



HOUSING FOR ALL!!!

NEWS FROM THE NEW MEXICO COALITION
TO END HOMELESSNESS

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Supportive Housing at Work

**Ericka Kidd, Co-Program Manager/Supportive Housing Navigator,
St. Elizabeth's Shelter at Santa Fe Suites Apartments**

The Santa Fe Suites Apartments, a supportive housing program of St. Elizabeth's Shelter, opened in December 2019. The goal has been to provide a home for the unhoused; we coach them in caring for themselves and guide them towards long term, sustainable, affordable housing. Once someone is housed, it is only the beginning. Successful housing must be paired with care coordination to address medical and behavioral health issues, that likely have contributed to an inability to maintain housing.

The complex has 120 units, 2/3 are occupied by individuals who were homeless or precariously housed through the use of vouchers or other funding assistance. The remaining units are below market rate, and support workforce renters with a range of incomes, including households receiving section 8 subsidy, seniors on fixed incomes and individuals trying to establish a positive rental history. All residents have access to supportive housing navigation services. Our navigators provide support with a multitude of needs. A day in the life of a navigator can be helping a resident obtain an I.D., transporting and accompanying a resident to their medical appointment, calling Adult Protective Services, discussing going to rehab, assisting with housing applications, holding space for mental health expression, applying for a job or coaching a resident on how to schedule transportation. These professional problem-solvers are the keys to helping keep individuals housed and improving their quality of life; they network with several other agencies to most effectively pair the voluminous needs.

Successfully ending homelessness for someone begins with a personal connection. If you'd like to help our team as a volunteer, we are looking for individuals to assist in various ways such as teaching life skills, leading an activity, being a friend to the lonely and providing hope. Please contact us at (505) 982-1154, if you're interested.



Ericka with client/resident, Boris .

2022 Legislative Update!

Brie Sillery, Communications Strategist,

New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness

The 2022 Legislative Session was only 30-days and saw great success for housing initiatives. Housing and homelessness is a priority for many state legislators, and it was great to see the teamwork between legislators and advocates to move important initiatives forward.

The biggest win out of the session was SB134 (sponsored by Senator Nancy Rodriguez and Rep. Small), which brings annually recurring funds to the NM Housing Trust Fund; facilitated by the Mortgage Finance Authority. This recurring source of funding received bi-partisan support and will provide up to \$24M every year starting in 2024 to help to address the need for more affordable housing. An additional \$34M was awarded as one-time funding to the MFA for the development and rehabilitation of affordable housing. Another priority this year was to increase the funding to the state housing voucher program, Linkages. This was awarded an additional \$500,000, which will be used to either increase the vouchers available or to support the program demand on funding due to the increase in rent.

The Housing Modernization Changes bill (HB65) was reintroduced this year and made it through to Senate Judiciary, where it was scheduled but not heard. We know that this is not the last we will hear of bringing improvements forward to the landlord/tenant law, and we appreciate the tireless efforts of our legislators; Rep. Andrea Romero, Rep. Angelica Rubio, Rep. Kristina Ortez, Rep. Linda Serrato, and Senator Carrie Hamblen.

Many thanks go to all of our legislative champions and the MFA for speaking tirelessly on the need for more affordable housing and thank you all for your continued support!



Mini-Grant Submissions are being reviewed!

Thank you to all the incredible agencies who applied for our General Fund mini-grants and our Veteran's Fund mini-grants this year. 26 agencies applied for funding overall. NMCEH's Advisory Board is now reviewing applications to ensure funds are distributed most effectively throughout our state. We will be reaching out with news about the recipients of funding soon!

HOUSING FOR ALL!!!

Our Sincere Gratitude Goes Out to These Individuals and Business Supporters

(since previous newsletter)

Paul Abrams, in honor of Abigal Adler

Abigal Adler

Michael Armstrong

Admiral Jon Barr

Raphael & Karen Benjamin

Nancy Bennett

Jean Bergeron

Margaret Blackburn

Phebe Brecher

Christopher Calvert

Thomas Claffey

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Nancy Dahl

Dorothy Fitch

Patricia & Richard Gilliam, in honor of Walker Gilligan

James Hammerberg

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Dolores Herrera

Sheela Hewitt

Ruth & Robert Howes

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Julia Hunkins

Robert & Pamela Mang

Linda McClendon

Dee Ann McIntyre

Steve Morrell, in honor of Robert & Elaine Morrell

Suzanne & Frank Mulholland

Diane Naranjo

Nancy Osterman

Edward R. & Melanie A. Ranney

Daniel & Diana Tharp

Joan Viele

Jim & Mary Helen Whitfill, in memory of Deacon

Andy Lopez

Nancy Wirth

Special Thanks to:

The Charles Piper Cost Foundation

Santa Fe Title Company

The Wallen Eloisa Family Fund

Honoring the life of Abigal Adler

Abigail served on the board of St. Elizabeth Shelter for many years and then on the Advisory Board of the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness. Homelessness was a cause that she really cared about, and her support meant so much to so many who knew her.

Advisory Board:

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For a list of our Board of Directors, Advisory Board, Staff and our 80 members organizations, please go to www.nmceh.org

The New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness



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The Early intervention project: helping families with rental assistance

An interview with Stephanie Lefebvre, Office Manager

New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness

The Early Intervention Project offers families struggling with rent and utility payments monetary assistance so that they will not face homelessness because of an inability to pay. NMCEH works with partner agencies in Santa Fe, who refer clients in need to the Early Intervention Project. Stephanie also noted that, as more families seek assistance, many are contacting NMCEH themselves, hearing about the project through word of mouth.



Stephanie commented that many of the clients she works with are families with young children and that many of these families are unable to pay rent or utilities due to COVID-19 related setbacks. She relayed a story of a young woman she recently assisted (who will remain unnamed) with three young children and a fourth on the way. She and her husband were financially okay before the pandemic, Stephanie explained. However, with the onset of the pandemic her husband's work cut down his hours and they could no longer maintain their monthly expenses. This, Stephanie explained, seems to be the trend rather than the exception for clients seeking assistance.

NMCEH recently applied for renewed funding from the City of Santa Fe to maintain and continue the Project and received full funds. This is a meaningful continuation to help those who most need assistance with rental and utility payments and we thank the City of Santa Fe for supporting this important initiative!