



Northern Area Newsletter

-December 2022

Giving Back To The Community

New Mexico
Workforce Connection

A Proud Partner of the American Job Center Network

Message from the Board:

As the end of the year draws near, The Northern Area Local Workforce Development Board would like to take the opportunity to share a few words of reflection. Not only are we appreciative of the workforce services being provided in our New Mexico Workforce Connection Centers, but the NALWDB also takes great pride in seeing how the partners of these centers have come together to support their communities throughout the holiday and winter seasons. By giving back today, you offer hope for those who need it most and provide a better a chance for a better tomorrow. We know and understand the value of your contributions and encourage every staff member to take a few moments to recognize how your individual and specific actions are impactful, not only for the customer you are working directly with, but the community as a whole. Because of you, the Northern Region is building a brighter future for New Mexico.

Have a happy holiday season and a wonderful new year!

-NALWDB



Board Chair-Joseph Weathers

Executive Director-Lisa Ortiz

Operations Manager-Barney Trujillo

Program Specialist-Brittany Valencia

Program/Policy Monitor-Kevin Boyar

Project Specialist/Communications-Amber Gomez

One-Stop Operator-Ericka Van Eckhoutte

Associate Operator-Valorie Valdez





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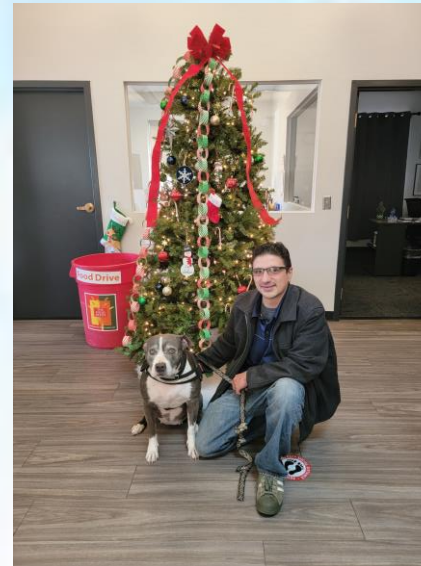
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It is our honor to assist our friends and partners at the Food Depot in collecting donations for those in need during the 2022 Holiday Season. Thank you to our wonderful Santa Fe One Stop staff and partners for your generous food and nonperishable donations to include a \$500 monetary donation from an anonymous donor, I couldn't be prouder of our team!!

The Santa Fe NMWFC team; DWS, HELPNM, DVR, and Job Corps took the time to come together and share their favorite dishes, desserts, finger foods and gifts; but best of all to enjoy each other's company. It is ALWAYS a good time when we can find the time to come together to celebrate each other and our success as a team! Way to Go Santa Fe!





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Longfellow Christmas Story Time

It has been a blessing to be able to give back to our community. With the Help of New Mexico Workforce Connection, Raton Ambassadors, Zia Youth, Super Save, Dollar General, and Shuler Theater, we were able to bring a little bit of Holiday joy to the students of Longfellow Elementary School. Our partner staff, Josh and Patty Duran, provided some festive Christmas Carols to welcome the students into the assembly. Shuler Theater provided the students with the story The Night Before Christmas, as read by Mike Kolwaski (Santa) and Sara Kolwaski (Mrs. Claus), and Holiday Bags were handed out by partner staff, Beven Fleming (An Angel) and Chicky Lee Gomez (An Elf). These holidays bags were made up of donations from Dollar General, Super Save, and Raton Ambassadors, with the assistance of Zia Youth. The children were so excited and enjoyed the assembly. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful event!



Wow! What an amazing Christmas Community Event sponsored by Las Vegas New Mexico Workforce Connection Center with the support of all staff and a special thanks to the local businesses; Northern Construction, Earthtones Construction, Dairy Queen (Oliver Lesperance), O/X Ranch, Brilliancy Photography, Leroy Vigil, Pedro's Bakery, and Starbucks. Families from San Miguel and Mora Counties received a Holiday boxed meal complete with all the fixings. The meal included a ham, potatoes, a vegetable, stuffing, butter, gravy, rolls, pumpkin pie, and sparkling cider. There were 14 Holiday meal boxes given out. 7 San Miguel County families and 7 Mora County families were gifted meals and gifts. 32 children were excited to see Santa Claus and receive their gift, and enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies with Santa Claus. It was a great experience to see the smiles on all the children's faces and their Christmas wishes come true for 2022!



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The staff of the Gallup New Mexico Workforce Connection Center, in partnership with TANF, came together to participate in the 2022 Angel Tree Toy Drive. This event brought staff and partners together while providing gifts for 23 kids in the McKinley county area!





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On Monday December 19, 2022, The Farmington New Mexico Workforce Connection Staff assisted the Salvation Army with bagging toys and games for 400+ children in the San Juan County area. The gifts will be delivered by the Salvation Army for distribution. It's been a wonderful experience for staff to help fulfill children's wishes and give back to the community.

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It was a great day in the town of Mora! The Taos and Las Vegas New Mexico Workforce Connection Centers came together, and staff members distributed Christmas meals to over 400 families. These meals included ham, rolls, potatoes, vegetables, butter and sparkling cider in a nicely decorated Christmas Box that was wrapped by the Mora High School Students. The community of Mora was very grateful for the Holiday Meal they received today.





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From our heart to yours, thank you for your partnership and efforts during 2022! Let's make 2023 even *BIGGER*!

