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NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBOR

Inspirational Stories from the Community

2020 has been a challenging year for so many in New Mexico. We are grateful for your ongoing commitment to help meet the needs of our communities. Your generosity inspires us to share impactful stories from non-profits who are doing work "on the ground" -- the Food Bank of Eastern New Mexico and Colores United in New Mexico.



Food Bank of Eastern New Mexico

New Mexico Foundation's *Vecino - Neighbor Helping Neighbor Fund* provided grant funds to the Food Bank of Eastern New Mexico in Clovis (FBEN). This food bank is leading hunger relief efforts in eastern New Mexico, amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic. Post-pandemic hunger rates are approximately 20 percent in each of the five counties served by FBEN. The Food Bank has seen as much as a 62 percent increase in clients served in the past six months versus 2019.



"We are so grateful and appreciative to be selected as grantees of Vecino. This gift has allowed us to meet hunger needs in Curry, Roosevelt, DeBaca, Quay, and Guadalupe counties for hundreds of families each week, and to double our food distribution output to more than 2 million meals in the face of this crisis."

> Dianna Sprague, Food Bank of Eastern New Mexico, Executive Director





Colores United

Vecino - Neighbor Helping Neighbor Fund, also provided grant funding to Colores United in Waterfall, New Mexico. Colores has distributed stipends and food boxes to community members across Luna, Hidalgo, Grant, and Dona Ana counties, to address food insecurity due to COVID-19. Since the beginning of COVID-19, Colores United has distributed just under 329,000 pounds of food to the communities.

"Colores United has been so humbled by the awarded grants made possible by the Vecino Fund. Without this support, our community of over 500 families members would not have received food. Our community is still standing because of these grants. Thank you to Vecino Fund for believing in our community and Colores United." Ariana Saludares,

Colores United, President/Co-Founder

Thank you for your support that greatly impacted our communities during this unprecedented year of need. All of our efforts could not have been achieved with you. **You** are the foundation of our work. Please consider a contribution to our **Annual Fund** now.

New Mexico Foundation Staff and Board wish you a safe and joyous holiday season!

Give to NMF Annual Fund