

NM HEALTH EQUITY PARTNERSHIP



## New Mexico Health Equity Partnership – News

Generously supported by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Santa Fe Community Foundation

### Capacity Building



### Community Engagement



### Policy/Advocacy



*Local partners bring a health and equity lens to policies in a variety of areas ranging from trails to a comprehensive plan to a reintegration center.*

The [New Mexico Health Equity Partnership](#) (NMHEP), managed by the [Santa Fe Community Foundation](#), is comprised of partners affiliated with non-profit organizations, foundations, [health councils](#), PLACE MATTERS teams, [Health Impact Assessment](#) (HIA) teams, community groups, statewide organizations and national partners.

The NMHEP works with low-income communities and communities of color in New Mexico to strengthen their capacity to shift power relations by advocating for systems and policy change that will address structural and institutionalized inequities based on race, class, gender, and geography. The Partnership's vision is healthy, children, families and communities.

Health doesn't just happen as a result of diet, exercise and visits to the doctor's office. Health is impacted by policy and planning decisions that shape where we live, work, learn and play. When these local and statewide decisions are made without the input of diverse community members, the quality of life for New Mexicans diminishes. Our first hand lived experiences, expertise and languages are not included in the dialogue for change. We do not see people who look like us hold decision making leadership positions in our communities. In turn, we cannot grow our food or live our traditional ways; we are not able to learn our histories, share our cultural knowledge, and speak our languages; more of our families are incarcerated; and there are no parks to play outside.

We believe the solutions to New Mexico's challenges lie within the strengths, resiliency and expertise of our communities. Our lived experiences, cultural knowledge and relationships with community members – across generations – are critical to identifying solutions and transforming the conditions where we live, learn, work and play into healthy spaces. To this end, we

collaborate with diverse community members, cross-sectorial organizations and decision makers across urban, rural, frontier, border and tribal areas in New Mexico to strengthen our network in service of building our leadership skills and advocating for policy change. The network provides a unique space for people to join together and organize and mobilize for healthy children, families and communities.

By transforming the conditions we live in (political, social, economic, and environmental), we provide the opportunity for children, families and communities to live safe, healthy and quality lives. This will lead to strong thriving communities.

Click these links to "jump" to sections below:

- [NMHEP News](#)
- [Community Engagement](#)
- [Capacity Building](#)
- [Policy & Advocacy](#)
- [Media](#)

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## New Mexico Health Equity Partnership News

### NMHEP Advisory Council & PLACE MATTERS Advisory Group Appreciation Day



The NMHEP team would like to thank the NMHEP Advisory Group & the PLACE MATTERS Advisory Council for helping the Partnership to grow during its initial phase of operations. On June 24, 2015 a celebration was held at the Santa Fe Community Foundation to express this gratitude with advisory members.

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## Community Engagement

### Red Water Pond Community

### 7th Annual Red Water Pond Commemoration - Living with the Impacts of Uranium Mining



On July 18, 2015, the McKinley Community PLACE MATTERS team and NMHEP team was honored to be a part of the 7th Annual Red Water Pond Community Uranium Tailings Spill Commemoration. This community has experienced the health, economic and social impacts from one of the largest uranium tailings spill in the United States. We were joined by many community members, United States Environmental Protection Agency, and elected officials to hear stories and learn more about how to raise awareness around this legacy.

Submitted by Jordon Johnson, McKinley Community PLACE MATTERS Coordinator



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## Capacity Building

### Recent Action-Oriented Small Group Relationship Building Series

The purpose of the Action-Oriented Small Group Relationship Building Series is to strengthen relationships and build solidarity with peers across New Mexico to advance health equity and move towards focused actions connected to movement building, capacity building, and systems and policy change to improve health. Small group gatherings which have recently taken place during summer 2015 are highlighted below.

### Reclaiming Feminism

On July 14, 2015, the Reclaiming Feminism Small Group Gathering participants were welcomed to [Los Jardines Institute](#) by Richard Moore who is the Executive Director. Richard shared a brief history of environmental justice in New Mexico and a guided tour of the wonderful programs at Los Jardines Institute, including the garden, the wall mural, the Banned Books library and the newly built horno.

Adriann Barboa, New Mexico Field Director, [Forward Together](#) then led the Reclaiming

Feminism group through a series of leadership development exercises, including an introduction to [Forward](#) [Stance](#).



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## **Doña Ana PLACE MATTERS team hosts Las Vegas HIA team for Small Group Gathering**

As part of the small group gatherings sponsored by NMHEP this summer, Doña Ana PLACE MATTERS hosted three members of the Las Vegas HIA team in an exploration of strategies to impact local policy. Pat Leahan and Carrol and Bob Pearson from Las Vegas joined DAPM team members to participate in the kickoff Participatory Mapping Advocacy Project (PMAP) workshop in Anthony, discuss policy strategies with current and former local policy makers, and take part in the community commons at the Las Cruces Farmers' Market.

The gathering focused on forging relationships and learning from each other about how to best impact local policy to advance health equity. In conjunction with Larry Heard of the New Mexico Community Data Collaborative, participants gained participatory community mapping skills using free smart phone applications. With decision makers, attendees explored ways local teams can support one another in their local policy work as well as work together to create a culture of Health in All Policies, both locally and at the state level. These conversations rippled out to include other community members at the farmers' market the following day.

The DAPM team greatly appreciated the opportunity to hold this gathering and came away with powerful ideas for advancing Health in All Policies and renewed inspiration to continue its work.

At the end of August 2105, the Las Vegas HIA team will host the DAPM team in a follow-up visit, this one focused on the hosts' success in working with a broad spectrum of stakeholders to obtain approval and funding to open a reintegration center in conjunction with the San Miguel County Detention Center.



San Miguel County HIA Team members participate in the Doña Ana County PLACE MATTERS Participatory Mapping Advocacy Project (PMAP) workshop with youth from Anthony, NM (17 July 2015)

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## San Miguel HIA Reintegration Center

July

21,

2015



*SM Co. HIA Small Group Gathering #1, Las Vegas, NM, 21 July 2015 From L-R (back row): Carrol Pearson, Bob Pearson, Jessi Jensen, Patrick Snedeker, Cathy Kahn, Clara Lucero From L-R (front row): Betty Quick, Pat Leahan, Frances Lucero (not pictured Victoria Baca and Bernadette Montoya)*



## Policy/Advocacy

### Calendar

DATE	EVENT	POINT OF CONTACT
August 21-22, 2015	Action Oriented Small Group Gathering - HIA/Policy between San Miguel County and Dona Ana County	<a href="#">Pat Leahan</a>
August 24, 2015	San Juan Community PLACE MATTERS Educational Policy/Advocacy Day	<a href="#">Pam Valencia</a>
August 26, 2015	Digital Storytelling Workshop	<a href="#">David Gaussoin</a>
August 29, 2015	McKinley Community PLACE MATTERS Educational Policy/Advocacy Day	<a href="#">Jordan Johnson</a>

## Media and Communications

### NMHEP Digital Storytelling Workshop

NMHEP will be sponsoring a free "Introduction to Documentary Film Making Workshop". Local, award-winning film maker Christopher Michael Roybal will lead the Introduction to Documentary Film Making Workshop with a specific focus on how to capture people's first person accounts of their lives, histories, and communities. Learn basic storytelling, interviewing, and production techniques, in addition to discovering how to take a story idea all the way from inception to distribution of a completed piece. on Wednesday, August 26 - Registration was limited to the first 25 registered people, and we are pleased that capacity was reached, for this wonderful learning opportunity.



[www.nmhealthequitypartnership.org](http://www.nmhealthequitypartnership.org)

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