

NM HEALTH EQUITY PARTNERSHIP



## New Mexico Health Equity Partnership – News

Generously supported by the W.K. Kellogg 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 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 purpose of the NMHEP is to strengthen the capacity of NM communities to shift power relations through advocating for systems and policy change that will improve the conditions where children, families, and communities are healthy. This requires addressing structural and institutionalized inequities based on race, class, gender and geography. The focus of the work is with low-income communities and communities of color that face social, environmental and economic health inequities. The Partnership is structured around three organizing tools, strategies and approaches that are used to leverage communities' existing assets and build their capacity to advocate for health equity related changes: PLACE MATTERS (PM); Health Impact Assessments (HIA); and NM Tribal and Community Health Councils.

The NMHEP team and its national and state partners the [National Collaborative for Health Equity](#), [Human Impact Partners](#), and [New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils](#) support local PLACE MATTERS teams, health impact assessment teams, health councils and community partners' community engagement and policy/advocacy work through coordination of regional and statewide gatherings, trainings, and technical assistance. Interested in attending a future gathering? Let [us](#) know.

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## New Mexico Health Equity Partnership News

### NMHEP Announcements

#### Happy Two Year Anniversary NMHEP

Happy Birthday [New Mexico Health Equity Partnership](#)! Here's to a great 2 years, and many more. Many thanks to all our wonderful partners, communities, and teams that make this work possible!



#### Welcome Jinelle Scully to the NMHEP team

Please welcome [Jinelle Scully](#) to the [New Mexico Health Equity Partnership](#) (NMHEP) team. Jinelle is the new Event and Logistics Planning Associate for the NMHEP. She is responsible

for event and logistics planning support for NMHEP gatherings and trainings. Jinelle studied Health Services Administration at Alaska Pacific University with a focus on Indian and Rural Health Services. Jinelle has a diverse work background including adolescent mental health, Early/Head Start programs Health and Family Services, and New Mexico Department of Health Disease Prevention. She has a special talent for coordinating health services delivery across many miles and challenges, and personally enjoys traveling and experiencing the culture of each unique community. Her interest in preserving culture drives the work she does.

She is passionate about serving communities with high instance of health disparity and is an advocate for community engagement as well as sustainable policy and systems development. After a decade of life in Alaska, Jinelle returned to New Mexico to enjoy the never ending sunshine. In her free time Jinelle can be found exploring the open space and taking photos with her dog, Frida.

## Grant Announcement

The [New Mexico Health Equity Partnership](#) (NMHEP) works to strengthen the capacity of New Mexico communities to shift power relations through advocating for systems and policy change that will improve the conditions where children, families, and communities are healthy. This requires addressing structural and institutionalized inequities based on race, class, gender and geography. One community organizing tool, which helps support our efforts, is the [health impact assessment \(HIA\)](#). HIA utilizes community participation, research and data to determine a proposed policy or proposed plans impact on the health of a population. HIAs also provide recommendations to address these impacts. You can read about our current HIAs [here](#). If you are interested in learning more about HIA or possibly completing a [HIA application](#), please contact [Jessi Jensen](#), NMHEP Manager.

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## Capacity Building

### Recent Events

#### National PLACE MATTERS Action Lab 6



*Photo courtesy of Mauricio Martinez from the King County PLACE MATTERS Team*

The [New Mexico Health Equity Partnership](#) (NMHEP) is committed to strengthening the PLACE MATTERS teams in [Bernalillo](#), [Doña Ana](#), [San Juan](#) and [McKinley](#) communities to advance health equity through policy change. PLACE MATTERS is a national initiative designed to build the capacity of local leaders and communities to identify and address social, economic and environmental conditions that shape health and life opportunities. During October 22 – 24, 2014 the [National Collaborative for Health Equity](#) held its PLACE MATTERS ACTION Lab in Las Cruces, New Mexico. The gathering was hosted by the [Doña Ana PLACE MATTERS](#) team who coordinated an informative tour of Doña Ana County. Members of the [Bernalillo County PLACE MATTERS](#) team facilitated sessions at the gathering focused on health in all policies and mapping. To learn more about New Mexico's PLACE MATTERS efforts, please contact [María Gallegos](#), Statewide PLACE MATTERS Coordinator.

## **NE Health Council and Community Gathering**

The [New Mexico Health Equity Partnership](#) (NMHEP) is committed to mobilizing communities and building effective coalitions to strengthen tribal and county health councils' and community partners' to continue and expand their health equity efforts. Health Councils work with communities to address important local health issues and play an important role in community assessment, planning and coordination.





The [NMHEP team](#), the [New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils](#), and the New Mexico Department of Health – Health Promotion team coordinated the NE Health Council and Community gathering in Santa Rosa. The gathering was hosted by [Guadalupe County Health Council](#) at the [Blue Hole Visitor Center](#) during October 16 and 17, 2014. The theme was Celebrating our Work. Forty-two (42) health council members, Health Impact Assessment team representatives, and community partners from ten counties engaged in peer-to-peer learning and strengthened networks with each other. On day 1, health council members shared the work they are actively involved in and facilitators Anne Hays Egan and Lauren Reichert held an informative session on community engagement. On day 2, Kyra Ryan and Pat Leahan presented on Health in All Policies and Adriann Barboa of [Strong Families](#) engaged participants in interactive activities focused on civic engagement, messaging and moving from policy/advocacy planning to action. The lively discussions that took place during the gathering will be used to inform a toolkit for health councils. To learn more about next year's health council and community gatherings, please contact [Yolanda Cruz](#).

## Health Impact Assessment of the Americas

Yolanda Cruz, Health Councils and Community Coordinator, recently attended the [Health Impact Assessment \(HIA\) of the Americas Workshop](#), in Oakland CA. The workshop was held by the Society of Practitioners of HIAs ([SOPHIA](#)). The workshop builds a community of HIA practitioners by offering an intimate forum to network and share ideas and tools that elevate the practice of HIA. It also promotes excellence in HIA by sharing best practices, tackling challenging HIA related issues, and disseminating resources and work products developed by the working

groups. There were a total of 9 working groups. Yolanda participated in the Stakeholder Engagement and Equity in HIA working groups and plans to stay engaged with those groups throughout the year. All working groups will continue to meet by phone/internet on a regular basis. Interested in learning more about Yolanda's experience at the HIA of the Americas Workshop or attending the [2015 National Health Impact Assessment Meeting](#) in Washington, DC please contact [her](#) for more information.

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## Upcoming Events

### Health Impact Assessment Training - SW Region

~~~November 17 & 18, 2014~~~

Las Cruces, New Mexico

This learning opportunity brought to you by:

[NM Health Equity Partnership](#) - [Santa Fe Community Foundation](#),

[Human Impact Partners](#)

& [Doña Ana PLACE MATTERS team](#)

Assistance for travel/lodging will be available for participants traveling over 30 miles.

### Health Councils and Community Gathering - NW Region

~~~December 2 & 3, 2014~~~

McKinley County, New Mexico

This learning opportunity brought to you by:

[NM Health Equity Partnership](#) - [Santa Fe Community Foundation](#),

[NM Alliance of Health Councils](#)

& [NM Department of Health](#) – Health Promotion Program

contact: [Yolanda Cruz](#) - (505) 490-1201

Assistance for travel/lodging will be available for participants traveling over 30 miles.

[Please click here to register](#)

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## Calendar

| DATE                   | EVENT  | POINT OF CONTACT               |
|------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| November 17 & 18, 2014 | Southwest Health Impact Assessment Training                  | <a href="#">Jinelle Scully</a> |
| December 2 & 3, 2014   | Northwest Health Council & Community Gathering               | <a href="#">Yolanda Cruz</a>   |
| Winter 2015            | Metro Health Impact Assessment Training                      | <a href="#">Jinelle Scully</a> |
| January 14 & 15, 2015  | Metro Health Council & Community Gathering                   | <a href="#">Yolanda Cruz</a>   |
| TBD 2015               | Statewide PLACE MATTERS Gathering                            | <a href="#">María Gallegos</a> |
| February 19 & 20, 2015 | Southeast Health Council & Community Gathering               | <a href="#">Yolanda Cruz</a>   |
| March 2015             | Southeast Health Council & Community Gathering               | <a href="#">Yolanda Cruz</a>   |
| TBD 2015               | Statewide Health Council & Community Gathering               | <a href="#">Yolanda Cruz</a>   |
| TBD 2015               | Statewide PLACE MATTERS / Health Impact Assessment Gathering | <a href="#">María Gallegos</a> |

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## Community Engagement

### Values

The [New Mexico Health Equity Partnership](#) (NMHEP) maintains core values that guide our community engagement. We highly value community knowledge and maintain that community members directly impacted by health inequities are the experts. We believe the voices and participation of all groups directly affected by actions should be at the table from the planning to implementation. Along these same lines, community members most directly affected by a proposed action should be meaningfully engaged and hold active leadership roles at each stage of the process. Examples of how teams in McKinley Community and San Miguel County are meaningfully engaging community members are presented below.

### McKinley Community PLACE MATTERS



[McKinley Community PLACE MATTERS](#) (MCPM) is working closely with the Red Water Pond Road Community Association to build a Hogan, which will be used for community meetings,



ceremonies, and other educational opportunities. Together, they have created and laid the foundation, hauled 80 logs that will be stripped for the walls, and began laying the first few concrete block layers. They are excited to participate in the development of the Hogan, which has been a long awaited request of community members in the process of restoring their land and overall health from the legacy of uranium contamination. If you would like to contribute to the development of this project, please [Donate Here!](#)

*Article and photo submitted by Jordon Johnson, MCPM Coordinator*

## **San Miguel Health Impact Assessment Team**

On Sept. 30th, 2014 the [San Miguel County Health Impact Assessment \(HIA\) Team](#) convened a community meeting to present their findings and to solicit community input and recommendations.



This HIA has been exploring the health effects and viability of a Tri-County Adult Reintegration Center to be associated with the San Miguel County Detention Center. It has been shown that comprehensive reintegration services can help reduce recidivism, decrease violence and addiction, and increase overall community well-being. The Reintegration Center would serve Mora, San Miguel and Guadalupe Counties.

In attendance at the community meeting was a diverse group of approximately seventy people, including service providers, those who have been incarcerated, family members of those incarcerated, representatives from the local Detention Center, elected officials, members of the HIA Team, addiction treatment graduates, students, professors, San Miguel Family and

Community Health Council members, Health Equity Partnership folks, representatives from our three local educational institutions, practitioners in the medical field, and others.

Consensus at the meeting was palpable that an Adult Reintegration Center is clearly needed in our community. Some people shared their personal stories of how such a center could change lives significantly. Attendees generated solid recommendations for administrative and programmatic aspects, and provided perceptive guidance and tangible input. The community recommendations will be integrated into the final HIA report, and will be presented to the San Miguel County Commission and other elected officials within a couple of months.

It was so heartening to see the level of commitment from the community to help manifest a vision which has been held for ten years -- establishing a reintegration center here in the northeast region of New Mexico to better support the health and well-being of our communities.

*Submitted by Pat Leahan, San Miguel HIA Coordinator*

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## Policy / Advocacy

### Health Impact Assessment

The [New Mexico Health Equity Partnership](#) (NMHEP) is committed to training county/tribal health councils, PLACE MATTERS teams and community groups in Health Impact Assessment (HIA). Local HIA teams work with community members directly impacted by proposed actions to make a judgment about how a proposed plan or policy will affect health. HIA takes into consideration the current health status of a community, predicts how this will change if a proposed plan or policy is implemented and provides recommendations based on community knowledge, stories and quantitative data to inform and improve decision making processes. The NMHEP currently supports [six HIA teams](#) throughout the state and our national partner, Human Impact Partners supports and leads [two HIA teams](#). Human Impact Partners and the NMHEP team provide technical assistance to all 8 teams. In this newsletter we feature two local HIA teams – Cuba and Doña Ana PLACE MATTERS.

### **Cuba, Studying Trail Enhancement Plans-Health Impact Assessment (STEP-HIA)**

The [Studying Trail Enhancement Plans-Health Impact Assessment](#) (STEP-HIA) is conducted through the University of New Mexico Prevention Research Center in partnership with the Step Into Cuba Alliance. The STEP-HIA aims to look at how trail access from Cuba, NM to the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDT) is linked to health, quality of life, and community,

social, and economic capital for residents living in the community. The overall objective of the HIA is to utilize primary and secondary data to formulate recommendations about potential trail and trailhead features and locations in relation to the CDT to inform public land planners. In August 2014, the STEP-HIA team submitted a preliminary report to the Santa Fe National Forest and is currently working on the final stages of Assessment, Recommendations, and Reporting. The project team anticipates releasing a final HIA report in early 2015. The STEP-HIA is one of many efforts to promote health and increase health equity in Cuba.

*Submitted by Danielle Parker, Cuba HIA Coordinator*

## **HIA Coordinator Viva Doña Ana Comprehensive Plan**

The [Doña Ana PLACE MATTERS](#) team was recently awarded funding to conduct a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and will host the SW HIA training on November 17 & 18, 2014 in Las Cruces, New Mexico. The HIA will focus on the Viva Doña Ana Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan is currently being developed and will include goals, objectives and policies designed to improve the quality of life for residents of Doña Ana County. The overriding themes of Viva Doña Ana projects are targeted to address people, places and prosperity. This HIA will focus on places and specific topics that include, but are not limited to, land use, open space and valued place, and agriculture.

*Submitted by Kristina St. Cyr, DAPM Coordinator*

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## **Media and Communications**

### **Highlights**

#### **NMHEP**

The [New Mexico Health Equity Partnership](#) (NMHEP) team is honored to announce that the NMHEP has been selected as a pilot project by the [WK Kellogg Foundation](#) to receive ongoing communications technical assistance by Fenton Communications. [Fenton Communications](#) will assist the NMHEP team to develop a communications plan, craft messaging and provide opportunities to attend capacity building media workshops.

#### **Doña Ana PLACE MATTERS**

The [Doña Ana PLACE MATTERS](#) team, whose mission is to address the root causes of health inequities by supporting and participating in community based collaborations, was recently featured in the Las Cruces Sun News for all the team's great work. Please view the article [here](#).

## San Miguel Health Impact Assessment Team



Members of the [San Miguel Reintegration Center Health Impact Assessment](#) (HIA) team recently went “on the air” at KFUN/KLVF radio station. Coordinator, Pat Leahan and team members Bob & Carol Pearson and Artie Martinez joined Dr. Stauber to talk about the importance of a Reintegration Center and the links to both individual and community health. The proposed project would focus on reducing tri-county recidivism in the local jail by providing comprehensive programming that is supportive to individuals with various needs. The media outreach stirred up interest from many community members who could potentially be affected by such a reintegration center and their family members. The HIA team used the radio [interview](#) as a platform to invite interested community members to a meeting where preliminary findings were presented and input was gathered.

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## Sustainability

NMHEP

## Planning Retreat



The [New Mexico Health Equity Partnership](http://www.nmhealthequitypartnership.org) (NMHEP) convened a sustainability planning retreat on November 3, 2014 with the NMHEP team, Santa Fe Community Foundation, PLACE MATTERS, Health Impact Assessment and New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils representatives. The retreat produced many great ideas and suggestions regarding the future model for the NMHEP. The sustainability planning retreat was moderated by the [TCC Group](#), whom is assisting with the development of the NMHEP's sustainability plan. During the month of November 2014 retreat participants will report back to local teams for additional input and the NMHEP team will seek feedback from national partners. The next formal sustainability planning session will take place with NMHEP's thought partners, the NMHEP Advisory Council and the PLACE MATTERS Advisory Group, on December 4, 2014 in Gallup, New Mexico. We look forward to updating everyone on this exciting process!

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

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