief Creative Officer of DUKEScomics LLC, an award-winning New Mexico publisher. His debut graphic novel, A.W.O.L.: Cruz Ochoa, premiered at Tokyo Comic Con and follows a Latina soldier searching for her missing brother in the U.S.–Mexico borderplex region. Ronnie's artwork has been featured in projects for government, education, health, and community organizations, as well as academic journals. Learn more at dukescomics.com.



Ronnie Dukes



PROGRAMMING TRACKS



AGING IN ACTION

Policy, advocacy, and legal education



CAREGIVER TOOLKIT

Support and hands-on skill training for caregivers



CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

Tech, fraud prevention, and community engagement



CREATE & CELEBRATE

Art, creativity, storytelling, and sharing



MIND MATTERS

Dementia support and brain health



NOURISH TO FLOURISH

Nutrition, cooking, and healthy aging



ROOTED & RESILIENT

Mental wellness, culture, and aging joyfully



STAY STRONG, STAY SAFE

Injury prevention, physical health, and movement



AGING EXPO AGENDA

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM TUESDAY

12:00 PM-5:00 PM WEDNESDAY

Moody Auditorium

- AARP
- Advanced Guardianship
- Alert Medical Alarms
- Alzheimer's Association
- Bank of America
- Caregiver's Coalition
- Commission for Blind
- Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Delivery Concepts
- Department of Game & Fish
- Department of Public Safety
- End of Life Options
- Gov Commission on Disability
- Home Modification Solutions
- Homestyle Direct
- Indian Affairs Department
- Intellicare
- LANL Foundation
- Los Alamos Enterprise Bank and Trust
- Legal Resources for the Elderly (LREP)
- MedScope
- Molina Healthcare
- Mom's Meals
- My Senior Center
- NM Aging and Long-Term Services Department
- NM Health Care Association
- NM New Elder World

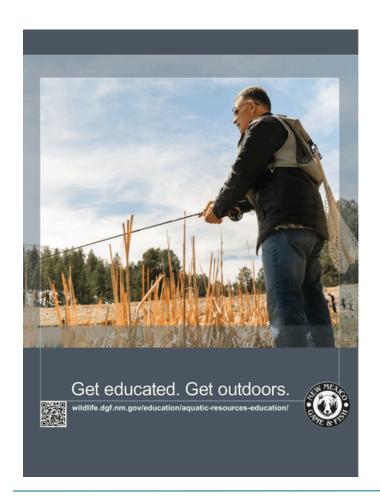
Moody Auditorium & Patio 24/25 Room

Moody Auditorium

- Non Metro AAA
- Nuclear Care Partners
- ORCA
- Palco
- Public Education Department
- PNN
- Presbyterian Health Plan
- Speridian
- United HealthCare
- United Way of Central NM
- Vista Living
- Willow Foundation

Patio Room 24/25

- NM Department of Corrections
- · NM Department of Cultural Affairs
- NM Department of Health
- NM Department of Veterans Services
- NM Early Childhood Education & Care Department
- NM Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department
- NM Environment Department
- NM Health Care Authority
- NM Regulations and Licensing Department
- NM Taxation and Revenue Department
- Office of the State Engineer
- Senior Farmer Market







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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 — OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

2:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Accessible Archery

Hosted by New Mexico Department of Game & Fish

Fitness Walk & Pickleball

Hosted by New Mexico Senior Olympics

Hiking 101

Hosted by New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Division

Fly Line Zip Line

A fast and beautiful trip through the sky. Meet on floor 1 of Holcomb Auditorium. Weight Minimum: 45 lbs. Weight Maximum: 275 lbs. Stairs are required for this activity.

Wonders on Wheels Mobile Museum

Hosted by the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs

Department of Workforce Solutions Mobile Unit



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

11:00 AM — 12:30 PM

Dining Hall

Lunch

Take some time to enjoy a family-style lunch featuring our burger bar before our engaging plenary sessions.

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Holcomb Auditorium

Welcome Plenary Session

Sponsored by Anchorum Health Foundation

Kick off the Conference on Aging with an energizing welcome that sets the tone for a day of connection, learning, and inspiration. This opening session will highlight the theme EngAGE as You Age, celebrate the power of older adults, and offer a glimpse into what's ahead. We'll also hear from our presenting sponsor, Anchorum Health Foundation, Secretary Emily Kaltenbach of New Mexico Aging Services, Lt. Governor Howie Morales, and Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, along with a special performance from Flamenco Works. Let's come together to explore new ideas, share experiences, and embrace the many ways we all continue to grow, contribute, and thrive.



Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham

Michelle Lujan Grisham, 12th generation New Mexican and 32nd governor of the state, was the first Cabinet Secretary for the Aging and Long-Term Services Department. She continues to champion seniors and people living with disabilities by prioritizing health care investments and innovative programs that improve access and quality of care.



Lieutenant Governor Howie Morales



Cabinet Secretary Emily Kaltenbach



Jerry Jones
Anchorum Health Foundation



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Solutions for the Direct Care Workforce Crisis: Respite Care Training and Registry

Holcomb 302-303 Caregiver Toolkit

Presenter: **Adrienne Smith**, New Mexico Caregivers Coalition

Learn about a free online training that builds skills for paid or volunteer respite care in New Mexico, leading to certification and registry listing.

Supporting Veterans and Spouses: Programs from NMDVS

Holcomb 304-305
Connected Communities

Presenters: Division Directors of New Mexico Department of Veterans Services

Meet the NM Department of Veteran Services through a round robin with department leadership,
highlighting programs designed to support veterans and their spouses.

health recovery to support peers, improve health outcomes, and create meaningful jobs in aging.

Empowered by Experience: Peer Support in Aging and Recovery

Holcomb 201Rooted and Resilient

Presenters: **Melisha Montaño & Cathi Valdes**, NM Behavioral Health Services Division
Explore the Certified Older Adult Peer Specialist program, which trains older adults in behavioral

Creating Safe and Affirming Spaces for LGBTQ Elders

Holcomb 202

Connected Communities

Presenter: Havens Levitt, ORCA Ambassador

Learn practical strategies to create welcoming, respectful, and affirming environments that support the dignity and well-being of LGBTQ elders.

How to Write Your Story: A Guided Experience

Holcomb 203-206

Create and Celebrate

Presenter: Latayne Scott, Author

Unlock your memories and creativity with our storytelling workshop. Join us to write, share, and refine your life stories.



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 2:30 PM — 3:30 PM

Rooted in Kinship: Co-Creating Systems with Grandparents and Caregiving Relatives

Holcomb 207

Connected Communities

Presenters: Jessica Acosta & Jovanna Archuleta, LANL Foundation

Discover how the Grandparents and Kin Raising Children Council empowers kinship families to shape policy, improve support, and strengthen communities.

Safe, Stable, Supported: Advancing Housing Solutions for Older Adults

Holcomb 208

Connected Communities

Presenters: Jessica Gonzales & Robyn Powell, Housing New Mexico

Learn how targeted programs like Senior Home Repair, Mobile Home Repair, and senior-focused developments address housing needs for older adults.

Alzheimer's & Dementia Training for Caregivers

Holcomb 403-406

Caregiver Toolkit & Mind Matters

Sponsored by Vista Living

Presenters: **Trista Turner**, New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department This session will provide caregivers a brief of overview of dementia and discuss effective communication and wandering prevention.

How has History Impacted You?

Holcomb 101

Create and Celebrate

Presenter: Nancy Morris-Judd, New Mexico History Museum

Reflect on how history has impacted you, share stories in small groups, create tableaus to bring one story to life, and end with a group reflection on shared themes.

Basics of Hands-On Caregiving

Holcomb 102

Caregiver Toolkit

Please note: This session is 90 minutes in length and will run until 4:00 PM

Presenter: Janet Smith, RN, Northern New Mexico Palliative Care

Learn essential hands-on caregiving skills from a registered nurse, including safe techniques for assisting with daily activities, such as eating and dressing, and providing compassionate support.



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Easy Steps to Big Warm Flavors Cooking Demo

Aspen Cafe Nourish to Flourish

Presenters: Mattson McFarland, Private Chef

Create flavorful blender salsas and a quick, veggie-packed dinner using simple, whole-food ingredients, with tasty samples, practical tips, and fresh ideas for eating well.

Generation to Generation

Sandia Room

Connected Communities

Presenter: Scott Sharp, Albuquerque Oasis

Explore the differences and shared experiences across generations, from Baby Boomers to Generation Alpha, and learn how to communicate effectively, bridge gaps, and appreciate each generation's unique strengths.

Long-Term Care Medicaid and Other Options

Truchas Room Aging in Action

Sponsored by Alert Medical Alarms

Presenter: Cris Munoz, Senior Citizens Law Office

Learn the basics of Long-Term Care Medicaid, including asset spend-down, Income Diversion

Trusts, and benefits that help seniors stay safe and independent.







TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 4:00 PM — 5:00 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Transportation in New Mexico: Innovation and Challenges

Holcomb 302-303
Connected Communities

Presenter: **Anneke Stienstra**, UnitedHealthcare Community; Adrian Phillips & Aron Weber, Kinetik Explore healthcare transportation for New Mexicans 55+, covering benefits, rural challenges, partnerships, and emerging solutions.

Healing Together: How to Build a Supportive Community and Create Magic as a Caregiver

Holcomb 304-305 Caregiver Toolkit

Presenter: Ruth Dennis, LPCC, Vista Listens Therapeutic Center

Explore how caregivers can build supportive communities, overcome emotional and social barriers, and create action steps for a healthier future for themselves and their loved ones.

Veterans Self Directed Care: Your Care, Your Choice, Your Voice

Holcomb 201
Aging in Action

Presenter: Lucista Renee King, New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department New Mexico's Veteran Self Directed Care program provides eligible veterans with a budget, care plan, and choice of caregivers to help them live independently with dignity.

Artificial Intelligence, Real Consequences: How to Avoid Becoming a Victim of the Latest Scams

Holcomb 203-206

Connected Communities

Sponsored by Enterprise Bank and Trust

Presenters: Joel Wigelsworth, NM Regulations & Licensing Department

Learn how scammers use advanced technology to target victims and how to protect yourself.



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 4:00 PM — 5:00 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 4:00 PM — 5:00 PM

Cannabis and Care: Understanding Medical Use, Safety, and Resources

Holcomb 207

Connected Communities

Presenters: **Katy Freytag & Rosalie Nava**, New Mexico Department of Health
Learn about medical cannabis, enrollment in the program, safe practices, stigma, synthetic cannabinoids, and available resources.

Dementia Developments in Uncertain Times

Holcomb 208

Mind Matters

Presenter: **Donald Smithburg**, Alzheimer's Association New Mexico Chapter
Explore advances in diagnosing and treating Alzheimer's and other dementias, funding shifts, tribal priorities, and partnerships improving culturally informed care for Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations.

Grief 101: Understanding Loss and Healing in Later Life

Holcomb 403-406

Rooted and Resilient

Presenter: **Maggie Boyle & Roxana Melendez**, Gerard's House

Learn about grief symptoms, ways to support others, and available free bilingual grief support groups in the community.

How has History Impacted You?

Holcomb 101

Create and Celebrate

Presenter: **Nancy Morris-Judd**, Education Coordinator, New Mexico History Museum
Reflect on how history has impacted you, share stories in small groups, create tableaus to bring one story to life, and end with a group reflection on shared themes.

Pour Your Art Out

Holcomb 102

Create and Celebrate

Presenter: **Veronica Cordova**, New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department Discover the joy of acrylic paint pouring to create unique abstract art that lifts your mood and reduces stress. No experience needed, all materials provided, limited to 12 participants.



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 4:00 PM — 5:00 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 4:00 PM — 5:00 PM

Easy Steps to Big Warm Flavors Cooking Demo

Aspen Cafe Nourish to Flourish

Presenters: Mattson McFarland, Private Chef

Create flavorful blender salsas and a quick, veggie-packed dinner using simple, whole-food ingredients, with tasty samples, practical tips, and fresh ideas for eating well.

Storytelling Circles: Preserving Cultural Heritage Through Narrative

Sandia Room Rooted and Resilient

Presenter: Emmett "Shkeme" Garcia, Author

Celebrate Native American storytelling through traditional and modern tales that inspire listening, sharing, and preserving this art form.

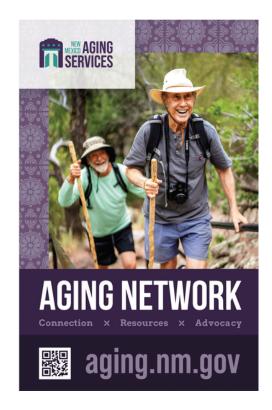
Basics of Estate Planning

Truchas Room
Aging in Action

Presenter: Cris Munoz, Senior Citizens Law Office

Learn about planning for incapacity and end of life, including Powers of Attorney, wills, and non-probate transfers.







TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 5:30 PM — 7:00 PM

Dining Hall

5:30 PM — 7:00 PM

Dinner

End the day with a fajita dinner enjoyed together in a festive setting.

7:30 PM — 9:00 PM

Evening Activities

For those staying overnight at Glorieta

Movie Screening: Trigger Warning

Sandia Room

A special forces commando returns to her hometown after her father's sudden death, only to run afoul of a violent gang when she starts asking questions. Starring Jessica Alba and filmed in New Mexico.

Dark Sky Astronomy

Parking Lot of Hall of States

Join the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department for an evening under the stars. Enjoy guided stargazing in one of the best dark sky locations in the country, with easy-to-follow explanations of constellations, planets, and celestial events. This relaxing program is designed for aging adults to connect with the beauty of the night sky in a welcoming setting.







Contact Liam Harrison to learn more!

LHarrison@AlertMedicalAlarms.com 518-256-3898









From empowering long-term care advocates to supporting grassroots elder care initiatives, we're helping communities protect those who came before us.

conalma.org



We are proud to support the Annual New Mexico Conference on Aging

Enterprise Bank & Trust is eager to donate time, expertise and financial resources to like-minded organizations and causes that strive to support our neighbors in the communities we serve.

Together, there's no stopping you. enterprisebank.com



The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services

<u>Our mission</u> is to build healthier communities by connecting all Veterans and their families to the highest quality care, services, and eligible benefits through advocacy and collaboration.

We connect Veterans to resources that support health, independence, and quality of life.

State Benefits

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Field Services

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Healthcare Coordination

Transportation program, Behavioral Health

Burial & Memorial Benefits

State Veterans Cemeteries, Memorials & Services

Whether you're a Veteran, family member, or caregiver, NMDVS is here to walk beside you because no Veteran should navigate aging alone. NMDVS: Serving Those Who Served. Every day is Veterans Day.



Call: 1-866-433-8387

Visit: www.nmdvs.org



WEDNESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 24** — OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Horseshoe & Mini Golf

Hosted by New Mexico Senior Olympics

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Department of Workforce Solutions Mobile Unit

Wonders on Wheels Mobile Museum

Hosted by the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Galileo Mobile Clinic

10:30 AM- 12:30 PM

Fly Line Zip Line

A fast and beautiful trip through the sky. Meet at the first floor of Holcomb.

Weight Minimum: 45 lbs. Weight

Maximum: 275 lbs. Stairs are required for this activity.

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Outdoor Photography Workshop

Hosted by New Mexico Department of Game & Fish

Hiking 101

Hosted by New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Division







WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 — OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

12:00 PM — 2:00 PM

Santa Fe Vintage Car Club Car Show View in parking lot outside dining hall

2:00 PM - 3:45 PM

Pickleball, Basketball, Softball Throw

Hosted by New Mexico Senior Olympics

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Fly Line Zip Line

A fast and beautiful trip through the sky. Meet at the first floor of Holcomb. Weight Minimum: 45 lbs. Weight Maximum: 275 lbs. Stairs are required for this activity.

2:30 PM-3:30 PM

Outdoor Photography Workshop

Hosted by New Mexico Department of Game & Fish

Hiking 101

Hosted by New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Division







WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM

7:30 AM — 9:00 AM

Breakfast Dining Hall

Sponsored by Presbyterian Healthcare Services
Start the day with a hearty breakfast before diving into activities and our engaging plenary sessions.

ALL SESSIONS FROM 9:30 AM — 10:30 AM

Plenary Session: Staying EngAGEd Through the Years

Holcomb Auditorium

Presenters: Chip Conley & Panel of New Mexico's Older Adults

The Modern Elder Academy, founded by Chip Conley and recently opened in New Mexico, is the nation's first "midlife wisdom school." Its curriculum helps people in midlife and beyond navigate transitions, rediscover purpose, and reframe aging as a time of growth and meaning. In this keynote, Chip will introduce the concept of "long life learning" and share practical ways to design a life that is not only long, but also rich in depth, connection, and purpose.

Following his talk, a panel of New Mexicans representing each decade of life will reflect on how they stay engaged in their communities, offering diverse perspectives on living with vitality across the years. The session will close with a special cultural performance by the Cellicion Zuni Dancers, celebrating tradition, resilience, and the spirit of aging well together.



Chip Conley

Chip Conley, founder of Joie de Vivre Hospitality and former Head of Global Hospitality and Strategy at Airbnb, co-founded the Modern Elder Academy in 2018 as the world's first 'midlife wisdom school.' Inspired by his role as a mentor at Airbnb, Conley created MEA to help people navigate midlife with purpose and possibility. A New York Times bestselling author, his seventh book Learning to Love Midlife explores the many upsides of this life stage, a topic he also shared in his 2023 TED Talk on the 'midlife chrysalis.



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 11:00 AM — 12:00 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 11:00 AM — 12:00 PM

How Medicare Works with Indian Health Services

Holcomb 302-303

Aging in Action

Presenter: **Evangeline Redsteer**, State Health Insurance Assistance Program

Learn the differences between Medicare and IHS, how Medicare enrollment benefits the community, and about programs that can help cover costs.

Make you Senior Year Count! Higher Education Senior That Is... Holcomb 304-305

Connected Communities

Presenters: **Stephanie Rodriguez (Cabinet Secretary), Patricia Montoya, & Chandler Farnsworth,** NM Higher Education Department

Learn about senior tuition rates, the Opportunity Scholarship, and free adult education and literacy classes available across New Mexico.

Voices of Advocacy: Impact of Ombudsman Volunteers

Holcomb 201

Aging in Action

Sponsored by Con Alma Health Foundation

Presenters: Gino Unzueta San Miguel & Richard Wirtemburg,

New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department

Hear from Ombudsman volunteers about advocating for resident rights and quality of care in long-term care, while sharing stories that inspire and highlight the rewards of serving as an advocate.

Advance Healthcare Directive Workshop

Holcomb 202

Aging in Action

Presenter: Janice Wilson, End of Life Option New Mexico

Discuss Advance Healthcare Directives, including choosing a healthcare agent, treatment considerations, and starting the conversation.

The Power of Prevention: Vaccines and Healthy Aging

Holcomb 203-206

Stay Strong. Stay Safe.

Presenters: **Vanessa Hansel & Andrea Romero**, New Mexico Department of Health
Learn the latest recommendations and how vaccines can reduce risks, strengthen immunity, and improve quality of life.



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 11:00 AM — 12:00 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 11:00 AM — 12:00 PM

Age-Friendly New Mexico: Join the Movement!

Holcomb 207

Connected Communities

Presenters: Agnes Vallejos, Maria Sanchez-Tucker, Dave Lynch, JW Sutphin, & Chad Ingram Learn how New Mexico communities are applying the 8 Domains of Livability to improve communities for all ages.

Connecting Older Adults to Purpose, Work, and Community

Holcomb 208

Connected Communities

Presenters: Paula Getz & Victor Ortiz, NM New Elder World Learn about a New Mexico initiative connecting adults 50+ with work, volunteer, and leadership opportunities, plus strategies to replicate it in other communities.

Aging & Disability Resource Center: Options Counseling

Holcomb 209

Aging in Action

ADRC Options Counselors, New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department One-on-one help with an options counselor who can help you navigate Medicaid and Medicare benefits, long-term care options, home-delivered meals, and more.

New MexiCare: Helping You Care Where It Matters Most

Holcomb 403-406

Caregiver Toolkit

Presenter: Jennifer Vigil, New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department Learn how New MexiCare supports caregivers to help older adults stay safe, independent, and out of nursing homes.

Craftercize! Holcomb 101

Create & Celebrate

Presenter: Irene Newlon, AmeriCorp RSVP Volunteer Outreach Coordinator Discover how crafting supports mental and physical well-being while encouraging reuse, then enjoy making a greeting card and fall flower from repurposed materials.



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 11:00 AM — 12:00 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 11:00 AM — 12:00 PM

Drawing Light from Darkness: Mandala Creation Group

Holcomb 102

Create & Celebrate

Presenter: Ruth Dennis, LPCC, Vista Listens Therapeutic Center

Explore a mindfulness-based creative process combining meditation and art to process emotions, find grounding, and bring hope during times of loss or change.

Easy Steps to Big Warm Flavors Cooking Demo

Aspen Cafe

Nourish to Flourish

Presenters: Mattson McFarland, Private Chef

Create flavorful blender salsas and a quick, veggie-packed dinner using simple, whole-food ingredients, with tasty samples, practical tips, and fresh ideas for eating well.

Film Screening: "Caregiving"

Sandia Room

Create and Celebrate

From Executive Producer Bradley Cooper, this documentary, narrated by Uzo Aduba and directed by Chris Durrance, shares the personal stories and history of caregiving in America, revealing both its challenges and its profound meaning

Falls Risk Prevention using Tai Chi Methodologies

Truchas Room

Stay Strong, Stay Safe

Presenter: Dawn Armstrong, Tai Chi Instructor

Practice gentle Tai Chi movements, either seated or standing, to improve balance, increase strength, and help prevent falls.

Capital Outlay Training

New Mexico Hall M TIPS Training

Presenters: **Tasha Martinez**, New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department
Training for Innovative Possibilities to Serve Seniors. **This session is only available to senior service providers in the Aging & Disability Networks.**



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 12:30 PM — 2:00 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 12:30 PM — 2:00 PM

Lunch Dining Hall

Gather around for a family-style Mediterranean lunch filled with fresh flavors to refuel and recharge before the afternoon's engaging sessions.





WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Rooted Self-Care: Indigenous Wisdom for Modern Wellness

Holcomb 302-303

Rooted and Resilient

Presenter: Valerie Tsosie, So' Tsoh Foundation

Experience an Indigenous and earth-centered approach to self-care, creating rituals that honor rest, connect to the land, and nourish the body, mind, and spirit.

Library Support Services for Older Adults

Holcomb 304-305

Connected Communities

Presenters: Eli Guinnee, Jennifer Finley-McGill, & Berdina Nieto,

NM Department of Cultural Affairs

Learn about free library programs and services for older adults, including resources for the blind and print disabled, digital literacy training, and expanded cultural opportunities.

Empowering Choices: New Mexico's New Supported Decision Making Law and Its Impact on Vulnerable Adults

Holcomb 201
Aging in Action

Presenters: **MayLou Poli** & **Corey Roybal**, New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department Learn about New Mexico's new Supported Decision-Making law, which helps vulnerable adults make informed choices, retain legal rights, and live with greater independence.

Advance Healthcare Directive Workshop

Holcomb 202
Aging in Action

Presenter: Janice Wilson, End of Life Option New Mexico
Discuss Advance Healthcare Directives, including choosing a Healthcare Agent, treatment considerations, and starting the conversation.

Improving Resiliency Through Play

Holcomb 203-206

Stay Strong, Stay Safe

Presenter: **Athena Valerio-Hirschfeld**, Albuquerque Fire Rescue Learn how staying active in everyday life builds strength, resilience, and confidence, while reducing the risk of falls as we age.



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

The 5 R's of Functional Medicine: How They Can Support Your Gut Health

Holcomb 207 Stay Strong, Stay Safe

Presenter: **Dawn Armstrong**, Certified Functional Medicine Coach

Learn about a holistic, personalized approach to health focused on nutrition, balanced diet, physical activity, and sleep.

How Can I Prevent Changes In My Memory And Cognition As I Age?

Holcomb 208
Mind Matters

Presenter: Janice Knoefel, MD, University of New Mexico

Learn how cognitive abilities change with age, what signals serious conditions, and how daily habits can support a healthy brain.

Aging & Disability Resource Center: Options Counseling

Holcomb 209

Aging in Action

ADRC Options Counselors, New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department
One-on-one help with an options counselor who can help you navigate Medicaid and Medicare benefits, long-term care options, home-delivered meals, and more.

Antidote for Stress

Holcomb 403-406

Caregiver Toolkit

Presenter: **Melissa Smith**, **M.A.**, **LMHC**, Caregiver Wellness Resources

Learn mindfulness and self-care techniques to build coping skills and practice compassion in action rather than reaction.

Inside Outside Masks/Boxes

Holcomb 101

Create & Celebrate

Presenter: Ruth Dennis, LPCC, Vista Listens Therapeutic Center

Create a two-sided mask to explore how you present yourself to the world versus how you feel inside, using colors, textures, and materials for self-expression and reflection.



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Basics of Hands-On Caregiving

Holcomb 102

Caregiver Toolkit

Please note: This session is 90 minutes in length and will run until 4:00 PM

Presenter: Janet Smith, RN, Northern New Mexico Palliative Care

Learn essential hands-on caregiving skills from a registered nurse, including safe techniques for assisting with daily activities, such as eating and dressing, and providing compassionate support.

ALL SESSIONS FROM 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Easy Steps to Big Warm Flavors Cooking Demo

Aspen Cafe

Nourish to Flourish

Presenters: Mattson McFarland, Private Chef

Create flavorful blender salsas and a quick, veggie-packed dinner using simple, whole-food ingredients, with tasty samples, practical tips, and fresh ideas for eating well.

Film Screening: "Caregiving"

Sandia Room

Create and Celebrate

From Executive Producer Bradley Cooper, this documentary, narrated by Uzo Aduba and directed by Chris Durrance, shares the personal stories and history of caregiving in America, revealing both its challenges and its profound meaning

Ageless Power

Truchas Room

Stay Strong, Stay Safe

Presenter: **Adrienne Shurbet**, Executive Director, Punching Out Parkinson's A fun, non-contact movement class for all abilities that blends shadow boxing, stretching, strength, and balance exercises to boost coordination, focus, and overall well-being.

New Mexico Grown Training

New Mexico Hall M

TIPS Training

Presenters: **Ophelia Steppe, Mitch Gray**, New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department Training for Innovative Possibilities to Serve Seniors. **This session is only available to senior service providers in the Aging & Disability Networks**.



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Social Dance & Dinner Buffet

New Mexico Hall Lawn

We're thrilled to welcome Al Hurricane Jr. as this year's featured performer at the Conference on Aging's Evening Social! A legendary figure in New Mexico music, Al Hurricane Jr. has been delighting fans for over 50 years with his soulful rancheras and crowd-pleasing energy.

From chart-topping hits like "Flor de Las Flores" to sold-out shows across the Southwest, Al Jr. carries on the musical legacy of his iconic family with heart, rhythm, and undeniable stage presence. Whether performing at international festivals or headlining stadiums, he brings generations together through music.

Come enjoy an unforgettable evening under the stars filled with live music, dancing, and celebration.



Al Hurricane, Jr.

Going into his sixth decade in the music business, Al Hurricane Jr. has climbed to the top of New Mexico Music's legendary performers. He has helped craft the sound of the popular ranchera music that many loyal fans enjoy today. All of his music is recorded with a technical perfection and underlying soul that comes across to the listener.









We Are New Mexico!

AARP New Mexico is right here in our state working on issues that are important to you and your family. We live here too so we know New Mexico.

Find us at aarp.org/nm or aarp.org/nearyou





@AARPNM





New Mexico residents can take advantage of these rebates and credits!

Below are some rebates and credits worth looking into:

- PIT-ADJ:
 - exemptions for individuals 65 and older, military retirement income, and social security income.
 - · exemption for centennials.
- PIT-CR:
 - unreimbursed and uncompensated medical care expenses of \$28,000 or more may be eligible to claim an exemption of \$3,000 and a tax credit of \$2,800.
 - property tax credit up to \$250 in Santa Fe, Los Alamos, and Dona Ana counties.

Even if you are not required to file a federal return, you will want to consider filing a New Mexico return to claim the credits above and get a refund.

Unclaimed Property

Every year in New Mexico, millions of dollars and other personal assets go unclaimed.

SEARCH YOUR NAME AND SUBMIT A CLAIM!



Unclaimed.Property@tax.nm.gov



1-505-827-0668

To use the QR Code open your phone camera to scan it.





https://nmclaims.unclaimedproperty.com/en/



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 — OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FREE Flu Vaccines

Sponsored by NM Department of Health, Public Health Division. Vaccines will be available in the Patio 24/25 Aging Expo Room

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FREE small barn box GIVEAWAY

With local honey, beans, & posole, sponsored by New Mexico Department of Health, New Mexico WIC & Senior Farmers' Market Programs in the Patio 24/25 Aging Expo Room

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Fitness Walk & Softball Throw

Hosted by New Mexico Senior Olympics

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Fly Line Zip Line

A fast and beautiful trip through the sky. Start from the top of the Holcomb Building and glide into the forest! Weight Minimum: 45 lbs. Weight Maximum: 275 lbs. Stairs are required for this activity.

9:30 AM

Hiking 101

Hosted by New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Division

9:30 AM

EnhanceFitness

A FUN evidence based group exercise class designed for older adults. Hosted under the tent at New Mexico Hall Lawn.



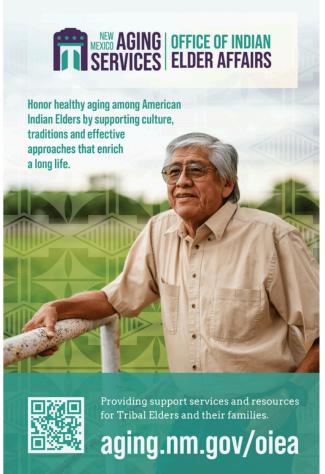
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 | 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Breakfast Dining Hall

On this third and final day, enjoy family-style breakfast tacos with new friends while recapping the connections and lessons from the days before.







THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 9:30 AM — 10:30 AM

Residents' Rights Bingo

Holcomb 302-303

Aging in Action

Sponsored by New Mexico Healthcare Association

Presenter: **Deanna Anaya**, New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department
Play Resident Rights Bingo, a fun twist on traditional Bingo that teaches the rights of nursing home and assisted living residents.

Aging Gracefully

Holcomb 304-305

Rooted and Resilient

Presenter: Ricardo Caté, Without Reservations

Explore the meaning of aging gracefully through stories of living with type-2 diabetes, blending humor, honesty, and practical tips for nurturing mind, body, and spirit.

How to Maintain a Healthy Body for a Lifetime

Holcomb 201

Stay Strong, Stay Safe

Presenter: Ann Hager, ReFocus Fitness Consulting

Learn strategies for healthy eating, exercise, goal setting, and staying motivated, with a focus on strength, balance, and flexibility as you age.

Dignity at the End: Exploring Compassionate Choices

Holcomb 202

Aging in Action

Presenter: Beverly Gholson, End of Life Option New Mexico

Explore legal end-of-life options in New Mexico, including Medical Aid in Dying and Voluntary Stopping Eating and Drinking, and how to address them in an Advance Healthcare Directive.

Nature's Invitation: Exploring State Parksfor Older Adults

Holcomb 203-206

ing State Parksfor Older Adults Connected Communities

Presenter: Peter Lipscomb & Robert Smith, New Mexico State Parks

Discover the accessible trails, programs, and amenities that make state parks welcoming destinations for older adults.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 9:30 AM — 10:30 AM

Loneliness & Connection in the Digital Age

Holcomb 207

Connected Communities

Presenter: **Trish Lopez**, Teeniors

Explore how technology both connects and isolates us, from fostering relationships to enabling romance scams and digital addiction.

Social Security: You Earned It!

Holcomb 208
Aging in Action

Sponsored by AARP New Mexico

Presenter: Joseph Roybal-Sanchez, AARP New Mexico

Learn how cognitive abilities change with age, what signals serious conditions, and how daily habits can support a healthy brain.

Recognizing the Early Signs of Parkinson's: A Caregiver's Perspective

Holcomb 209

Mind Matters

Presenter: Karen St. Clair, Memory Care Alliance

Learn to recognize the 10 early warning signs of Parkinson's, enabling earlier diagnosis, better planning, and improved quality of life for those affected and their caregivers.

Accessing Resources to Prevent Falls

Holcomb 403-406

Stay Strong, Stay Safe

Presenter: Cynthia LaCoe, Oasis Albuquerque

Learn why falls are a growing public health concern for older adults and discover practical steps to reduce your risk.

Hands-On History: Potsherd Painting with Traditional Tools

Holcomb 101

Create & Celebrate

Presenter: Ziggy Prothro, Office of Archaeological Studies

Paint replica potsherds with traditional yucca paints and brushes while learning about the

importance of pottery in archaeology.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 | 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

ALL SESSIONS FROM 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Artful Affirmations: Collage for Positive Change

Holcomb 102

Create and Celebrate

Presenter: Ruth Dennis, LPCC, Vista Listens Therapeutic Center

Create collage poems and affirmation cards through mindfulness and art, using words and images to inspire positive change, self-esteem, and self-compassion.

Strong Bones, Strong Body: Cooking for Bone and Muscle Health

Aspen Cafe
Nourish to Flourish

Presenters: **Fallon Bader**, Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, The Sprouting Kitchen Learn how calcium, vitamin D, and protein support strong bones and muscles through simple recipes and practical tips for healthy aging.

Film Screening: Rez Ball

Sandia Room

Create and Celebrate

Sponsored by NM Film Office

After losing their star player, a high school basketball team rooted in Native American culture must unite to keep their state championship dreams alive. Filmed in New Mexico.

Making the Most of Medicare: Preparing for Fall Open Enrollment

Truchas Room Aging in Action

Presenter: **Kris Winterowd**, New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department
Learn how to maximize your Medicare benefits and potentially lower costs during Open Enrollment
(October 15–December 7) by reviewing plan changes and comparing options.



KNOW THE SIGNS





THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 | 11:00 AM — 12:00 PM

11:00 AM — 12:00 PM

Farewell Plenary Session

Holcomb Auditorium

Presenters: Madyson Kettler, Joe Hayes, & Cabinet Secretary Josette Monet
Our closing plenary brings together inspiration, storytelling, and a heartfelt farewell. Miss New
Mexico, Madyson Kettler, will open with reflections on caregiving and her commitment to helping
older adults age with dignity.

Then, beloved storyteller Joe Hayes takes the stage with a medley of Southwestern tales. Long before screens or books, stories connected communities. Joe's words will entertain, inspire, and remind us it's never too late to start telling your own.

We'll conclude with closing remarks from Josett Monette, Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department, who will send us off with gratitude and a vision for the work ahead.



Madyson Kettler, Miss New Mexico 2025

Madyson Kettler is Miss New Mexico 2025. She plans to pursue a doctorate in physical therapy with a focus on geriatric care. Through her community initiative Get Going, she promotes active aging and intergenerational connection.



Joe Hayes Storyteller

Joe Hayes will share a medley of Southwestern tales to entertain, and maybe even inspire you. It's never too late to start telling your own stories. Did you ever hear a story like the one Joe just told? Well, maybe it's time for you to start telling it.



Cabinet Secretary
Josette Monet

Josett Monette, a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, is Cabinet Secretary for the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department. She is an attorney with extensive experience in Indian law, previously directing the Native American Program at New Mexico Legal Aid.

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Lunch

Outside of Holcomb

Thank you for attending this year's conference! Please enjoy a box lunch as you travel home, or take some time to eat al fresco at the various picnic tables across Glorieta!



HOUSEKEEPING

First Aid Station

Holcomb Lawn

Supported by Medical Reserve Corps
Bureau of Health Emergency Management, NM DOH

The First Aid Tent is staffed by licensed medical professionals and will be available during all conference hours. If you are feeling unwell or need first aid, please stop by for assistance. In the event of an emergency, please call 911.

Lost & Found

First Aid Station on Holcomb Lawn

Please visit or check with staff if you misplace or find an item during the conference.

Senior Lounge

New Mexico Hall

Sponsored by MedScope

Offers coffee, games, and a welcoming space to relax or connect. Open during conference hours.

Interpretation Services

Check In Desk Dining Hall

Sponsored by New Mexico Department of Health

Please visit the check in desk to request interpretation services. Thanks to the support from New Mexico Department of Health, we are offering ASL, Spanish, and Diné.

Conference Survey

Please take our conference survey by scanning the QR code to provide feedback that will help with future events. If you have any photos from the conference that you'd like to share, please email them to marketing@altsd.nm.gov





NOTES





"Use Your Home to Stay at Home"

The Santa Fe Community Housing Trust provides HUD approved Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) counseling. To qualify you need to be over 62 years old, a homeowner, and possess substantial equity in your home. If so, this Federal Housing Administration (FHA) reverse mortgage product may be a viable alternative to consider.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

6005 Jaguar Drive, Ste 101 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507

505-989-3960

info@housingtrustonline.org





CHRISTUS St. Vincent Center for Healthy Aging 1692 Hospital Dr. Bldg. A, Santa Fe, NM 87505 (505) 913-3401











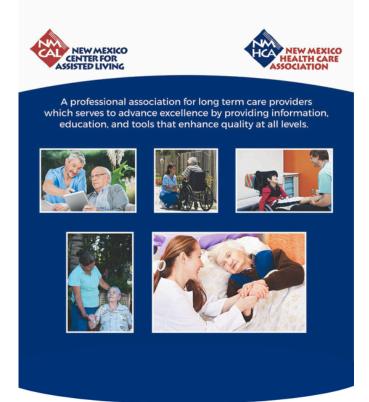
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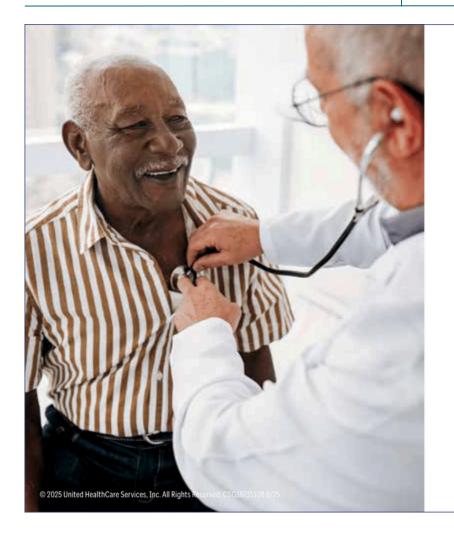
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Regional Director
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E: rschwartz@medscope.org
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Building healthy communities, right here in New Mexico

At UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of New Mexico, we're dedicated to the communities we serve. We believe nothing should stand in the way of quality, affordable health care.

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United Healthcare Community Plan









Your data, unified and maximized

Peregrine's real-time decision and operations management platform empowers public safety agencies with the data they need to solve their hardest problems and do their best work.







ELEGANT ASSISTED LIVING

The Retreat Villas is a part of the Award-Winning Retreat Healthcare campus. Retreat Healthcare is a dementia capable organization, privately owned and operated in New Mexico.



The Retreat Villa is a Joint Commission Accredited Assisted Living Community. First in New Mexico to achieve this Gold Seal Status!

Daily Nurse Check • Amazing Outdoor Gardens and Walking Paths

Daily Engagement to Keep you Feeling Purposeful

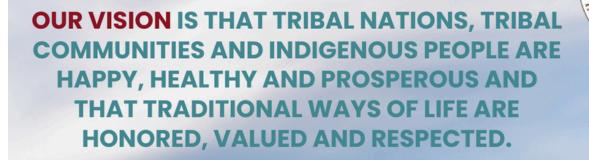
On-site Physician Visits • Friendship • Joy • Security







For Tours or More Information Call 505-896-8087 or Visit RetreatVillasnm.com





OUR MISSION

The Indian Affairs Department (IAD) is committed to:

- Advocating for tribal interests at state and federal levels through policy and legislative work;
- Supporting tribes with access to resources, technical assistance and funding opportunities;
- Connecting tribes with the executive branch, other tribes and with the tools and resources they need to be self-governing and self-sufficient.

IAD administers key funding such as:

- Tribal Infrastructure Fund (TIF): Competitive funding for robust community proposals from federally recognized Nations, Pueblos and Tribes.
- Capital Outlay funding: Authorized by the Legislature and the Governor, typically for building, improving or equipping public-use physical property.

IAD focuses on matters such as:

- Behavioral Health & Suicide Prevention
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP)
- Environmental Justice
- Policy & Legislation
- And more!

FY25 TOP FUNDED PROJECTS RELATED TO TRIBES

- Administered \$63.3 million for 122 **Capital Outlay projects**
- Awarded \$1.15 million to 11 Tribal and community partners from the \$25M behavioral health fund
- Awarded \$80.5 million for 28 TIF projects
- Awarded \$1.27 million in GRO funds to 7 Tribal-serving projects
- Awarded \$1.6 million in Tribal **Senior Centers**

IAD SPONSORED LEGISLATION

These bills reflect IAD's ongoing commitment to advancing policies that uphold the political integrity, health, safety, and welfare of Native Americans across New Mexico.

The Tribal Regalia law S.B. 163 - permits Native American students at public and charter schools to wear tribal regalia at graduation ceremonies and other events.



New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham signed the Tribal Regalia bill into law on March 19, 2025. The Turquoise Alert S.B. 41 - is a specialized emergency response alert system for missing Native Americans across the state of New Mexico.



New Mexico was the fourth state to implement an alert system for missing Native Americans.









HOW TO REACH US

Aging & Disability
Resource Center

800-432-2080 nm.adrc@altsd.nm.gov

Aging Network Division

800-432-2080 nm.adrc@altsd.nm.gov

Adult Protective Services

Report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation 866-654-3219, option #3 nm.aps2@altsd.nm.gov

Long-Term Care
Ombudsman Program

800-432-2080 <u>altsd-omb-supervisor@altsd.nm.gov</u>

NewMexiCare

800-432-2080 newmexicare@altsd.nm.gov

Office of Indian Elder Affairs

505-316-5292 oiea.info@altsd.nm.gov



WE INVITE YOU TO TAKE A SURVEY ABOUT YOUR CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE



aging.nm.gov

2550 Cerrillos Road Santa Fe, NM 87505

