

Strong Families New Mexico Legislative Report Card 2013




Strong Families New Mexico is part of the national Strong Families initiative and is staffed by Forward Together, a national organization that brings together over one hundred and twenty organizations that are changing conditions for families across the country.



Strong Families New Mexico

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Strong Families New Mexico Report Card
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El Centro de Igualdad y Derechos

Families United for Education

Media Literacy Project

Men of Color Initiative

NM Asian Family Center

NM Dreamers in Action

NM Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice

OLÉ—Organizers in the Land of Enchantment

Tewa Women United

Young Women United



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Executive Summary

Strong Families New Mexico is a network of more than fifteen local and statewide organizations that believe every family should have the rights, recognition, and resources it needs to thrive. We recognize that families come in all shapes, sizes, and ages; biological and chosen; living in one household, many households, or across national borders; documented,

undocumented, or mixed status; with children or without. And we pursue both culture shift and policy change to ensure that all families have what they need to survive and thrive in New Mexico, the land of enchantment.

The Strong Families New Mexico Report Card examines 18 pieces of legislation introduced

STRONG FAMILIES LEGISLATION		Died in Committee	Passed House & Senate	Vetoed by Governor	Enacted into Law
EDUCATION EQUITY	HB 112 Data in School Accountability Report		✓		✓
	HB 300 School Excused Absences for Pregnancy		✓		✓
	HJR 13 Children Permanent Fund	✗			
	SB 183 Replace GED terms with Equivalency Diploma		✓	✗	
	SB 582 School District Family Engagement Programs	✗			
HEALTH EQUITY	SB 221 NM Health Insurance Exchange		✓		✓
	HB 217 Native American Youth Suicide Prevention	✗			
	HB 17 Dental Therapist Licensure and Practice	✗			
ECONOMIC JUSTICE	HB 216 Fair Pay for Women Act		✓		✓
	SB 416 Raise Minimum Wage		✓	✗	
	SB 109 Working Families Tax Credit	✗			
CIVIL RIGHTS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE	HB 304 Human Trafficking Civil Remedies		✓		✓
	SB 294 Criminal Record Expungement Act		✓	✗	
	HM 30 Uniting American Families Act		House		✓
	SB 579 State Agency Institutional Racism Review	✗			
	HB 269 No Time Limit for Rape Prosecution	✗			
ANTI-FAMILY LEGISLATION		Died in Committee	Passed House & Senate	Vetoed by Governor	Enacted into Law
ANTI-FAMILY	HB 641 Omnibus Tax Bill		✓		✓
	SB 40 No Electronic Communication in Jail		✓		✓

during the 2013 regular session that would have direct impacts—positive or negative—on families in New Mexico. The Report Card also provides information on individual legislators' responses to these bills and evaluates and grades each chamber of the legislature.

This report addresses legislation affecting families in four major areas: education equity, health equity, economic justice, civil rights and criminal justice. A final category, anti-family legislation, examines bills that reinforce or increase disparities between families in our state.

During the 2013 session, both the Senate and the House received a B- grade. These grades show the need for more collective leadership from lawmakers in addressing issues that affect families in New Mexico. The five bills that became law are a good starting place. When passed in the future, the eleven other pieces of proactive legislation featured in the Report Card will help ensure full inclusion and equity, benefiting all New Mexicans to create shared prosperity, greater democracy, and a state in which all families can thrive.

In order to see that outcomes and opportunities benefit all New Mexicans now and into the future, state lawmakers should consider the following recommendations:

- 1. Implement policies that proactively support families of all kinds.** New Mexico's families come in all shapes and sizes. Policy needs to catch up to how families exist today—and leaders should make sure the policies they propose meet the needs of the many kinds of families in their districts, without benefiting or punishing certain kinds of families or family structures over others.
- 2. Partner with community groups to create stronger policy solutions.** Strong Families New Mexico has more than fifteen partner organizations who work in communities across the state. Legislators can create stronger policy proposals by partnering with community groups to craft legislation, seeking input from groups about the needs they see in the community, and asking groups to share their expertise in what proposals would best serve the families they see daily.



Introduction

Ask a person “Who is in your family? What makes your family strong?” You will hear stories of love, connection, struggle, hope, and togetherness. You will hear about identity, community, biology, and the relationships beyond biology that make our families possible. In New Mexico, our families are defined by our communities and reflect our values, culture, and experiences. Our families come in all shapes, sizes, and ages; biological and chosen; living in one household, many households, or across national borders; documented, undocumented, or mixed status; with children or without.

It is this diverse array of families in cities, pueblos, rural areas, and through the valleys and mountains of our state—that make our state strong.

Too often the everyday realities of our families are missing from the media or are ignored in the rules and laws that govern our lives. Outdated notions of family continue to guide public policy—including what kinds of families are recognized in our state or how we deliver services to individuals and families. These outdated notions aren’t just leftover stereotypes from the Leave It to Beaver generation—they have real impacts on outcomes for families in our state because these old images influence how we create policy today. **To create the New Mexico we want, public policy needs to catch up to how families really exist.**

“My family includes my husband, children, extended family, and friends. It’s defined as the people that we love and who we are related to by blood. From a cultural perspective, family is the people I depend on for survival. The Santa Clara Pueblo has been here since time immemorial. We are one of the oldest cultures that is indigenous to the area. I’m proud to be Santa Clara—we are connected to this land, and it’s our traditions that keep us grounded.”

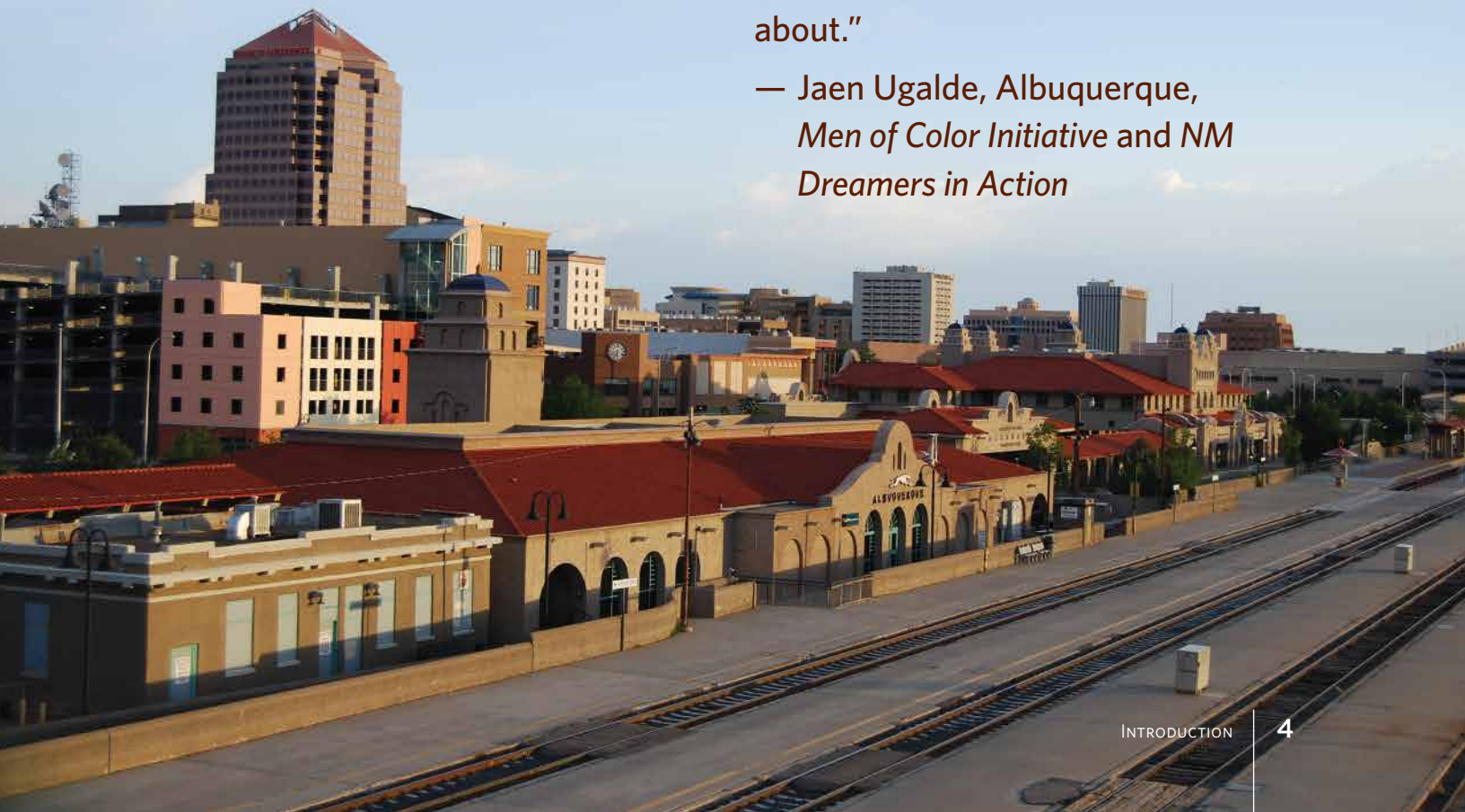
— Beata Tsosie, Santa Clara Pueblo, *Tewa Women United*

“We are 10th-generation New Mexicans. Our family includes cousins, aunts, uncles, grandparents, close friends. Family is beyond the ‘nuclear family’ and includes your 3rd and 4th cousins who you may only see once a year. What makes a family is commitment and loyalty to each other. Love is definitely part of it, but also a willingness to love each other and forgive each other. No family is perfect.”

— Andrea Serrano, Albuquerque,
OLÉ – Organizers in the Land of Enchantment

“What makes my family strong is our love for one another, our faith, and the example our family makes by working hard. We’re very involved in the community, and most of the people in my immediate family are always trying to serve New Mexico in some way. The diversity we have in our own home as a mixed status family (documented and undocumented individuals) makes us uniquely New Mexican. Our family lives the New Mexico value of being welcoming to other people, and that’s part of what being from this place is about.”

— Jaen Ugalde, Albuquerque,
Men of Color Initiative and NM Dreamers in Action



The Strong Families New Mexico legislative Report Card helps to lift up the experiences of diverse families in our state, but it is also a tool for helping policymakers understand the impact of legislation on today's families. Policy matters. We can maintain policies and institutional practices that reinforce the existing disparities between families in our state or we can reverse those policies. State leaders and government officials are in a unique position to respond to

our changing demographics and inequities by addressing barriers to opportunity, creating a fair playing field, and ensuring an equitable distribution of resources in our state.

Together—policymakers and community groups—can create new policies that support the many kinds of families in our state who are trying to build a better life for all families and for generations to come.

About This Report Card

Strong Families New Mexico, a regional program of Forward Together, works to change culture and policy to improve conditions for the most marginalized women and families. We are a network of over one hundred non-partisan community-based organizations that all strive to improve the lives of families in communities across the state. Strong Families New Mexico brings together groups from across a wide spectrum of social justice movements to advance a united vision of uplifting all our families: families of color, low-income families, immigrant families, indigenous families, single parent families, grandparents raising grandchildren, young families, and the family we create. Strong Families New Mexico helps groups link issues and communities using unified progressive family values.

The Strong Families Report Card Working Group was established in November 2012. During the legislative session, the Working Group began to track more than 80 bills that met at least one of the Strong Families policy criteria. In February 2013, Strong Families New Mexico sent letters to each legislator in the Roundhouse to let them know about the project, to ask for their bill submissions, and to share examples of bills that might be considered in the Report Card. Follow-up phone calls with legislative aides and office staff ensured that legislators were aware of the project.

Strong Families Policy Criteria

- Does the legislation recognize and support families of all formations?
- Does the legislation help to promote or achieve equitable outcomes for all families?
- Will the legislation expand government programs and services that support family wellbeing and the wellbeing of individuals within families?
- Does the legislation remove barriers that harm families in accessing government programs and services?
- Will the legislation protect families and the individuals that comprise them against discrimination, profiling, and harassment?

After the close of the session in April 2013, the Working Group made decisions about bills that would appear in the final Report Card and began researching and writing. Legislation that met multiple criteria was more likely to be selected for the final Report Card, in addition to careful evaluation of data that shows the current conditions and outcomes of families or the impact of the legislation. The potential impact on the families of New Mexico was estimated by reviewing and analyzing quantitative and qualitative sources of research, including nationally and New Mexico state-published studies. Additional information comes from responses provided by staff of state government agencies and nonprofit organizations.

Each chamber of the State Legislature is given a grade based on how they voted on bills considered to have the most significant impact on families, whether positive or negative. Votes on bills that have a positive impact on families and were approved in a full floor vote are awarded one point each. Votes to approve bills that have a negative impact on families are penalized by one point each. Thus, the total number of bills

that contribute to the chamber's grade is different for each chamber of the legislature.

Many individual legislators showed significant leadership in sponsoring or supporting proactive legislation that would benefit families during the 2013 session. It is important to note that in our inaugural effort, this report provides a grade for each chamber of the State Legislature, but not for individual legislators. We hope to use this first report to generate conversation with elected leaders about our Strong Families legislative criteria, to educate members about the conditions and experiences of families at the margins in our state, and to help create a shared understanding between elected leaders and community organizations about how policy affects families of all kinds. We intentionally did not grade individual legislators in this first round of the report, but may do so in future Report Cards as a way to provide information about votes and leadership around issues of family equity.

The end of this report contains legislators' individual votes on bills that went to a floor vote in either chamber.

Photo by El Centro de Igualdad y Derechos



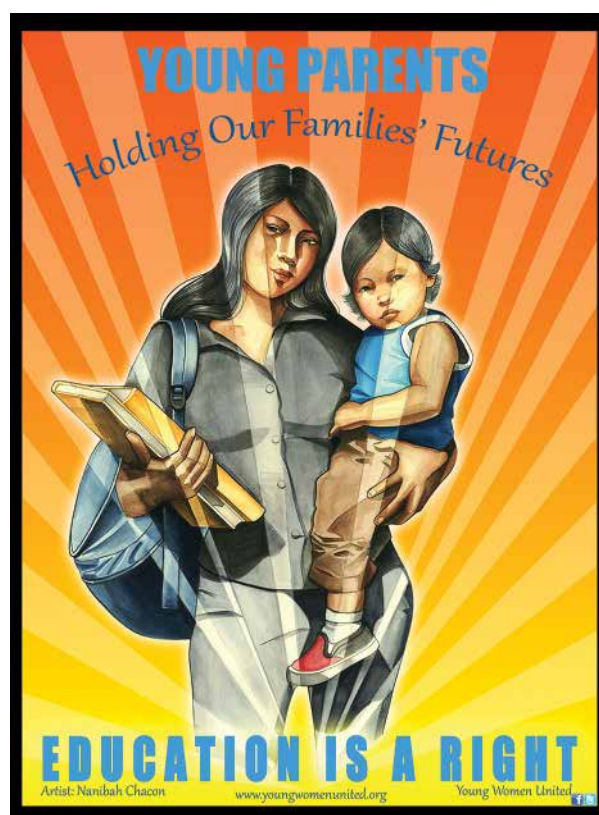
Education Equity

Across the state, families in New Mexico prioritize the education of their children. Whether you are a parent with a child in the classroom, a teacher or administrator working in a school, or an employer looking for the best and brightest—our education system touches everyone in the state. And it works best when all these elements—students, teachers, administrators, community, and future employers—are working together to improve our education outcomes.

In the 2012-13 school year, 338,223 students were enrolled in New Mexico's public and charter schools.¹ Unfortunately, New Mexico's education outcomes consistently put the state in the lowest national ranking for graduation rates; New Mexico ranks in the bottom 10 states in reading and math scores for fourth- and eighth-grade students and is in the bottom half of states for percent of the workforce with a college degree.²

New Mexico ranks 33rd in the country for investment in per student education, spending \$10,978 per student.³ **New Mexico has cut aid to higher education more deeply than any other state in the past five years**, in terms of dollars of funding per student. Only four states have cut per-student aid to K-12 education more than New Mexico.⁴

Clearly, public investment in New Mexico's education system is moving in the wrong direction—declining under the restraints of the economic recession and subsequent budget cuts. The State Legislature has made few improvements that address educational equity, contributing to the achievement gap facing students of color and low-income students. But solutions do exist. New Mexico's education policy needs to address not only the achievement gap, but the fundamental structure of education funding, which results in institutional barriers and unequal opportunity for too many youth in New Mexico.



NEW MEXICO ADJUSTED COHORT GRADUATION RATE 2010-11^{5A}

DEMOGRAPHIC	PERCENT GRADUATING
White	73%
African American	60%
Hispanic	59%
Asian/Pacific Islander	78%
American Indian/Alaska Native	56%
Limited English Proficiency	56%
Students with Disability	47%
Economically Disadvantaged	56%
Women*	67%
Men ^{5B}	58%

“Legislators stood in support of HB 300 speaking passionately about their own experience as a child of young parents, many sharing their own story as a former young parent. You could feel the shedding of the shame and stigma, as leaders spoke proudly about their lives as examples of how being a young parent is not the end of the road. HB 300 is one step in ensuring expectant and parenting students have educational equity.”

—Adriann Barboa, Field Director, *Strong Families New Mexico*

Legislation Passed During 2013 Session

HB 300 School Excused Absences for Pregnancy: Ensuring education equity for parenting students

Sponsored by Rep. Doreen Y. Gallegos (D-52)

✓ Passed House and Senate

✓ Signed into law by Governor Martinez

HB 300 requires each school district and charter school to establish an attendance policy that provides excused absences for pregnant and parenting students. The bill includes 10 excused absences for documented birth of child, or when pregnancy or caring for a child requires missing class. All absences must be documented and all work must be completed in the same number of days as when they were absent from school.

Graduation rates for young parents reflect the extraordinary barriers these students face. Nationally, only 34% of Hispanic teenage mothers receive a high school diploma, the lowest percentage of any ethnic group.⁷ Currently, there are an estimated 5,000 mothers who are between middle school and high school age statewide.⁸ Every year in New Mexico, approximately 7% of young women under the age of 20 become new parents. In 2009, median earnings in our state for adults over age 25 who had not completed high school was \$16,127, but median earnings for adults over 25 with a high school diploma was \$24,050. With a bachelor

degree, New Mexicans earn a median income of \$40,510.⁹ Completing high school for young parents is a crucial step in providing for their families; **HB 300 is a step toward educational equity for pregnant and parenting students**, creating policy that allows young parents to balance their responsibilities as parents and as students.

HB 112 Data in School Accountability Report: Assessing student outcomes based on demographics and programs

Sponsored by Rep. Jane E. Powdrell-Cuthbert (R-44)

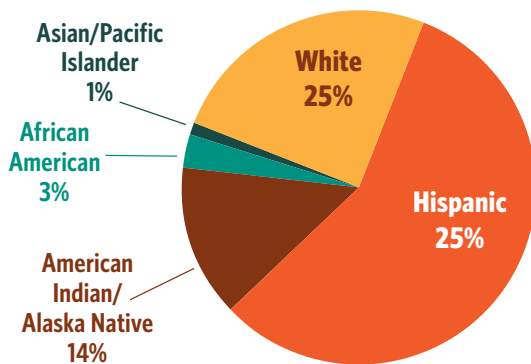
✓ Passed House and Senate

✓ Signed into law by Governor Martinez

Each year, the Governor and the State Legislature receive an accountability report around student achievement in public elementary and postsecondary educational institutions. HB 112 amends the accountability reporting provisions to require public elementary and postsecondary institutions to gather and include student achievement disaggregated by race, ethnicity, limited English proficiency, students with disabilities, poverty, and gender.

Disaggregating assessment data by combinations of students' demographic characteristics

RACE/ETHNICITY OF NEW MEXICO GED TEST TAKERS, 2011



What is a pocket veto?

Once both the House and Senate have approved a piece of legislation, the Governor signs it into law or vetoes it. If the Governor vetoes a bill, the State Legislature can override her veto by passing the bill again with a two-thirds majority in each chamber.

During legislative sessions, the Governor must sign or veto legislation within 3 days, or it becomes law without signature. Legislation passed in the last 3 days of the session must be acted upon by the Governor within 20 days of the session ending, or it is pocket vetoed.

A pocket veto is a legislative maneuver that allows the Governor to exercise a veto by taking no action. Because a pocket veto cannot be overridden by a vote of the legislature due to the session ending, it is sometimes used to describe situations where the Governor can override the will of the State Legislature without any consequences. Governor Martinez pocket vetoed 34 pieces of legislation in 2013.

(like race/ethnicity by gender or disability) and by the programs in which students are enrolled (like race/ethnicity by specific reading or mathematics programs) enable schools to examine the effectiveness of programs for specific groups of students.⁶ Disaggregated data can help to answer critical questions facing our education system: How do student outcomes differ by demographics, programs, and schools? To what extent have specific programs, interventions, and services improved outcomes? What is the longitudinal progress of a specific cohort of students? We already know that New Mexico's educational system is producing uneven outcomes for youth and students—**HB 112 will give us the information we need to make smarter changes moving ahead.**

SB 183 Replace GED Term with Equivalent: Making high school equivalency diplomas accessible to low income students

Sponsored by Sen. Gay G. Kernan (R-42)

✓ Passed House and Senate

✗ Pocket vetoed by Governor Martinez

Currently, New Mexico contracts with GED Testing Service®—a joint public-private venture of Pearson VUE and the American Council on Education—to administer the General Education Development® (GED) test. The GED comprises a series of five subject tests in the areas of language arts, writing, reading, math, science, and social studies, and passage of the exams is considered equivalent with high school graduation. SB 183 amends several sections of current NM law to replace the term GED® and its variations with the term “high school equivalency diploma.”

More than 270,000 adults in New Mexico do not have a high school credential. Yet, the average high school graduate will get higher employment and earnings—an astonishing 50-100% more in lifetime income than those without a high school diploma. These are real potential resources for New Mexico families and communities.

In 2011, nearly 8,500 people in our state took one of the GED® tests, 7,392 completed the full set of GED® tests, and 69% passed the exam.

Of these test takers, over 75% are between 16 to 29 years old.

In January 2014, GED Testing Service® will introduce a new version of the exam with significant changes. Changes that could impact individuals who take the GED® include: increased test costs (the price of the exam will more than double to \$120); a shift to computerized testing (pencil and paper format will only be available

in limited circumstances); more difficult test content especially in math; and a reduction in the number of test centers because the new exam will only be available at certified Pearson testing centers, reducing access for potential test takers, especially low-income individuals and those in rural parts of the state. Changing “GED” to “high school equivalency diploma,” would have enabled the state to accept bids from other—possibly more affordable—test providers.

A Bridge Toward Democracy

Young Women United (YWU) is a community organizing project creating change by and for young women of color in New Mexico. Based in Albuquerque, their relationships extend to all corners of the state through the women and families who bring their experiences, insight, and resilience to lead YWU’s work.

YWU believes that women and families most impacted by issues of systemic exclusion and oppression must be included in defining and implementing solutions to these problems. In 2010, YWU began investing in opportunities to strengthen broad leadership in Santa Fe, opening doors to bring the expertise of women of color and families to the legislative process. By centering on the voices of women of color in policy conversations, YWU is continually building bridges that shorten the distance between their leaders and policy makers.

The women and families crossing these bridges often bear heavy burdens of stigma and are rarely sought out for advice in solving our states’ complex problems—in spite of the expertise born of their lived experience. YWU’s leaders are young families, balancing parenting and education and pushing back on the judgment and discrimination that pushes families like theirs farther away from resources we all need to thrive. They are pregnant women, midwives, and

women of color advocating for birthing justice, who understand that when mothers have the ability to choose the type of prenatal, delivery, and aftercare support they need, our communities will have improved maternal and infant health outcomes. They are substance-using women surviving the illness of addiction, they struggle with the consequences of incarceration, and they are taking a stand and resisting the inadequacy of treatment options.

In creating opportunities for women and families in New Mexico to be engaged with legislators in Santa Fe, Micaela Cadena, YWU Policy



Director, says she has witnessed surprise on all sides: “YWU leaders are often surprised that the legislative process only allows for limited discussion about policies that will drastically change the day-to-day lives of New Mexicans. There is surprise when our leaders show up and realize that they can stop a legislator in the hall and tell them their story.” Alongside the feeling of surprise is the pride that women and families experience when they realize they have something of value to contribute at the policy-making table. Micaela shares, “In reality, there is so little input from community members experiencing the effects of policy made in Santa Fe, that our members and leaders are providing an incredibly important service. Their stories and analysis are critical contributions. On our advocacy days, our leaders emerge from buses coming from all over the state knowing that their family members feel pride in the work they are doing to contribute to the legislative process.”

The transformation from surprise to pride is perhaps not limited to YWU’s leaders but extends to decision makers themselves. Micaela continues,

“In bridging conversations between our leaders and lawmakers on both sides of the aisle we have seen our legislators spontaneously give so much time, respect and mentorship to our leaders; we’ve witnessed their tears as they told their own stories of struggle and strength; and, we’ve seen the surprise of their colleagues and constituents as these lawmakers have stood with our leaders based on respect for their contributions—even when we don’t see eye to eye on all issues.”

In 2012, YWU’s leaders and legislative allies succeeded in passing a Senate memorial naming August 25th as a day to recognize young parents in New Mexico. In 2013, this recognition was enforced by HB 300, which creates a state-wide excused absence policy for pregnant and parenting students as a step toward education equity for young families. Each of these victories at the Santa Fe Roundhouse represents a deep and important shift in the workings of democracy in our state. YWU has and will continue to strengthen New Mexican families, New Mexican legislators, and democracy in our state.

Photo by Kayla Sawyer



Missed Opportunities in Education Equity

HJR 13 Children's Permanent Fund: Supporting early childhood services

Sponsored by Rep. Antonio Maestas (D-16)

✓ Passed House

✗ Died in Senate Finance Committee

The Land Grant Permanent Fund (LGPF) was established by the federal government before New Mexico became a state to help pay for public education. More than 13 million acres of land and mineral resources were to be held in trust for “beneficiaries” determined by Congress. These beneficiaries—public schools, universities, hospitals, and correctional institutions—are the actual owners of the trust fund. Each year a percent of the revenue from the LGPF is used to support a broad range of education programs.

HJR 13 would have sent the voters an amendment to the New Mexico constitution setting aside 1% of the Land Grant Permanent Fund annually for early childhood education services provided by public schools, state contractors, pueblos, and other entities. The amendment

would have increased the fund’s annual distribution rate from 5.8% to 7%.

Investing in children is a practical and common sense approach to ensuring our state's future. Young children who receive high-quality early education from infancy to age five do better in reading and math and are more likely to stay in school longer, graduate from high school, and attend a four-year college.¹⁶ Children from low-income families who participate in an early childhood education program are 4.6 times more likely to obtain a college degree than those without early childhood education.¹⁷ National research on programs like Early Head Start show that not only do early childhood programs benefit children, but long-term outcomes can benefit the whole family, not just the enrolled child. For example, Hispanic families with children enrolled in early education programs have improved family self-sufficiency, and Hispanic mothers who had participated in Early Head Start had higher educational attainment.¹⁸

Photo by Caitlynn Ottinger, courtesy of Media Literacy Project



**SB 582 Family Engagement Councils:
Encouraging parental engagement in schools**

Sponsored by Sen. Linda Lopez (D-11) and by
Rep. Rick Miera (D-11)

✖ **Died in Senate Committee**

Given the severe disparities in outcomes for students in New Mexico, we need all the tools available to support engaged learning. SB 582 would have ensured family engagement programs are institutionalized within New Mexico's educational system. The legislation would have provided for family engagement programs in schools districts, created a statewide family engagement council, encouraged local school boards to establish family engagement programs at the district level, and created structures that would promote genuine family engagement.

Studies show that students whose parents are involved in their education, regardless of their parents' income or background, are more likely to earn higher grades and test scores; be promoted, pass their classes, and earn credits; attend school regularly; and graduate and go on to post-secondary education.¹⁹ Some families—particularly white, middle class families—tend

to be more involved at school and are better informed about how to help their children.²⁰ Unfortunately, families without these privileges have less access to information about school policies, structures, and staff, making them less likely to communicate with teachers, volunteer, or make informed educational decisions that help their kids learn at home.²¹ SB 582 would have created structures and accountability for family engagement, a proven and important strategy for addressing the achievement gap in New Mexico.

At the same time, the legislature has passed a variety of bills that are not being enforced which would increase parental engagement. Nearly a decade ago the legislature passed HB 212, which in part required each school to create an advisory council made up of a majority of parents. To date, we are unaware of even one school that has implemented the council. **SB 582 seeks to address a problem we all want to deal with because it's common sense: engage parents in the education of their kids and everyone does better.** The legislature can pursue enforcement of existing laws in addition to pursuing new avenues for parental engagement.

Photo by Alayna Bowman



Health Equity

Every day in pueblos and in towns, on farms and in cities, the people of our state try to make the best decisions they can for themselves and their families to stay healthy and strong. Buying and cooking healthy food, exercising, incorporating western and holistic healing practices, and incorporating preventative care can all contribute to good health.

Yet individuals and families in New Mexico have wildly different health outcomes, based

on where they live, how much money they have, their race or gender, or other circumstances beyond their control. Nearly 1 in 3 adults are uninsured, leaving New Mexico with the second highest rate of uninsured people in the nation.²² And 1 in 6 children in New Mexico are uninsured.²³ This takes a heavy toll on families; people who are uninsured die younger, miss more work, and often rack up medical debt that they can't afford to pay.²⁴



NEW MEXICO RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES, BY HEALTH INDICATOR ²⁵

HEALTH INDICATOR	All Women	All Men	Hispanic Women	Hispanic Men	AI/AN* Women	AI/AN* Men
No Routine Health Checkup for Two Years	21%	30%	22%	32%	17%	30%
No Doctor Visit in Past Year Due to Cost	21%	15%	27%	18%	19%	16%
No Mammogram in Two Years (ages 40–64)	30%	-	32%	-	38%	-
No Pap Test in Past Three Years	16%	-	15%	-	24%	-
No Colorectal Cancer Screening in Past Two Years	-	49%	-	56%	-	NSD

*American Indian/Alaskan Native

Note: Data from the Asian/Pacific Islander and African American populations in New Mexico is categorized as No Sufficient Data or NSD

This session saw significant structural change to healthcare in our state. We believe these changes will make an immediate difference in the lives of thousands of individuals and families,

but there are still more steps legislators can take that would be a prescription for good health for everyone in our state.

Legislation Passed During 2013 Session

SB 221 NM Health Insurance Exchange Act: Expanding access to healthcare for New Mexicans

Sponsored by Sen. Benny Shendo, Jr. (D-22)

✓ Passed House and Senate

✓ Signed into law by Governor Martinez

The passage of the federal Affordable Care Act in 2010, required states to create health insurance exchanges by January 1, 2014. SB 221 creates the non-profit New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange (NMHIX), which will manage an exchange for the individual market and small business health options program under a single governance and administrative structure.

Given how fundamental health and healthcare are to New Mexico families, it's worth taking a closer look at this bill and what it does and doesn't do. The bill is one of the broadest

passed in 2013, covering issues of governance, coordination with Medicaid, authority to charge fees, creation of a navigator program, and more.

Photo by Tewa Women United



SB 221 NEW MEXICO HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE ACT: WHAT IT DOES AND WHAT IT COULD HAVE DONE

IMPACT AREA	WHAT SB221 DOES	WHAT IT COULD HAVE DONE
PROVISION OF HEALTHCARE		
Comprehensive Reproductive Health Coverage: Will abortion be covered under the plan?	Exchange is subject to federal laws and cannot disqualify plans that offer abortion coverage.	Could have ensured that all plans must provide comprehensive reproductive health coverage, including abortion coverage.
Transgender Healthcare: Will plans be able to discriminate against transgender individuals and refuse to cover medically necessary care?	Federal ACA rules guarantee transgender individuals can expect plans will cover the services they need, as long as those services are covered for other people on that plan. These services include preventive screenings such as mammograms, Pap tests, prostate exams, hormone therapy, and mental health services. SB 221 did not add further rules or protections for transgender individuals.	Plans could be directed to cover all medical services critical to transgender women and men, which may include some procedures viewed as “cosmetic” but which are critical to trans individuals.
Definition of Family: Will LGBT individuals be able to cover people in their family based on the definition of family used in plans offered in NM?	Although qualified plans currently offer plans with coverage for domestic partners, some questions remain about how LGBT couples will deal with the tax burden and groups continue to do advocacy.	Legislation could have ensured that LGBT families are not discriminated against, including mandatory sensitivity training for providers of support care to LGBT individuals and families.
Immigrant Families: Are immigrant families protected from discrimination and is it clear that they can enroll in the Exchange?	<p>No guaranteed protections for immigrant families beyond the federal ACA provisions.</p> <p>In addition, Governor Martinez has decided to ask for social security numbers from heads of households, including immigrant parents who are only applying for their children who are U.S. citizens (this practice is currently in court). Asking for social security numbers will also create barriers for the Exchange because Medicaid and the Exchange are using a single application for both programs.</p>	<p>The bill could have prohibited the Exchange from asking whether a person is lawfully present in the country.</p> <p>Legislation could have prohibited the Exchange from asking for immigration documentation or social security numbers from household members who will not be receiving coverage.</p> <p>Legislation could have also prohibited Exchange staff and navigators from reporting immigrants suspected to be undocumented to immigration authorities (as is prohibited under federal law for public benefits programs in most circumstances).</p>

IMPACT AREA	WHAT SB221 DOES	WHAT IT COULD HAVE DONE
PROVISION OF HEALTHCARE (CONTINUED)		
Getting Help to Navigate the Exchange: Will New Mexicans be able to get in-person help to find the plan best for them and their families?	<p>The federal ACA already has some requirements for “navigators.” SB 221 requires the establishment of a “statewide consumer assistance program, including a navigator program,” but details are not specified.</p> <p>New Mexico recently awarded a major navigator grant to Primary Care Association, a healthcare provider agency. SB 221 did not contain any conflict of interest clauses to prevent navigators from being affiliated with any healthcare providers or insurance careers who may have a financial interest in enrollment.</p>	<p>Could have included mandatory requirements that navigators be community-based, culturally and linguistically competent, and geographically dispersed in every county of the state. Navigators could also have been incentivized to do outreach and enrollment assistance in rural areas and to populations that have traditionally faced enrollment disparities, including Native American and immigrant communities.</p>
Culturally Competent Care: Can all individuals and families expect to be treated with respect by healthcare providers in the Exchange?	<p>There is no rule mandating cultural competence training for healthcare providers in the Exchange.</p> <p>The Exchange is required to have a Native American advisory committee and a liaison to Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos who will ensure Exchange staff is trained on cultural competency.</p>	<p>Could have mandated that all healthcare providers in the Exchange receive some cultural competence training in order to serve New Mexico’s diverse population.</p>
GOVERNANCE		
Conflict of Interest: Ensures that members of the Exchange Board of Directors are insurance carriers of healthcare providers	<p>SB 221 requires at least 2 health insurance issuers to be on the Exchange Board of Directors, but this has been interpreted to allow an unlimited number of healthcare providers. The final appointed board includes mostly healthcare providers and very few consumer representatives.</p>	<p>Earlier versions had strict limits that ensured that 75–90% of board members were subject to the conflict of interest policy and could not be insurance—or healthcare related individuals.</p>
Appointments to the Board: Determines who is on the Exchanges Board of Directors	<p>Governor has an equal number of appointments as the State Legislature, but at least 2 of the legislative appointments must come from the minority party. No limits on number of individuals from the same political party.</p>	<p>Provisions could have ensured that Governor and State Legislature appointed an equal number of people from the same political party, with a tie-breaker from the Superintendent of Insurance (who is elected independently by voters and not appointed by the Governor or the State Legislature).</p>

IMPACT AREA	WHAT SB221 DOES	WHAT IT COULD HAVE DONE
ROLE OF THE EXCHANGE		
Active Purchaser: Determines the role the Exchange will play in figuring out what is available in the health-care plans it offers	Exchange will not negotiate with insurers on what gets offered in New Mexico.	Exchange could act in the interest of consumers when looking at health plans and when negotiating with carriers on affordability and value of plans in the Exchange.
No Wrong Door Policy: Details how the Exchange will coordinate enrollment and if it will align with enrollment with other programs	<p>While the ACA requires the Exchange to have a single streamlined application with Medicaid/CHIP and to provide outreach and enrollment assistance for Medicaid/CHIP, SB 221 did not include this provision as the Governor argued it was duplicative of federal law.</p> <p>New Mexico's Exchange has recently stated that its navigator program will not provide outreach and enrollment assistance for Medicaid.</p>	Could have required Exchange to provide education, outreach, and enroll for premium credits, Medicaid, or CHIP. Applicants could have been screened for eligibility for all three programs and used a single application if they qualify.

New Mexico's Coverage Gap

In January 2013, after hearing from thousands of New Mexicans across the state, Governor Susana Martinez announced that the state would expand Medicaid. This expansion will give access to 140,000 adults whose individual income is less than \$15,200, covering almost all of the lowest income New Mexicans. But tens of thousands of low-income New Mexicans might remain uninsured because their incomes are too high for Medicaid and yet too low to afford coverage through the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange, even with the help of federal subsidies.

For example, a low-income mother of two children needs an income of more than \$3,000 each month to make ends meet in New Mexico. At 150% of the poverty level, she is making less than \$2,500 each month and would not be able to afford private insurance premiums. Even with the help of federal subsidies, she could still be

responsible for paying up to \$1,104 in premiums each year for coverage in the Exchange and would be expected to pay an average of \$461 each year in out-of-pocket costs for medical bills. That's just too high for low-income families struggling to make ends meet.²⁶

New Mexico state legislators should consider alternatives that would make coverage more affordable for low-income families with incomes between 138% to 200% of the poverty level (which amounts to \$26,951–\$30,060 for a family of three), thereby addressing the coverage gap. Some possible solutions include adopting a “Basic Health Program” that is run by the state and resembles Medicaid, or providing a premium assistance program where the state provides extra financial help to individuals to buy coverage in the Exchange.

Making Asian Families Count in New Mexico

Asian and Pacific Islanders (APIs) have called New Mexico, the Land of Enchantment, home for many generations. The arrival of the railroad in the 1800s helped bring the first wave of Chinese immigrants to the state, while more recent waves of immigration in the 1970s brought refugees from war-torn countries in Southeast Asia. No matter when or how these families arrived, the API community brings a rich array of history and culture to our state.

More than thirty distinct ethnic communities exist within the broad API designation—from Indian to Nepali to Hmong to Chinese to Filipino to Japanese to Malayasian and more. The U.S. Census Bureau’s population estimate for all of Harding County is only eight API individuals,²⁷ a number that proves how deeply flawed census data on race and ethnicity is, particularly for the API population. The State of New Mexico’s data collection processes mirror these same federal

processes—leading to the further invisibility of API communities and families in the state.

This invisibility leads to ineffective public policies. “The high school graduation rates for API youth looks like it’s the best in the state. But that’s because all Asians are lumped together. New Mexico doesn’t disaggregate data about the API community, so we don’t know what the graduation rates are amongst Chinese, Vietnamese, or Filipino young adults. If we assume that API students don’t need any help, they will continue to be marginalized,” says Huong Nguyen, of the New Mexico Asian Family Center.

HB 112 Data in the School Accountability Report will give the API community much needed information about how different ethnic groups are faring in public schools and will help community groups and parents create more strategic programs to meet students’ needs.

THE GROWING POPULATION OF ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDERS IN NEW MEXICO²⁸

	1990	2000	2011
Foreign-Born Population of NM	78,212	149,606	211,107
Born in Asia	9,569	14,330	21,287
Born in Oceania	329	650	451



Photo by NM Asian Family Center

As the only organization dedicated to serving the Asian Pacific Islander community in New Mexico, the New Mexico Asian Family Center (NMAFC) works with families from across the API experience. NMAFC has served the community since 2006, and most of the individuals and families they see are Asian or southeast Asian, with a much smaller number of Pacific Islander and Native Hawaiian families. “This year we had community members put wishes into red envelopes and give them to legislators during the session,” says Huong. Red envelopes are given during the Chinese Lunar New Year, and often symbolize hopes for the future.

“A lot of our members don’t know much about the legislative process, so being able to bring them to the Roundhouse and have them share their stories with legislators is powerful for both sides.”

One of the priority bills being tracked by NMAFC was **SB 221, the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act**. From its earliest history in the state, the API community has played a role in the business community. In 2007, the state’s 3,321 Asian-owned businesses employed 10,739 people.²⁹ Many of these are small businesses, restaurants, nail salons—where workers don’t

currently have employer provided health insurance. The New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act will be critical to helping many of these workers get affordable health insurance for themselves and for their families.

New Mexico’s API population continues to grow, making vital contributions to our communities and our state. Legislators should get to know the API constituents in their district and continue to learn more about this important part of our community.

Photo by Alayna Bowman

Over 20,000 New Mexicans speak an Asian or Pacific Island language other than English in their homes — from Hindi to Chinese to Vietnamese to Tagalog.³⁰

Missed Opportunities in Health Equity

HB 217 Native American Youth Suicide

Prevention: Providing resources for culturally competent suicide intervention

Sponsored by Rep. James Roger Madalena (D-65)

✘ Died in House Health, Government and Indian Affairs Committee

HB 217 would have appropriated \$300,000 from the general fund to the Human Services Department (HSD) for expenditure in FY14 to fund three culturally-based Native American youth suicide prevention initiatives, each receiving \$100,000, to focus on the continuum of suicide prevention, intervention, and post-event assistance to Native Americans living in rural, frontier, and urban communities.

The effects of historical intergenerational and individual trauma like isolation, poverty, loss of land, cultural, and individual identity, substance abuse, and self-esteem issues can all play a role in the increased risk of suicide for Native American youth.³¹ The New Mexico Department of Indian Affairs notes suicide is the third leading cause of death for youth in the state, and suicide rates for Native American youth are nearly twice as high as for other races and ethnicities. From 2008 to 2010, close to 50% of the youth suicides documented in New Mexico were committed by Native American youth.²⁵ By funding culturally based programs, **this legislation would have addressed the disparity and lack of access many Native American youth communities and face in accessing culturally appropriate mental health services.**

HB 17 Dental Therapist Licensure and Practice: Ensuring oral health for rural and low-income New Mexican families

Sponsored by Rep. Dennis J. Roch (R-67) and Sen. Carlos Cisneros (D-6)

✘ Died in House Health, Government and Indian Affairs Committee

HB 17 would have created a new group of professionals, dental therapist-hygienists. The legislation would have permitted dental therapists with two-year degrees to provide basic dental services such as teeth cleanings, simple extractions, and fillings.

Oral health isn't just about having a pretty smile—there are real consequences including increased pain, missed school and work, and high costs associated with more invasive interventions. Lower income, Hispanic, and African-American children have more untreated tooth decay than their higher income or White counterparts. Among low-income or poor children, more than one-third have untreated decay in their primary teeth, which can be linked to eating difficulties and being underweight.³² New Mexico has the fourth worst dentist shortage in the country. A recent report found 24.2% of New Mexico residents live in underserved areas; five counties do not have a single practicing dentist (Guadalupe, Harding, Hidalgo, Mora, and Union); and three counties (Catron, De Baca, and Quay) have only one dentist.³³

HB 17 would have helped thousands of New Mexicans get dental care when they need it, where they live. Ensuring the oral health of working families and children in rural, Tribal, and underserved communities, as well as elders and persons with disabilities, should be a priority for everyone in our state.

Economic Justice

New Mexico families, especially those with children, are still fighting in the aftermath of the recession and a slow economic recovery. Our state has struggled in these challenging economic times, and New Mexico's median household income, at \$43,715, is more than \$7,000 less than the national median.³⁴

More than 435,000 residents in our state live in poverty—that's 1 in 5 people.³⁵ More than 150,000 children live in poverty and nearly 80,000 in extreme poverty. "Extreme poverty" is defined as half the official federal poverty line or \$11,511 per year for a family of four. When adjusted for inflation, New Mexico "benefits" have declined 31% in real dollars since President Clinton signed welfare reform in 1996.³⁶

And yet across the state, families and communities come together to address poverty in our state. Many New Mexico children grow up in tightly knit multi-generational families that work together to buffer the effects of poverty. But we also need real policy solutions that address the economic realities of families in our state; we need to pursue a comprehensive strategy that creates good jobs, strengthens families, and promotes economic security. The key question is will state legislators lead—and will the Governor sign—laws that prioritize the economic health of our families? There were critical pieces of legislation passed in 2013, but there is far more work to do to ensure the economic health and stability of families in our state.

Legislation Passed During 2013 Session

HB 216 Fair Pay for Women Act: Preventing employers from gender-based discrimination in pay

Sponsored by Rep. Brian F. Egolf, Jr. (D-47)

✓ Passed House and Senate

✓ Signed into law by Governor Martinez

New Mexico ranked 42nd in the nation with women earning only 71% of what men make.³⁷ HB 216 makes wage discrimination based on sex

illegal in New Mexico. The law covers employers with four or more employees in jobs where performance requires equal skill, effort, responsibility and functioning in similar working conditions. It also extends the time period for women to file a complaint about gender-biased pay from up-to-one-year to six years after learning of the pay discrepancy. By changing state law to ban discrimination based on sex, the bill also allows women in New Mexico to find justice in

state courts instead of having to rely on far-away federal courts.

Over half of the women who work full time and year-round in 29 of 33 New Mexico counties earn so little that they are eligible for food stamps and child care assistance for a family of four.³⁸ The real consequences of paying women less than men is a yearly difference of more than \$8,789 between full-time working men and women in the state. Women of color experience even greater disparities, with African-American women earning just 58 cents for every dollar paid to white men, and Hispanic women being paid just 53 cents for every dollar paid to white men in New Mexico.³³

SB 416 Raise Minimum Wage: Increasing the state minimum wage to \$8.50/hour

Sponsored by Sen. Richard C. Martinez (D-5)

✓ Passed House and Senate

✗ Vetoed by Governor Martinez

SB 416 would have increased the state minimum wage from \$7.50 an hour to \$8.50 an hour and tied it to the consumer price index to assure automatic adjustments that keep up with the inflation. The legislation excludes employers with ten or fewer employees, or trainee employees.

Raising the state minimum wage to \$8.50 would have resulted in a increase of nearly \$40 per week in take home pay, for an annual raise of \$1,080 for low-wage workers.³⁴ Almost 45% of New Mexico's working families are low-income, the highest rate in the nation.³⁵ **95,700 children live in families with at least one parent who would be affected by a minimum wage increase.** That's nearly 20% of the total child population. An increase in the statewide minimum wage—from \$7.50 to \$8.50 an hour—would put \$105 million in new wages into the hands of low-wage workers, who would spend the vast majority of it in New Mexico.

Support for increasing the minimum wage is growing in the state; 66% of voters in Albuquerque approved an increase to \$8.50/hour in November 2012, and Bernalillo County commissioners extended the increase to



Photo by Young Women United

NEW MEXICO WORKERS AFFECTED BY MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE (2012)⁴²

		Directly Affected
NUMBER OF WORKERS		84,783
PERCENT OF TOTAL WORKFORCE		10.7%
GENDER	Male	50.5%
	Female	49.5%
RACE	White	26.8%
	Hispanic	63.1%
WORK HOURS	More than part time (20+ hrs)	85.3%
OCCUPATION	Sales or service	66.0%

unincorporated areas of Albuquerque in April 2013.⁴³ Between Sante Fe's "living wage" of \$10.50/hour and the Albuquerque and Bernalillo County increases, nearly 34% of the state lives in a place where the minimum wage is higher than the current state rate of \$7.50.

Missed Opportunities in Economic Justice

SB 109 Working Families Tax Credit: Expanding tax credits for low income families

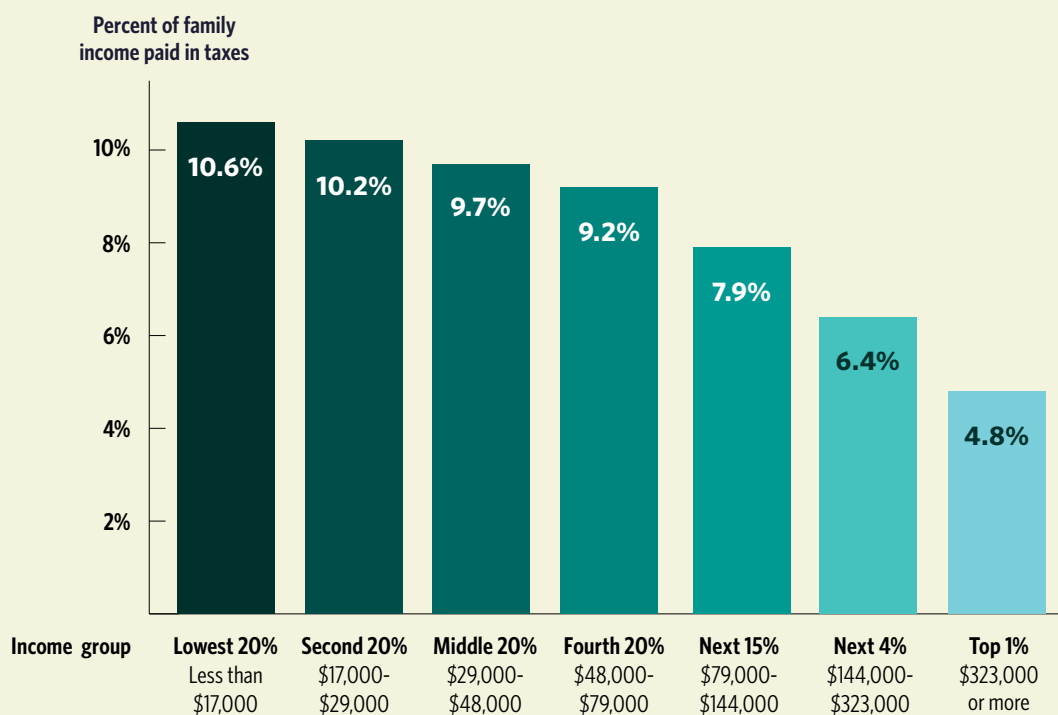
Sponsored by Sen. Jacob Candelaria

✖ Died in Senate Finance Committee

Despite working long hours and multiple jobs, many New Mexican families still live in poverty. The U.S. federal government offers the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to support low- and moderate-income working families by lowering the amount they pay in taxes. In New Mexico, the state offers a similar tax credit that is a percentage of the federal credit. SB 109 would have increased the state percentage from 10% to 15% of a family's tax credit.

New Mexico's Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC) is only available to families that earn income through work. In 2011 alone, the WFTC returned almost \$49 million to New Mexico's low-income working families.⁴⁴ Families mostly use the refund to pay for necessities, repair homes, maintain vehicles that are needed to commute to work, and in some cases, obtain additional education or training to boost their employability and earning power.⁴⁵ Even with the offsets of the federal EITC and the state WFTC, **New Mexico's poorest 20% still pay the highest percentage of their incomes in state and local taxes because of our regressive tax system.**⁴⁶ Raising the value of the WFTC would help alleviate this regressivity, as well as address overall economic inequality.

Percent of Taxes Paid by New Mexicans



Civil Rights and Criminal Justice

One way to measure a government's proactive support of families is by assessing its commitment to human and civil rights in policy and practice. The NM State Legislature first adopted human rights protections in 1969, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, or sex and echoing the protections sought by the civil rights and women's movements at the time. In 2003, the legislature amended the Human Rights Act to include sexual orientation and gender identity, thereby protecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals from discrimination in employment practices, housing, credit, public accommodations, and union membership.⁴⁷

Unfortunately, while our state has grown more inclusive in some areas, our progress is uneven. Who a state incarcerates and the disproportionality of the criminal justice system is a particularly meaningful measure of civil rights. Currently, national incarceration rates are trending downward and New Mexico is

following this pattern—somewhat. While our overall male prison population has decreased slightly, the incarceration rate for women in New Mexico has risen 3.18%.⁴⁸ Regrettably, these increases come from drug related and non-violent offences, which are most successfully addressed through treatment and other kinds of interventions.⁴⁹

Incarceration affects not only those in prison but also families with a loved one in the system. In 2010, approximately 25.4% of children in the State's custody had at least one incarcerated parent.⁵⁰ The impact of having an incarcerated parent on a child is serious; recent studies show parental incarceration doubles the chance that a child will be at least temporarily homeless and measurably increases the likelihood of physically aggressive behavior, social isolation, depression, and problems in school.⁵¹ Given these long-term ramifications, it is critical that legislators take a top-to-bottom look at New Mexico's criminal justice system.

Photo by El Centro de Igualdad y Derechos



Our Parents Are The Original Dreamers

New Mexico Dreamers in Action (NMDIA) is a network of immigrant youth who are increasing access to education for immigrant students and our families. By raising awareness and taking direct action across the state, NMDIA organizes and supports immigrant students and their allies in building a more promising future. NMDIA has 80 members across four different regions in the state.

When **HM 30 Uniting American Families Act** was in the House, NMDIA students were paying attention. Italia Aranda, NMDIA statewide coordinator, shared “Our youth don’t just identify as undocumented. We have immigrant youth who are also lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or identify as queer. Because of that, we wanted to take a strong stance that all families are included in comprehensive immigration reform.”



Art by Melanie Cervantes



NMDIA began by educating its own base about the experience of undocumented queer students for the past two years. Italia shares, “When I started organizing years ago we didn’t talk about LGBTQ issues at all in immigrant rights spaces. But now, there is a lot of solidarity between our groups. We are starting to see a shift within our culture that has really strong traditions, and that shift is being able to understand each other and respect our differences.”

After the legislative session, NMDIA was an anchor partner in helping Strong Families New Mexico collect more than 1,500 signatures of community members to the New Mexico federal congressional delegation in support of UAFA. NMDIA students also attended lobby visits with Rep. Ben Ray Lujan and Rep. Michelle Lujan-Grisham. With the U.S. Supreme Court decision reversing DOMA, we no longer need a separate Uniting American Families Act. Italia says, “But we do need comprehensive immigration reform for all of our families. The current bill doesn’t reflect the needs of our communities with billions of more dollars for enforcement of a border that’s already secure enough. We could be spending those resources on education and healthcare.”

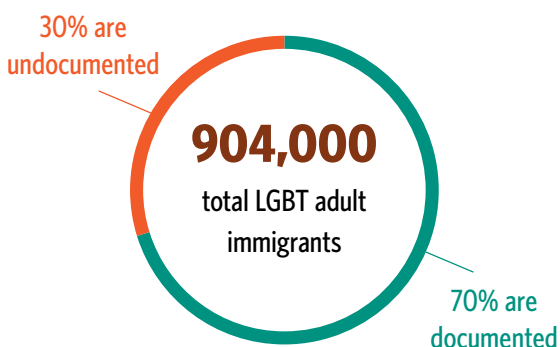
HM 30 Uniting Families Act in Immigration Bills: Urging Congress to include LGBT individuals in comprehensive immigration reform

Sponsored by Rep. Bill McCamley (D-33)

✓ Passed House

House Memorial 30 requests New Mexico's Congressional delegation support the inclusion of the Uniting American Families Act (UAFB) in comprehensive immigration reform legislation introduced in the 113th U.S. Congress. Because of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)*, US citizens and residents cannot sponsor a same-sex partner for family based immigration—unlike heterosexual married couples. Currently only 12 states and the District of Columbia recognize marriage between gay and lesbian couples. If passed, UAFB would also apply to committed same-sex partners, which is important considering that marriage between same-sex couples is not recognized in 34 states. As the first piece of legislation dealing with LGBT issues to pass the New Mexico House, the memorial highlights the

LGBT Adult Immigrants: Undocumented and Documented ⁵⁵



*In June 2013, the U.S. Supreme Court declared the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional. The repeal of DOMA will permit legally married LGBT United States citizens and Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs) to sponsor their foreign-born spouses for green cards. Sen. Patrick Leahy withdrew the Uniting American Families Act from comprehensive immigration reform proposals because of the court solution.

What is a memorial?

A memorial is formal document that expresses the wish or intent of a legislative body. A memorial is usually addressed to another governmental body and conveys the action the legislature hopes will be taken. Memorials are usually a petition or declaration, and while not binding, they are an important expression of support and leadership by state-level leaders. Simple memorials are passed by one chamber, while joint memorials are acted on by both chambers. Previous memorials are in Support of Young Parents.



Photo by Alayna Bowman

leadership of state-level leaders, and calls on our federal delegation to show the same courage for all New Mexico families.

Of the more than 11 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S. today, at least 267,000 people identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender.⁵² Employment insecurity, wage and income disparities, health inequities, family separation, and potential deportation are just some of the issues that LGBT undocumented immigrants and their families face. For instance, children in both LGBT-headed families and households that are also headed by undocumented parents are nearly twice as likely to be living in poverty as

children headed by opposite-sex, U.S.-citizen parents.⁵³ Fully two-thirds of legal immigrants who came to the U.S. since the 1960s got their legal status through family-based immigration. For the more than 32,300 bi-national, same-sex couples (one native-born U.S. citizen and one non-citizen) in the United States today, this pathway to citizenship is currently impossible.⁵⁴

HB 304 Human Trafficking Civil Remedies: Expanding services and support to human trafficking survivors

Sponsored by Rep. Gail Chasey (D-18)

✓ Passed House and Senate

✓ Signed into law by Governor Martinez

In New Mexico, a person is the victim of human trafficking if she or he has been required through the use of force, fraud or coercion to provide labor, perform services or engage in commercial sexual activity.⁵⁶ While finding statistics is particularly difficult because of the hidden nature of trafficking activities, it's clear that human trafficking happens in our state. An estimated 14,500 to 17,500 non-U.S. citizens are trafficked into the United States each year. The number of U.S. citizens trafficked within the country is even higher, with an estimated 200,000 children at risk for being trafficked into the sex industry.⁵⁷

HB 304 requires that New Mexico expand the benefits provided to victims of human trafficking to include child care, legal assistance, state-funded cash assistance, and food assistance as reasonably can be arranged regardless of immigration status. The legislation also allows trafficking victims who committed crimes under duress to expunge these convictions from their record. Finally, the legislation improves the role that advocates can play on behalf of victims of human trafficking, requiring that police and courts automatically provide access to an advocate once a victim of human trafficking has been identified, and other similar changes to current trafficking law. Because the most dangerous time for a victim is when she/he goes to law enforcement, bills like HB 304 help trafficking victims to receive the services they need and potentially lowers the likelihood that victims will

return to their trafficker because they have no viable support to help them deal with the trauma of being trafficked.

SB 294 Criminal Records Expungement:

Sealing criminal records

Sponsored by Sen. Michael S. Sanchez (D-29)

✓ Passed House and Senate

✗ Vetoed by Governor Martinez

SB 294 allows victims of identity theft or wrongful charges to petition a district court judge to have the arrest taken off their public record. It also allows someone convicted of a misdemeanor to petition for expungement if they have not had any subsequent charges for a period of 5 to 10 years, depending on the charge. The law does not apply to convictions involving sex offenses, crimes against minors, or driving under the influence. The bill will not apply to individuals in law enforcement, who would be able to view arrest or conviction records; the bill only limits public access to the records. Expungement seals the record, making it unavailable through state or federal searches, and similar laws exist in more than 30 other states.

Having a criminal record affects every area of a person's life, most significantly their ability to find a job, and nearly one-third of American adults have been arrested by age 23.⁵⁸ Studies show that having a criminal record reduces the likelihood of a job callback or offer by approximately 50%, and that African-Americans and Hispanic suffer this "penalty" at higher rates than White applicants with similar records.⁵⁹ With the development of online databases, a record of an arrest which did not result in a criminal conviction can be easily accessed, misinterpreted, and result in unjustified discrimination. **People ought to have the opportunity to apply and be considered for jobs when they are qualified and when their criminal record is not relevant** or occurred long enough in the past that it's no longer a significant factor in predicting future behavior.

Missed Opportunities in Civil Rights and Criminal Justice

SB 579 State Agency Institutional Review: Ensuring fairness in state agencies

Sponsored by Sen. Linda M. Lopez (D-11)

✖ Died in Committee

SB 579 would have created a new statute requiring state agencies to review their policies and practices to ensure that they do not contribute to institutional racism. Agencies would be required to adopt guidelines to improve fairness in the delivery of services, to encourage culturally competent provision of services, and to check for inequitable effects when making fiscal or asset allocations.

Institutional racism can be seen by looking at the outcomes of individuals and communities by race, and by seeing worse outcomes for populations of color. For example, New Mexico's foster care system is deeply disproportionate. **In New Mexico, African-American and mixed-race children are twice as represented in foster care as they are in the general population.** Similar disparate outcomes exist for communities of color in the criminal and juvenile justice system, in high school graduation rates, and in other state operated institutions. Assessing what is

producing these outcomes—from policies and practices, to resource allocation, to culturally competent services—would give state agencies valuable information.

While the bill could be strengthened by defining institutional racism and clarifying enforcement mechanisms for holding agencies accountable, the intent of this legislation is good and deserves further consideration. We hope legislators will revisit this smart legislative concept in the next session.

HB 269 No Time Limit for Rape Prosecution: Eliminating time limits for rape prosecution

Sponsored by Rep. Thomas Taylor (R-1)

✖ Died in Committee

“Statutes of limitations” are laws that set time limits on how long you have to file a lawsuit, like how long the state has to prosecute someone for committing a crime or the length of time you have to file a civil lawsuit. These time limits usually depend on the legal claim or crime involved in the case, and they're different from crime to crime and state to state. HB 269 would have

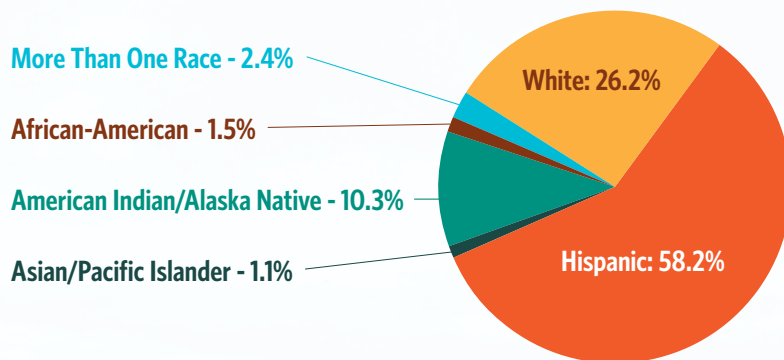
What Is Institutional Racism?

Institutional racism occurs when racial disparities are created or perpetuated by institutions like schools, banks, or child protective services. While largely unintended, institutional racism exists when we see unequal outcomes that fall along racial and ethnic lines. In New Mexico, we see the impact of institutional racism in incarceration rates, high school graduation rates, health indicators, and income disparities.

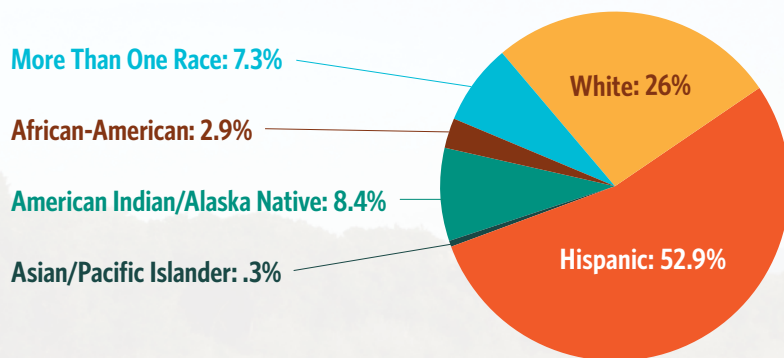
Racial impact statements are a tool developed to estimate the disparate racial impacts of public policies in the same way that fiscal or environmental impact statements describe the budgetary and ecological effects of other policies. This allows legislators to make informed considerations of the racial impacts, including unintended consequences, when crafting solutions. It also helps ensure the cost of racial injustices are included in the dialogue regarding public policy choices.

Race/Ethnicity Breakdowns in New Mexico Foster Care System, 2009⁶⁰

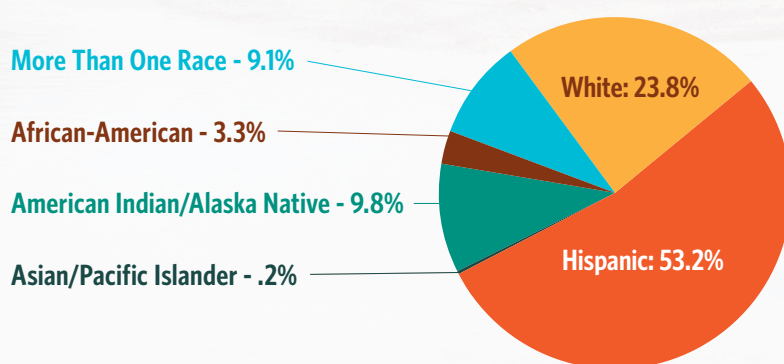
STATE POPULATION



ENTRY INTO FOSTER CARE



IN FOSTER CARE



amended the New Mexico state law to have no statute of limitations for the prosecution of rape, thus eliminating the five- or six-year time limit for second-, third-, or fourth-degree criminal sexual penetration.⁶¹

With only 17% of rapes reported to the police in New Mexico—and only 6% of victims filing criminal charges—rape is one of the least reported and least prosecuted crimes in the state.⁶² Even with the severe under-reporting, it's estimated that over 4,700 New Mexican women are victims of rape each year, and that nearly 1 in 4 women in the state will experience sexual assault in her lifetime.⁶³

Removing time limits on rape prosecutions is one small step in increasing prosecutions of a crime that is often devastating due to the isolation and shame that many survivors experience. New Mexico would be one of a number of states considering removing the time limit on rape prosecution—in 2013, both Ohio and Kansas considered such proposals in their sessions. The State Legislature should also consider other measures including increased funding for victim services and prevention and education programs in schools to encourage disclosure, as well as requiring more training for law enforcement officers who respond to sexual assault reports.

Anti-Family Legislation

The Strong Families New Mexico Report Card highlights proactive legislation that would have significantly improved the lives of families in New Mexico by creating programs that increase opportunity, by addressing systemic barriers many individuals and families face, and by assuring equal access to programs and services for all individuals and families.

Yet during the 2013 legislative session, a number of bills were introduced that would have hurt families. The Working Group tracked at least twenty pieces of legislation in this category, and the majority fell into two major areas:

- **Restricting access to driver's licenses:** For the past decade, New Mexico has allowed any qualified and safe driver who passes the exam to get a license, regardless of documentation status. At least six pieces of legislation were introduced in 2013 that tried to limit access to driver's licenses. Restricting driver's licenses won't fix our broken federal immigration system and just makes it harder for immigrant families to meet their basic needs. Tying driver's license to immigration status increases the number of unlicensed drivers on the road, increases uninsurance

rates, and undermines effective law enforcement. In fact, because of our existing law for driver's licenses, the uninsurance rate in our state dropped from 33% in 2002 to only 10% by 2007.⁶⁴ None of the six proposals were signed into law.

- **Limiting access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare:** Five pieces of legislation attempted to limit women's access to safe and legal abortion services, like requiring women to listen to medically inaccurate information before having their procedure. Yet, 1 in 3 women will have an abortion in her lifetime, and 60% of these women already have at least one child.⁶⁵ Every pregnancy is different and decisions about whether to end a pregnancy should be between a woman and her doctor, guided by her faith. Women must be allowed and supported to make the decisions that are right for their families, whether that is to become pregnant or to end a pregnancy. None of the five proposals were signed into law.

New Mexico community groups and individuals worked together to educate legislators about the impact of the driver's license and reproductive

“What makes Strong Families New Mexico unique is that we know that families concerned about the GED legislation are also concerned about reproductive healthcare, that individuals affected by driver’s licenses also need access to better dental health. Strong Families New Mexico helps groups to connect the issues that affect all of our families and communities, and gives us the space to work together to defeat the legislation that will hurt our families.”

— Joan Lamunyon Sanford,
NM Religious Coalition
for Reproductive Choice



healthcare bills—talking one-on-one with legislators, attending committee meetings en masse in order to testify, holding rallies and press conferences, and doing community workshops

that talk about the impact of these bills. Many of these proposals were stopped before they came out of committee, a testament to partners working as one in the Roundhouse.

Legislation Passed During 2013 Session

HB 641 Omnibus Tax Bill: Corporate tax break that hurt New Mexico

Sponsored by Rep. Antonio Maestas (D-16)

✓ Passed House and Senate

✓ Signed into law by Governor Martinez

The original HB 641 legislation, which was a set of fairly minor changes to the film tax credit, was changed substantially in the final days of the session with significant amendments. The final bill's major provisions include reducing the corporate income tax rate and allowing manufacturers to allocate their taxable profits to the state where their products are sold, rather than to the state where their manufacturing facilities and payroll are located. The law also reduces state funding to cities and counties by millions of dollars beginning in 2015.⁶⁶ The bill will cost local city and county governments \$26 million by fiscal year 2017.⁶⁷

HB 641 guarantees New Mexico will have tens of millions of dollars less for education, public safety, and healthcare in the future. The dramatic cuts to cities and counties ensure local governments will be either forced to pass the cost along to working families, or cut services like fire and police protection. The three major elements of the legislation—reducing the corporate tax rate, changing the tax formula for manufacturers, and repealing state general fund support for tax changes made in 2004 that affect local governments—all shift our state's overall tax responsibility from corporations to individual tax payers and families. In fact, the corporate income tax cuts will result in a tax cut of \$704 for a family making \$400,000 or more, while low-income families see no tax cut at all.⁶⁸

In addition to HB 641 being bad fiscal policy, the passage of HB 641 exemplifies deep flaws in our

legislative process. Very few legislators saw the tax bill before it was introduced on the House floor during the final hours of the legislative session, and many were incorrectly told the bill would have a positive revenue impact.⁶⁹ The Legislative Finance Committee was unable to produce a fiscal impact report on the amended bill, the House Taxation and Revenue Committee was not allowed to hold hearings on the bill, and legislators were given no information on the full costs of the amendment package—in fact, the fiscal impact report wasn't completed until nine days after the session ended. Major fiscal policy deserves to be fully vetted and discussed, not rammed through in the final seconds before the constitutionally required adjournment.

SB 40 No Electronic Communications in Jail: Prohibiting use of cell phones by incarcerated people

Sponsored by Sen. Sander Rue (R-23)

✓ Passed House and Senate

✓ Signed into law by Governor Martinez

SB 40 adds “electronic communication or recording device”—including cell phones—to the list of contraband not allowed into New Mexico correctional facilities. While the original legislation included both correctional department employees and prisoners, the final legislation was amended, applying the new regulations only to those in prison.

New Mexico is one of eight states that ended the practice of “commissions,” which gave jail and prison operators a kickback from the phone charges. Prior to 2001, a 15-minute long-distance, interstate collect call cost \$10.50. After the practice of accepting commissions was banned, the cost for the same phone call

dropped to \$0.65, which is still passed on to the family receiving the phone call.⁷⁰ Even with these lower rates, phone contact is still prohibitive for too many families. Cell phones in prison help inmates to connect to family members and loved ones. A basic cell phone plan with unlimited voice and text is far more affordable than even the lowest rate charged by prisons and jails.

Years of study have built a consensus among law enforcement, criminal justice experts, and policymakers that contact with family and friends reduces inmate recidivism, which benefits public safety and cuts taxpayers' costs for prisons and jails.⁷¹ Children who stay in contact with their incarcerated parents are less likely to have behavioral problems, and there are currently 2.7 million children of prisoners in the U.S.⁷²

House and Senate Grades

More than 1,300 pieces of legislation were introduced during the 2013 legislative session. Only 23% of the bills filed during the session were ultimately passed by both chambers,⁷³ and Governor Susana Martinez vetoed or pocket vetoed 62 pieces of legislation.⁷⁴

The House took 12 possible votes in support of New Mexico families. The House voted on 10 measures which would have strengthened individuals and families in New Mexico, approving

all ten measures. But the House also approved two measures that would increase barriers for individuals and families in New Mexico, and are fundamentally anti-family. The House earned 10 of 10 possible points for proactive family legislation, but was penalized two points for the two negative measures they approved.

The Senate took floor votes on 10 possible bills in support of New Mexico families. The Senate voted on 8 measures which would have strengthened individuals and families in New Mexico, approving all 8 measures. But the Senate also approved two measures that would increase barriers for individuals and families in New Mexico and are fundamentally anti-family. The House earned 8 of 8 possible points for proactive family legislation, but was penalized 2 points for the two negative measures they approved.

The House received a total of 10 out of 12 possible points, for a score of 83%, which results in a grade of B-

10 Laws that support Strong Families passed
2 Anti-Family Laws passed

10 out of 12 = 83%

The Senate received a total of 8 out of 10 possible points, for a score of 80%, which results in a grade of B-

10 Laws that support Strong Families passed
2 Anti-Family Laws passed

8 out of 10 = 80%

Conclusion

What makes our state strong is our diverse array of people, families, culture, and history. New Mexico is unique—and we deserve public policy that strengthens our families and communities. Strong Families New Mexico is working to ensure that public policy prioritizes all families, increases opportunities and access, and ensures

fairness in our state. The 2013 Strong Families New Mexico Report Card can serve as a tool for legislators, community organizations, and our Governor to evaluate how policy can lift up all families in our state. New Mexico leaders can do a better job, and we can help them.

Votes by Legislators

LEGISLATION THAT REACHED A FULL VOTE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

✓ = A vote in support of New Mexico families

✗ = A vote against New Mexico families

A blank indicates that the legislator was absent for the vote.

Representative	District	Civil Rights/ Criminal Justice			Economic Justice		Education Equity				Health Equity	Anti-Family	
		HB 304	SB 294	HM 30	HB 216	SB 416	HB 112	HB 300	HJR 13	SB 183	SB 221	HB 641	SB 40
Eliseo Lee Alcon	D-6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
Thomas Anderson	R-29	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Phillip Archuleta	D-36	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Alonzo Baldonado	R-8	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Paul Bandy	R-3	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗		✓	✗	✗
Donald Bratton	R-62	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Cathrynn Brown	R-55		✗		✓	✗			✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Gail Chasey	D-18	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✗	✗
Ernest Chavez	D-12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Sharon Clahchischillie	R-4	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗		✓	✗	✗
Zachary Cook	R-56	✓		✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓		✗	✗
Nathan Cote	D-53	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Anna Crook	R-64	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
George Dodge	D-63	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗

Representative	District	Civil Rights/ Criminal Justice			Economic Justice		Education Equity				Health Equity	Anti-Family	
		HB 304	SB 294	HM 30	HB 216	SB 416	HB 112	HB 300	HJR 13	SB 183	SB 221	HB 641	SB 40
Stephen Easley	D-50	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✗
Brian Egolf	D-47		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Nora Espinoza	R-59	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Candy Spence Ezzell	R-58		✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Kelly Fajardo	R-7	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
David Gallegos	R-61	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Doreen Gallegos	D-52	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✗	✗
Mary Helen Garcia	D-34	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✗	✗
Miguel Garcia	D-14	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗		
Stephanie Garcia Richard	D-43	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Nate Gentry	R-30	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗		✓	✗	✗
Roberto Gonzales	D-42	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
William Gray	R-54		✗	✗		✗	✓	✓	✗		✓	✗	✗
Jimmie Hall	R-28	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Diane Miller Hamilton	R-38		✗	✗		✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Jason Harper	R-57	✓		✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Yvette Herrell	R-51	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Dona Irwin	D-32	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Sandra Jeff	D-5	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗		✓	✗	✗
Emily Kane	D-15	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✗
Larry Larrañaga	R-27	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Tim Lewis	R-60	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓		✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Georgene Louis	D-26	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Patricia Lundstrom	D-9	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✗
James Madalena	D-65	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✗
Antonio Maestas	D-16	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Rodolpho Martinez	D-39	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✗
W. Ken Martinez	D-69		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Bill McCamley	D-33	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Terry McMillan	R-37	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓		✓	✓	✗	✗
Rick Miera	D-11	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗

Representative	District	Civil Rights/ Criminal Justice			Economic Justice		Education Equity				Health Equity	Anti-Family	
		HB 304	SB 294	HM 30	HB 216	SB 416	HB 112	HB 300	HJR 13	SB 183	SB 221	HB 641	SB 40
Paul Pacheco	R-23	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Jane Powdrell-Culbert	R-44		✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
William Rehm	R-31	✓		✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Dennis Roch	R-67	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Debbie Rodella	D-41	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Patricia Roybal Caballero	D-13		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
Henry Saavedra	D-10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Nick Salazar	D-40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Tomás Salazar	D-70	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Edward Sandoval	D-17	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
James Smith	R-22	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗		✓	✗	✗
Sheryl Stapleton	D-19	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✗
Jeff Steinborn	D-35	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Mimi Stewart	D-21	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
James Strickler	R-2	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Thomas Taylor	R-1		✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓		✗
Elizabeth Thomson	D-24	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
Don Tripp	R-49	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Carl Trujillo	D-46	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Christine Trujillo	D-25	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗		✗
Jim Trujillo	D-45	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Luciano Varela	D-48	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗
James White	R-20	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Bob Wooley	R-66	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Monica Youngblood	R-68	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗

LEGISLATION THAT REACHED A FULL VOTE BY THE SENATE

Senator	District	Civil Rights/ Criminal Justice		Economic Justice		Education Equity			Health Equity	Anti-Family	
		HB 304	SB 294	HB 216	SB 416	HB 112	HB 300	SB 183	SB 221	HB 641	SB 40
Sue Beffort	R-19	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Craig Brandt	R-40	✓	✓		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
William Burt	R-33	✓	✓		✗		✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Pete Campos	D-8		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Jacob Candelaria	D-26	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
Joseph Cervantes	D-31	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Carlos Cisneros	D-6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Lee Cotter	R-36	✓	✓		✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Phil Griego	D-39	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✗	
Ron Griggs	R-34	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Stuart Ingle	R-27	✓	✓		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Daniel Ivey-Soto	D-15	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓		✗	✗
Timothy Keller	D-17	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Gay Kernan	R-42	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Carroll Leavell	R-41	✓	✓	✓	✗			✓	✓	✗	✗
Linda Lopez	D-11	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Richard Martinez	D-5	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Cisco McSorley	D-16	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	
Mark Moores	R-21	✓	✓		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Howie Morales	D-28	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
George Munoz	D-4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Steven Neville	R-2	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Bill O'Neill	D-13	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Gerald Ortiz y Pino	D-12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Michael Padilla	D-14	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mary Kay Papen	D-38	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
William Payne	R-20		✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
John Pinto	D-3		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Cliff Pirtle	R-32	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Nancy Rodriguez	D-24	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Sander Rue	R-23	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓		✓	✗	✗

Senator	District	Civil Rights/ Criminal Justice		Economic Justice		Education Equity			Health Equity	Anti-Family	
		HB 304	SB 294	HB 216	SB 416	HB 112	HB 300	SB 183	SB 221	HB 641	SB 40
John Ryan	R-10	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Clemente Sanchez	D-30	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Michael Sanchez	D-29	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
John Sapien	D-9	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
William Sharer	R-1	✓			✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Benny Shendo, Jr.	D-22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
John Smith	D-35	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
William Soules	D-37	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Lisa Torracco	R-18	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Peter Wirth	D-25	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Pat Woods	R-7	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗

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Strong Families New Mexico Report Card Working Group

Encuentro

Enlace Comunitario

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Families United for Education

Media Literacy Project

Men of Color Initiative

New Mexico Asian Family Center

New Mexico Dreamers In Action

New Mexico Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice

OLÉ—Organizers in the Land of Enchantment

Tewa Women United

Young Women United

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Strong Families New Mexico is a regional program of Strong Families, a national initiative led by Forward Together, to change culture and policy to improve conditions for the most marginalized women and families.

Endnotes

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