



## New Mexico

Aging and Long-Term Services Department  
State Tribal Collaboration Report 2020

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## I. Executive Summary

New Mexico state departments, agencies, tribes, pueblos, and nations across the state are monitoring and dealing with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) Office of Indian Elder Affairs (OIEA) is working to understand by closely monitoring the immediate challenges to New Mexico elders, their providers, and the long-term impact on the interconnected service system. The ALTSD OIEA is collaborating with tribal leadership and senior service providers to help elders and providers make good decisions in the current highly volatile operating environment.

During a time of crisis, it is essential that our insights and experiences be shared. This helps us to contain and mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the New Mexico system of elderly support services. Ongoing collaboration and sharing of resources and knowledge ensures timely clarifications as emerging developmental changes are implemented.

Value, effectiveness, and worth are necessary characteristics of the evolving Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) Office of Indian Elder Affairs (OIEA). Collaborative efforts support the triple aim of 1) improving the experience of services and care; 2) improving health; and 3) lowering evident health disparities in Native American elder populations.

ALTSD/OIEA consistently responds to emerging demands and helps reduce undue burdens on providers of elder services. Expectations require that providers maintain services that are safe, effective, client centered, timely, efficient, and equitable. The guidance presented throughout this report is a result of ALTSD and OIEA's collaborative efforts with tribal contractors to gather data on how and what types of quality services are provided based on current evidence and joint consensus.

### A. *Summary of Report Focused on Accomplishments with Tribal Nations and Overview of Future Efforts*

The ALTSD continues to collaborate with New Mexico's Tribes, Pueblos and Nations. The OIEA helps strengthen the capacity to deliver a wide range of programs and services throughout New Mexico for Native American elders. The ALTSD/OIEA coordinates its senior services through the New Mexico Indian Area Agency on Aging (IAAA) and the Navajo Department of Aging and Long-Term Care Services (DALTCS), formerly Navajo Area Agency on Aging (NAAA). Through ardent management initiatives, the ALTSD consultation and communication policies and procedures have created a foundation that fosters an environment which concentrates on the needs of our Native American elders.

## II. Agency Overview and Background

### A. *Mission Statement*

#### Aging and Long-Term Services Department

##### Our Mission

The New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) provides accessible, integrated services to older adults, adults with disabilities, and caregivers to assist them in maintaining their independence, dignity, autonomy, health, safety, and economic well-being, thereby empowering them to live on their own terms in their own communities as productively as possible.

##### Our Vision

Lifelong independence and healthy aging

##### Guiding Principles

- ...Protect the safety and rights of those we serve
- ...Promote personal choice and self-determination
- ...Treat all persons with respect, embracing cultural diversity
- ...Encourage collaborative partnerships
- ...Provide fiscally responsible services

## Office of Indian Elder Affairs

### *Vision*

Honor healthy aging among American Indian elders by supporting culture, traditions and effective approaches that enrich a long life

### *Mission*

Uphold endeavors that empower American Indian elders to live healthy with joy, respect and dignity in their tribal communities

## **Guiding Principles—Core Values**

- ...Promote high-quality aging services
- ...Celebrate cultural diversity
- ...Strengthen partnerships and trust
- ...Engage in team approaches
- ...Conduct responsible monitoring

### **B. Agency Overview**

“The role of the NM Aging and Long-Term Services Department is to develop programs and public policies which foster the delivery of integrated programs and services to older persons, persons with disabilities, and caregivers, throughout New Mexico. The Department is charged with creating a seamless, comprehensive, efficient and cost-effective array of programs and services, which emphasize home and community-based long-term care, healthy and productive aging, economic security, protection of rights, and prevention of abuse, neglect and exploitation. The Department has the authority to develop and manage budgets and programs, issue rules and regulations, and develop this statewide plan for addressing the needs of older New Mexicans and New Mexicans with disabilities. The Older Americans Act and the Governor of the State of New Mexico authorize the Department to prepare this plan for delivering services to New Mexico's older adults and adults with disabilities. The period covered by this plan is October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2021. The Cabinet Secretary of the Aging and Long-Term Services Department is appointed by, and serves at the pleasure of, the Governor. By State statute, the Governor appoints an eleven member Policy Advisory Committee to advise the Secretary regarding programs, policies and issues addressed by the Department. The Aging and Long-Term Services Department consists of the Office of the Secretary and four divisions.”<sup>1</sup>

The Office of Indian Elder Affairs was created within the Office of the Secretary in 2004. The OIEA has responsibility of managing the Indian Area Agency on Aging (IAAA), supports the efforts of the Navajo Nation-Department of Health's Division of Aging and Long-Term Care Support (DALTCS, formerly NAAA), serves as a central point for addressing issues affecting New Mexico's American Indian elders within ALTSD's various divisions, and provides a key advocacy role for Indian Country when circumstances warrant. OIEA's general operational functions include contract management of state general funds, program compliance monitoring, technical assistance, advocacy and training.

The Indian Area Agency on Aging provides contract management, program monitoring, technical assistance, advocacy and training to New Mexico's 19 pueblos and 2 Apache nations with regard to their provision of Older Americans Act services. In 1991, the Aging and Long-Term Services Department entered into a joint powers agreement with the NM Department of Indian Affairs creating the first state-designed Native American Indian area agency on aging. The joint intent of the two departments was to empower the Indian Area Agency on Aging with roles and responsibilities similar to the state's federally designated area agencies and for it to serve as the leading advocacy organization for Indian elders in the state. In 2000, the Indian AAA was placed within the Aging and Long-

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<sup>1</sup> New Mexico State Plan for Aging and Long-Term Services “Partners in Lifelong Independence and Healthy Aging” October 1, 2017–September 30, 2021, page 4.

Term Services Department.”<sup>2</sup> The Indian Area Agency on Aging is under state authority, through the New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD), to work in partnership to develop a comprehensive and coordinated service system of senior centers and adult day care services provided by New Mexico’s 19 Pueblos, 2 Apache Nations, and the Navajo Nation. The IAAA administers Planning and Service Area 6 (PSA 6), which is comprised of 21 of 22 tribal geographic service areas.

The OIEA also supports the efforts of Planning and Service Area 5 (PSA 5), the Navajo Nation-Department of Health’s—DALTCS, which serves as the Area Agency on Aging that administers programs for Navajo Nation elders.

“Since 1978, the Navajo AAA has been the sole organization designated to provide Older Americans Act Title III and Title VI services to tribal elders who are age 60 or older. In certain communities, age eligibility is lowered to 55, subsequent to incorporating Title VI of the Older Americans Act. Currently, the area agency operates 81 senior centers (39 of which are located in New Mexico), family caregiver support services, a Foster Grandparent Program, a LTC Ombudsman Program, elder abuse prevention, and health insurance/benefits counseling services. The Navajo AAA has established five regional agencies. The Crownpoint Regional Agency is entirely within New Mexico’s state boundaries and operates 20 senior centers; the Shiprock Regional Agency operates 11 centers in New Mexico and the Fort Defiance Regional Agency operates 8 centers in New Mexico. Senior centers provide congregate and home delivered meals, transportation, health promotion and social services.”

The ALTSD’s goal is to continue to successfully provide training, technical assistance, advocacy, and strategic planning in partnership with its tribal contractors, to strengthen and coordinate a breath of services and programs to meet the social, health, nutrition, caregiving and adult day care needs of New Mexico’s Native American elders.

**C. Any Department—Specific Tribal Collaboration/Consultation policy your agency might have adopted in addition to STCA (11-18-4C (1))**

The ALTSD through its State-Tribal Consultation, Collaboration and Communication Policy, the Agency seeks to improve and/or maintain partnerships with Tribes. The purpose of the Policy is to use or build-upon previously agreed-upon processes when the Agency initiates programmatic actions that have tribal implications.

### **III. Agency Efforts to Implement Policy (11-18-4.C (1) (3))**

**A. Describe agency’s efforts to communicate, collaborate and consult with tribes as described in your Tribal Collaboration and Communications policy (Division specific efforts to build meaningful dialogue and collaboration with tribes)**

“The ALTSD policy consists of the following principles:

- A. Recognize and Respect Sovereignty**—the State and Tribes are sovereign governments. The recognition and respect of sovereignty is the basis for government-to-government relations and this Policy. Sovereignty must be respected and recognized in government-to-government consultation, communication and collaboration between the Agency and Tribes. The Agency recognizes and acknowledges the trust responsibility of the Federal Government to federally-recognized Tribes.
- B. Government-to-Government Relations**—the Agency recognizes the importance of collaboration, communication and cooperation with Tribes. The Agency further recognizes that Agency programmatic actions may have tribal implications or otherwise affect American Indians/Alaska Natives. Accordingly, the Agency recognizes the value of dialogue between Tribes and the Agency with specific regard to those programmatic actions.
- C. Efficiently Addressing Tribal Issues and Concerns**—the Agency recognizes the value of Tribes’ input regarding Agency programmatic actions. Thus, it is important that Tribes’ interests are reviewed and considered by the Agency in its programmatic action development process.

<sup>2</sup> New Mexico State Plan for Aging and Long-Term Services “Partners in Lifelong Independence and Healthy Aging” October 1, 2017–September 30, 2021, page 11, 12.

- D. **Collaboration and Mutual Resolution**—the Agency recognizes that good faith, mutual respect, and trust are fundamental to meaningful collaboration and communication policies. As they arise, the Agency shall strive to address and mutually resolve concerns with impacted Tribes.
- E. **Communication and Positive Relations**—the Agency shall strive to promote positive government-to-government relations with Tribes by: (1) interacting with Tribes in a spirit of mutual respect; (2) seeking to understand the varying Tribes' perspectives; (3) engaging in communication, understanding and appropriate dispute resolution with Tribes; and (4) working through the government-to-government process to attempt to achieve a mutually-satisfactory outcome.
- F. **Informal Communication**—the Agency recognizes that formal consultation may not be required in all situations or interactions. The Agency may seek to communicate with and/or respond to Tribes outside the consultation process. These communications do not negate the authority of the Agency and Tribes to pursue formal consultation.
- G. **Health Care Delivery and Access**—providing access to health care is an essential public health responsibility and is crucial for improving the health status of all New Mexicans, including American Indians/Alaska Natives in rural and urban areas. American Indians/ Alaska Natives often lack access to programs dedicated to their specific health needs. This is due to several factors prevalent among American Indians/Alaska Natives, including but not limited to, lack of resources, geographic isolation, and health disparities. The Agency's objective is to work collaboratively with Tribes to ensure adequate and quality health service delivery in all tribal communities, as well as with individual American Indians/ Alaska Natives in urban areas or otherwise outside tribal communities.
- H. **Distinctive Needs of American Indians/Alaska Natives**—compared with other Americans, American Indians/ Alaska Natives experience an overall lower health status and rank at, or near, the bottom of other social, educational and economic indicators. American Indians/Alaska Natives have a life expectancy that is four years less than the overall U.S. population and they have higher mortality rates involving diabetes, alcoholism, cervical cancer, suicide, heart disease, and tuberculosis. They also experience higher rates of behavioral health issues, including substance abuse. The Agency will strive to ensure with Tribes the accountability of resources, including a fair and equitable allocation of resources to address these health disparities. The Agency recognizes that a community-based and culturally appropriate approach to health and human services is essential to maintain and preserve American Indian/ Alaska Native cultures.
- I. **Establishing Partnerships**—in order to maximize the use of limited resources, and in areas of mutual interests and/or concerns, the Agency seeks partnerships with Tribes and other interested entities, including academic institutions and Indian organizations. The Agency encourages Tribes to aid in advocating for state and federal funding for tribal programs and services to benefit all of the State's American Indians/Alaska Natives.
- J. **Intergovernmental Coordination and Collaboration**—
  1. *Interacting with federal agencies.* The Agency recognizes that the State and Tribes may have issues of mutual concern where it would be beneficial to coordinate with and involve federal agencies that provide services and funding to the Agency and Tribes.
  2. *Administration of similar programs.* The Agency recognizes that under Federal tribal self-governance and self-determination laws, Tribes are authorized to administer their own programs and services which were previously administered by the Agency. Although the Agency's or Tribe's program may have its own federally approved plan and mandates, the Agency shall strive to work in cooperation and have open communication with Tribes through a two-way dialogue concerning these program areas.
- K. **Cultural and Linguistic Competency**—the Agency shall strive for its programmatic actions to be culturally relevant and developed and implemented with cultural and linguistic competence.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department State-Tribal Consultation, Collaboration and Communication Policy. Pages 2–4

The Aging and Long-Term Services Department consists of the Office of the Secretary and four divisions:

- The **Office of the Secretary** includes the Cabinet Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Office of the General Counsel, Human Resources, Information Technology, Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, Office of Alzheimer's and Dementia Care, and Office of Indian Elder Affairs.
- The **Administrative Services Division** includes the Capital Projects Bureau, financial management, budgeting, procurement, contracting, and administrative support for the Department.
- The **Adult Protective Services Division** provides a system of protective services to persons age 18 and older who are unable to protect themselves from abuse, neglect or exploitation. Investigations are conducted through a network of regional field offices which cover all New Mexico counties. When necessary, Adult Protective Services provides short-term services, including emergency protective placement, home care, adult day care, attendant care and filing of guardianship petitions in district courts.
- The **Aging Network Division** includes an Employment Programs Bureau which administers two older worker programs and 50+ Employment Connection offices, the NM Conference on Aging, and the Senior Services Bureau which provides technical and programmatic support for all non-tribal area agencies on aging, Volunteer Programs (FGP, SCP, RSVP) and other aging network contractors.
- The **Consumer and Elder Rights Division** includes the NM Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), Options Counseling, a Veteran Directed Home and Community-Based Services Program, the State Health Insurance Program (SHIP), the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP), a Care Transitions Program, and a Prescription Drug Assistance Program.

*Division specific efforts to build meaningful dialogue and collaboration with tribes resulted in the following status summary.*

The majority of frail Native American elders live at home, cared for by family members; many live with several generations of family. Some of the tribal programs provide in-home services and caregiver support. Adult Day Care Centers operate in Zuni, Isleta and Santa Clara Pueblos. An Adult Day Care Center is currently in development at the Pueblo of Santa Ana. The Isleta Pueblo also operates a tribal assisted living facility. Two tribal nursing facilities are currently operating in PSA 6: the Laguna Rainbow Center located in the Laguna Pueblo, 50 miles west of Albuquerque, and the Mescalero Care Center at the Mescalero Apache Reservation in southern New Mexico. The Mescalero Apache Reservation and Zuni Pueblo also have dialysis care units.

New Mexico's Native American lands can be described as rural or frontier and predominantly isolated from urban areas. This isolation impacts tribal members' access to services, and particularly impacts tribal elders. There is a need for additional long-term care services (both in-home and facility-based), access to adequate medical care, expanded transportation services, adequate housing and legal services to address issues of elder abuse, neglect or exploitation. The major concerns of Native American elders in PSAs 5 and 6 include transportation, nutrition, long-term care, and social and supportive services. In addition, elders are concerned about the role of Indian Health Service in providing long-term care and geriatric care. The Indian AAA conducts outreach to identify Native American elders eligible for assistance, and informs them of the availability of aging programs and benefits, including those provided directly by the Department. These outreach efforts place special emphasis on reaching older individuals with greatest economic and social needs, with particular attention to those with low incomes. The Indian Area Agency on Aging maintains an active advocacy network which responds to Native American elder concerns throughout tribal, state, and national venues, and works to address identified gaps and barriers.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> 2017–2021 State Plan. Page 12

#### IV. Current & Planned Programs and Services for Native Communities (11-18-4.C (5))

A. Provide a description of current and planned programs and services provided to or directly affecting Native communities and the funding for each program

Senior Services Programs—In collaboration with its partners in FY 2020, the ALTSD provided technical assistance and program initiatives. ALTSD awarded 19 contracts to fund 59 senior center operations and services provided in the New Mexico tribal communities. The contractors and contract amounts include: <b>Entity</b>	FY20 Contract Amount
Acoma Senior Center—Pueblo of Acoma	\$ 125,400.00
Cochiti Senior Center—Pueblo of Cochiti	123,866.00
Isleta Senior Center—Pueblo of Isleta	104,464.00
Jemez Senior Center—Pueblo of Jemez	123,755.00
Jicarilla Senior Center—Jicarilla Apache Nation	136,404.00
Laguna Senior Center—Pueblo of Laguna	157,451.00
Mescalero Senior Center—Mescalero Apache Tribe	111,133.00
Navajo Area Agency on Aging—Navajo Nation DALTCs	1,070,000.0
Ohkay Owingeh Senior Center—Ohkay Owingeh	114,913.00
San Felipe Senior Center—Pueblo de San Felipe	136,599.00
Sandia Senior Center—Pueblo of Sandia	49,878.00
Santa Ana Pueblo Senior Center—Santa Ana Pueblo	50,012.00
Santa Clara Senior Center—Santa Clara Pueblo	164,004.00
Santo Domingo Senior Center—Santo Domingo Tribe	127,780.00
Taos Senior Center—Taos Pueblo	95,968.00
Tesuque Senior Center—Pueblo of Tesuque	54,130.00
Zia Senior Citizen Center—Pueblo of Zia	49,878.00
Zuni Senior Center—Pueblo of Zuni	181,169.00
8 Northern Indian Pueblos Council, Inc.—Eight Northern Indian Pueblo	226,927.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,203,731.00</b>

Three FY 2020 contracts for adult day care services in the Pueblos were awarded:	FY20 Contract Amount
Isleta Adult Daycare Center (ADC)	\$ 74,649.00
Santa Clara ADC	93,371.00
Zuni ADC	85,249.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 253,269.00</b>

**Senior Services for the Apache Tribes, Navajo Nation, and Pueblos**—the ALTSD/OIEA provided technical assistance during FY 2020 which involved training in both budgetary and fiscal processes, including contract and budgeting timelines, initiation and timely completion of processes, State House Bill II funding allocations, service unit tracking and analysis. These training opportunities reached senior center management and program staff. More detailed descriptions are located in the sections that follow.

During FY 20 programs overseen by the NAAA provided:

- 25,646 one-way trips
- 196,253 congregate meals to 23,111 elders
- 92,803 home-delivered meals to 6,741 elders

IAAA tribal contractors provided the following services to elders during FY 20:

- 42,255 one-way trips
- 83,810 congregate meals to 2,391 elders
- 257,039 home-delivered meals to 9,934 elders
- 22,593 hours of Adult Day Care

OIEA collaborated with the following organizations on an on-going basis in order to increase services and opportunities available to New Mexico's Native American elders:

- AARP—Tribal Liaison
- Administration on Aging/Administration on Community Living/Title VI Program
- All Pueblo Council of Governors
- All Pueblo Council of Governors-Elder's Committee
- ALTSD Aging and Disability Resource Center
- Alzheimer's Association, New Mexico Chapter
- Central New Mexico College
- City of Albuquerque
- Department of Defense
- Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council
- Health Benefit ABCs (Bill Benson)
- Indian Health Services
- International Association for Indigenous Aging (Bill Benson/Dave Baldrige)
- National Indian Council on Aging
- National Senior Olympics
- Native American Budget and Policy Institute
- Navajo Nation Department of Health – Division of Aging & Long Term Care Support
- New Mexico Department of Health
- New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions
- New Mexico Indian Affairs Department
- New Mexico Indian Council on Aging
- New Mexico Senior Olympics, Inc.
- New Mexico Title VI Coalition
- Santa Fe Indian School – Leadership Institute
- Ten Southern Indian Pueblos Council
- University of New Mexico
- UNM-Native American Alzheimers Institute

The ALTSD Cabinet Secretary and selected staff annually attend the State-Tribal Leaders Summit organized by the Indian Affairs Department.

## **ALTSD/OIEA COVID-19 RESPONSE**

Currently, all tribal and non-tribal senior centers across that state have ceased providing meals in a congregate setting to limit and prevent exposure to COVID-19 within senior centers. Non-tribal senior centers across the state follow the same process the NM Department of Health has in place to assist with testing, contact tracing, and evaluating risk factors that assist leadership in cities and counties make informed decisions about closures of senior centers due to COVID-19 risk factors.

- 1) **Tribal Senior Center Emergency Plans**—on March 11, 2020, the OIEA immediately mobilized to help our Tribes, Pueblos, and the Navajo Nation with guidance and assistance to establish “Senior Center Emergency Plans” which halted congregate meal activities at tribal senior centers, and transitioned to providing “home-delivered meals, pick-up meals, and other alternatives to congregate settings, to ensure our elders would not go hungry during this crisis.
- 2) **Emergency Food Box Initiative**—In April, 2020, the ALTSD started an emergency food box operation to provide much needed food to elders throughout the state. From April through June, ALTSD staff and volunteers packed thousands of food boxes for delivery to tribal and non-tribal senior centers throughout the state. Due to the complexities tribal communities face (e.g. limited, or non-existent, access to local food, water, and supply stores, lack of transportation for elders, etc.) ALTSD delivered these emergency food boxes to tribal communities first. While department staff packed boxes with the assistance of numerous volunteers, the OIEA made arrangements with each individual tribe to obtain tribal leader approvals, set up hub sites, arrange for transport and receiving, and coordinated delivery of over 4,200 food boxes to tribal elders, in the first round. A second round of food box deliveries was conducted to several of those tribal communities hardest hit by COVID-19.
- 3) **Personal Protective Equipment**—At the onset of the pandemic, personal protective equipment (PPE) was largely unavailable in sufficient quantities to meet the needs of our senior center staff and other essential workers providing services to elders. The OIEA mobilized persons who were willing to make homemade facemasks to help meet the need, but limited quantities were still insufficient to meet the demand. Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham worked with the Department of Corrections and Cabinet Secretary Tafoya Lucero to engage the incarcerated individuals to make masks and eventually over 20,000 facemasks were sent out to tribal communities alone. A second round of delivery of 4,000 facemasks to tribal senior centers is scheduled within next few days.
- 4) **Weekly Ongoing Zoom Meetings**—The OIEA has established a weekly Zoom meeting to provide tribal senior center staff with ongoing support and guidance as circumstances evolve. The responsibilities that each of our tribal providers are facing are difficult, at best. Continual support and encouragement are paramount as each navigates difficult challenges. In addition to weekly Zoom meetings, the OIEA conducts special workgroup sessions and support group sessions as circumstances require.
- 5) **FY 2020 Contract Closure Delays**—Unfortunately, many of our tribal communities have had COVID-19 outbreaks, and subsequent tribal office closures that caused significant delays in the processing of invoices and monthly report submissions. The close out of FY 2020 contracts, including the completion of complex SAMS reporting requirements, was crucial to the department’s ability to approve final payments on those contracts. The state has strict rules and timelines regarding the submission of final documents, and tribal programs were significantly at risk of losing the benefit of reimbursement if invoices and reports were not completed. Nevertheless, while working through these challenges, the ALTSD and OIEA staff consistently assisted tribal contractors through these challenges, but often extended needed support to tribal contractors at the expense of valuable and limited time to address and complete their own departmental and program responsibilities.

- 6) **12.5% Upfront Provision of Funding for FY 2021**—“During the 2020 New Mexico Legislative Session, House Bill 2 was signed into law. It requires a twelve and one-half percent (12 ½) distribution from the department of finance and administration for initial payments to aging network providers at the beginning of the fiscal year. This distribution shall be distributed equally among all providers.” This provision will assist tribal service providers to have access to a 12.5% of their contract allocation as an upfront distribution to be provided immediately after the contract is completed and signed.
- 7) **10% Increase in Contract Allocation to Senior Center Providers**—the ALTSD is fully aware that senior centers struggle to meet the needs of elders due to limited funding. Despite limited funding, the department has chosen to provide a 10% increase from FY 2020 funding allocations to tribal senior center providers. One great concern during the 2020 Special Legislative Session was the possibility that the 10% budget increases for our senior center programs could possibly be reduced or eliminated. **However, we were firm in defending the needs of our tribes and pueblos, and we will provide a 10% increase in contract allocations for tribal senior center providers.** However, despite this, and due to the economic impacts of COVID-19, the ALTSD is still facing significant budget cuts despite our concerted efforts to maintain much-needed funding to provide the support senior programs across the state need. To be clear, the department will protect the 10% increase to tribal contract allocations but will have to absorb the budget decreases imposed by the economic implications of COVID-19.
- 8) **OIEA/IAAA Program Manager**—the program manager for the IAAA and the Navajo Nation—Department of Health/Aging and Long Term Services Division (DALTCS) resigned in April 2020. Because of the fiscal implications caused by the pandemic the state announced a hiring freeze. Given the importance of this position ALTSD requested reconsideration for this position from the Department of Finance and Administration and the Governor’s office to hire a program manager. The hiring selection process has been completed and the candidate is expected to start work on August 8, 2020.

#### **Healthy Aging Activities in FY 2020—**

- ALTSD and OIEA staff participated in the Governor’s Hunger Initiative throughout tribal communities
- Responded to COVID-19, providing support by restructuring congregate meals to “grab-n-go”, pick-up meals, or home delivered meals
- Provided additional food boxes to alleviate hunger created by the pandemic
- Initiated partnership with the Department of Health to provide sovereign food trainings to tribal communities.
- Implemented the AmeriCorps planning grant from the Department of Workforce Solutions to develop a sovereign food and economic development project that will utilize a partnership with the Pueblo of Zuni.
- Continued collaboration and partnership with the National Indian Council on Aging (NICOA)
- Continued collaboration and partnership with the New Mexico Indian Council on Aging (NMICOA)
- OIEA has participated in numerous health fairs around the state to include event hosted by the City of Albuquerque and the Sandia Pueblo.

#### **Alzheimer’s Disease and Dementia Services—**

During FY 2020, the Office of Alzheimer’s and Dementia Care collaborated with the OIEA and other partners in projects affecting New Mexico’s Pueblos, Tribes and Navajo Nation. These projects included:

- The New Mexico State Caregiving/Dementia Plans Leadership Team includes representatives from the OIEA and Navajo Nation.
- The Alzheimer’s Association, New Mexico Chapter, continues to provide statewide caregiver support services including 24/7 Helpline, information, care consultations, training and education, support groups and a self-directed respite program. Skills for Dementia Caregiving (aka Savvy Caregiver), an evidence-based caregiver education program continues to be offered.
- Pegasus Legal Services for Children, Inc. provides legal services to assist kinship caregivers to obtain guardianship of related children, including Native American kinship caregivers.

**Adult Protective Services**—Adult Protective Services (APS) does not have jurisdiction on Indian land and refers any reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation involving Native Americans residing on Indian land to the social services office of the appropriate jurisdiction. At the time of a referral, APS also offers to collaborate regarding the investigation. In order for APS to investigate, the leadership of the Pueblo, Tribe or Nation must grant permission.

**APS NE Region:** Staff in the NE region collaborate with Santa Clara, Ohkay Owingeh, Jicarilla Apache, Tesuque, Nambé and Pojoaque. Training was provided to Santa Clara Pueblo.

- **APS NW Region:** During FY20, staff in the NW region provided technical support to Zuni pueblo in developing and updating their APS policies and procedures. Staff also provided consultation and training at Laguna Pueblo, Acoma Pueblo and Navajo Nation. Staff also provided training to staff at Shiprock Social Services. APS continues to work with the Nation on mutual cases where an alleged victim resides off the reservation.
- **APS SE Region:** The SE regional office collaborates with the Mescalero tribe and provides non-jurisdictional reports to their Tribal Social Services.
- **APS SW Region:** APS management in the Southwest region of New Mexico collaborates with the Mescalero tribe and provides non-jurisdictional reports to their Tribal Social Services.

**APS Metro Region:** APS collaborated with Isleta Pueblo and the Jicarilla Apache Tribe regarding mutual cases.

**Capital Outlay**—the ALTSD Capital Projects Bureau (CPB) is responsible for the administration of the capital outlay projects for senior centers statewide under the statutory authority of State Agency on Aging (28-4-1 to 28-4-9 NMSA 1978). Capital outlay appropriations are made to ALTSD through the legislative process and such projects include those awarded to both local and tribal governments for renovation and construction projects, as well as for the purchase of vehicles and large equipment, such as commercial kitchen equipment. CPB staff work closely with the Aging Network, OIEA, AAA's and the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) to prepare an annual capital outlay recommendation. The CPB is responsible for contracting with the funded governmental entities, and must provide assurances to DFA that the governmental entity is in compliance with NMAC 2.61.6 Bond Disbursement Rule, Executive Order 2013-006 and the DFA State Board of Finance Release of Funds Conditions (Anti-donation Clause of NM Constitution, Art. IX, Sec. 14). The CPB also monitors, tracks, and reports project and fiscal status for each appropriation; processes requests for reimbursement of eligible expenditures; ensures timely reversions of expired appropriation balances; and, provides training and technical assistance to grantees with regard to planning, project management and administration of capital project appropriations.

Capital outlay request applications are vetted for fundability and project readiness for inclusion in the annual ALTSD recommendation to the Executive.

The CPB provides training and technical assistance workshops on how to submit capital outlay applications and grants management/compliance. In FY 2020, the CPB was only able to conduct three regional training sessions for the 2021 STB Applications. The 2021 STB Application template and required documents were posted on the ALTSD website along with the supporting power point presentations. Local and Tribal administrators were invited to attend the workshops in their respective areas of the State. CPB provided in-person technical assistance as requested.

### **Consumer and Elder Rights—State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) and Native American Indian tribes interactions**

- The current programs are listed below (FY20):
  - State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) benefits counseling.
  - Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) – empowers and assists Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and their caregivers to prevent, detect, and report health care fraud, errors, and abuse.
  - Resource Options Counseling can help weigh choices and help connect consumers to programs and services around long-term services and supports (LTSS).
  - The Prescription Drug Assistance (PDA) program assists uninsured and underinsured individuals obtain the medications they need at costs they can afford.

New collaborations during FY20 are listed below:

<b>Title of Interaction</b>	<b>Start Date of Activity</b>	<b>County of Event</b>	<b>Zip Code of Event</b>
Nambe Pueblo Elderly Program	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
Nambe Pueblo Wellness Center	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
Nambe Pueblo Administration	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
Ohkay Owingeh HHS Director	6/1/2020	Rio Arriba—NM	87506
Ohkay Owingeh CHR program	6/1/2020	Rio Arriba—NM	87506
Picuris Senior Center	6/1/2020	Taos—NM	87533
Pojoaque Pueblo Elderly Program	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
Pojoaque Pueblo CHR Program	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
Santa Clara Elderly Program	6/1/2020	Rio Arriba—NM	87532
Santa Clara Pueblo Newsletter	6/1/2020	Rio Arriba—NM	87532
Santa Clara CHR Program	6/1/2020	Rio Arriba—NM	87532
Santa Clara Pueblo Tribal Administration	6/1/2020	Rio Arriba—NM	87532
San Ildefonso Elderly Program	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
San Ildefonso Pueblo Community Health	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
San Ildefonso Pueblo	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
San Ildefonso Bulletin	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
Tesuque Pueblo Elderly Program	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
Tesuque Pueblo Community Health	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
Taos Pueblo Senior Center	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506
Taos Pueblo Health and Wellness Director	6/1/2020	Santa Fe—NM	87506

The programs planned for the next fiscal year are listed below (FY21):

- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) benefits counseling.
- Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) – empowers and assists Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and their caregivers to prevent, detect, and report health care fraud, errors, and abuse.
- Resource Options Counseling can help weigh choices and help connect consumers to programs and services around long-term services and supports (LTSS).
- The Prescription Drug Assistance (PDA) program assists uninsured and underinsured individuals obtain the medications they need at costs they can afford.

## Hunger Action Initiative

In October, November and December 2019, the Senior Services Bureau (SSB) was assigned to the Gallup area to work on the Hunger Action Initiative spearheaded by the Office of the Secretary. The goal was to provide community meals, groceries and outreach to Native American elders and their grandchildren. This project entailed collaboration with the Miyamura High School Culinary Arts program, Wells Fargo Bank, The Community Pantry, the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Charities, Concilio Campesino Del Sudoeste and other state agencies and volunteers to address food insecurity in Gallup and the surrounding area. The community meals were well received and increased in numbers as the event progressed over the months. The total event resulted in over 373 meals being served to elders, 144 children, and 128 adults at the Northside Senior Center. SSB also helped with the initiating the Churchrock and Standing Rock sites, 313 seniors, 70 children, 104 adults were served meals distribution of over 200 bags of groceries.

### Northside Senior Center Overflow from the main dining room



### Visits to Native American Senior Centers

In October and November 2019, SSB conducted visits to Breadsprings Senior Center, Mexican Springs Senior Center, Pinedale Senior Center, Tohajilee Senior Center and Tohatchi Senior Center. These visits were to listen to concerns and challenges faced by the senior centers and bring those findings back to the Office of the Secretary to help areas in need.

## Senior Day February 14, 2020

Seniors from the pueblos and tribes throughout the state were invited to ALTSD's Santa Fe office for Senior Day at the New Mexico State Legislature. Seniors participated in a day filled with resources not only at the Santa Fe office but also at the NM Legislature where the Cabinet Secretary addressed seniors in the Rotunda. Participation by the pueblos and tribes and access to resource tables was the goal of reaching seniors throughout the state.



Title of Interaction	Start Date of Activity	Location of Event
Isleta Pueblo Health Fair	9/11/2019	Isleta
Native American Health and Wellness Symposium—Health Fair	11/8/2019	Isleta
Navajo Staff Training	9/20/2019	Navajo
New Mexico Indian Council on Aging—Quarterly Meeting	9/22/2019	Sandia
New Mexico Indian Council on Aging—Quarterly Meeting	1/24/2020	Santa Fe
SAMS Training	7/27–28/2019	Taos
SAMS Training	3/5–6/2020	Taos
SAMS Training	3/16–17/2020	Navajo
Santo Domingo/Kewa Pueblo—Health Fair	8/23/2019	Santo Domingo
Tesuque Pueblo Health Fair	9/12/2019	Tesuque
Tesuque Health Fair	9/22/2019	Tesuque
Traditional Indigenous Food Training	9/5–6/2019	Santa Clara
Weekly zoom meetings begun with OIEA tribal entities	2/18/2020	Zoom
Zoom meetings to discuss contracts	3/3/2020	Zoom
Zoom meetings initiated with IAAA and NAAA Daily	2 work sessions	Zoom
AARP—Meeting To Collaborate on Provision of Services	2/10/20	ALTSD-Santa Fe Office
ACL—Title VI & NICOA—Weekly Friday Afternoon Chat	Weekly Ongoing	Dial-In
ACL—Title VI Webinars	As Scheduled	Webinar
All Pueblo Council of Governor's—Elder's Committee	1/13/20	IPCC—Albuquerque
ALTSD Training—Barbara Romero—Capital Outlay Projects	2/4/20	ALTSD—Santa Fe Office
ALTSD Omudsman—Linnea Forsythe—Needs in Indian Country	2/7/20	ALTSD—Santa Fe Office
ALTSD/APCG—Elder's Committee—Outline of Issues	2/10/20	ALTSD—Santa Fe Office
ALTSD—PAC Meeting – Presentation on Indian Elder Needs	2/13/20	ALTSD—Santa Fe Office
ALTSD—Denise King Contract Management & Reimbursement	2/25/20	ALTSD—Santa Fe Office
ALTSD—Capital Outlay Training Cancelled Due to COVID-19	3/18/20	San Felipe Pueblo
ALTSD—Capital Outlay Training Cancelled Due to COVID-19	3/23/20	Window Rock
ALTSD— PAC Meeting	5/14/20	Zoom
APCG Meeting	2/27/20	IPCC—Albuquerque
Bill Benson—Indian Elder Project Collaboration Initiatives	2/26/20	Albuquerque
Bill Benson, Secretary Katrina Hotrum-Lopez, Charlie Verpleough	2/28/20	Albuquerque
CNM—Capacity Building/Training for Senior Center Directors	3/4/20	CNM
ENIPC—Scheduled Meeting—Cancelled Due to COVID-19	3/12/20	ENIPC
Indian Day—NM State Legislature	2/7/20	NM State Legislature
Indian Day—Santa Fe Indian School Luncheon	2/7/20	Santa Fe Indian School
Indian Game Day—Cancelled due to COVID-19	4/15/20	Santa Fe
Isleta Pueblo—Senior Center Site Visit	3/9/20	Isleta Pueblo
Kiki Savaadra Senior Dignity Fund—NMICOA Presentation	2/28/20	NM State Legislature
Native American Budget & Policy Institute—Budget Equity Study	3/3/20	Center for Law & Poverty
Native American Budget & Policy Institute—IAD Contract	3/18/20	NABPI—Albuquerque
National Whitehouse COVID-19 Briefings—State,Local,Tribal	Weekly Ongoing	Dial-In
Navajo Nation—DOH,DALTCs-Secretary Trujillo & Nation Staff	2/21/20	Dial-In
Navajo Nation—Scheduled Meetings Cancelled due to COVID-19	3/16-17/20	Window Rock
NM-DOH COVID-19 Briefings—Tribal Leaders & NM Departments	Weekly Ongoing	Zoom
NM-DOH COVID-19 Webinar Briefings	As Scheduled	Webinar
NM-IAD COVID-19 Briefings—Tribal Leaders & NM Departments	Weekly Ongoing	Zoom

Title of Interaction Continued	Start Date of Activity	Location of Event
NM-IAD Meeting with Secretary Trujillo—Elder Issues & Funding	2/19/20	ALTSD—Santa Fe Office
NMICOA—Officers & Directors Meeting	3/10/20	Zia Pueblo Senior Center
NMICOA—Quarterly Meeting—Cancelled due to COVID-19	4/23/20	Mescalero Apache
OIEA COVID-19 Briefings—Tribal Senior Center Directors	April 17—Current	Zoom
OIEA Workgroup Sessions—FY 2020 Contracts	As Scheduled	Zoom
OIEA Workgroup Sessions—FY 2021 Contracts	As Scheduled	Zoom
Pojoaque Pueblo—Scheduled Meeting Cancelled due to COVID-19	3/12/20	Pojoaque Pueblo
Sandia Pueblo—Site Visit	2/5/20	Sandia Pueblo
Santa Ana Pueblo—ADC Funding Request—Site Visit	2/5/20	Santa Ana Pueblo
SFIS—Leadership Institute, Meeting Carnell Chosa, Regis Pecos	3/4/20	Santa Fe Indian School
Santo Domingo Pueblo—APCG Meeting & Site Visit	1/30/20	Santo Domingo Pueblo
Senate Appropriations—Committee Hearing ALTSD Presentation	2/3/20	NM State Legislature
Senior Day—NM State Legislature	2/14/20	NM State Legislature
Senate Indian Affairs Committee—Presentation	2/18/20	NM State Legislature
Southern Pueblo's Governors Council—Cancelled COVID-19	4/1/20	Albuquerque
STCA Workshop—Building Cultural Equity with Native Nations	3/5/20	DOT-Albuquerque
Ten Southern Pueblos Governor's Council—Cancelled COVID-19	4/9/20	Albuquerque

## Employment Programs

**Healthy Aging and Employment Programs**—ALTSD seeks to promote the economic well-being and health of New Mexico's elders. Healthy Aging initiatives promote fitness, adequate and healthful nutrition and education about health risks and the management of chronic disease. Participants in the older worker programs gain job skills, while enabling non-profit and government organizations to provide additional community service. Listed are some of these activities and programs offered to the pueblos, tribes and nations in FY 2020.

**Employment Programs Bureau**—During FY20, six participants in the Senior Community Service Employment Program were assigned to half-time on-the-job training in Native communities:

- Three in Zuni Pueblo,
- One in Picuris Pueblo, and
- Two on the Navajo Nation.

In addition, nine Native Americans participated in the Employment Programs in urban areas,

- Four in Gallup,
- Three in Albuquerque and
- Two in the Four-Corners area.

The planned programs for FY21 are listed below:

The Senior Employment Programs will continue to provide low-income seniors with half-time, on-the-job training and additional classroom or on-line training to enable the acquisition of job skills and eventual financial self-sufficiency. The Employment Programs are collaborating with the Office of Indian Elder Affairs and Zuni Pueblo to institute a weekly conference call "radio" program. The program will be coordinated by Zuni elders, with contributions from elders and elderly programs staff. It will include updates of relevant news, open discussions of pertinent topics and some music. The purpose of the program is to provide some social contact to isolated elders.

Alleviation and prevention of chronic disease will be the goal of another developing program. Native elders will be recruited and trained to be Community Health Workers and Certified Peer Support Workers. Some will be eligible for the Senior Employment Programs, others will be funded through other programs. Once trained and certified, they will work in their communities with other elders with chronic mental or physical illness. The goal is to reinforce healthy habits and lifestyles, including regular check-ups, diet, exercise and socialization.

During FY20 the Employment Programs:

- Assisted with tracking COVID-19 cases in long-term care facilities including nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Native Communities.
- Assisted with feeding programs at Church Rock on the Navajo Nation.
- Assisted with assessments of PSA VI senior programs in the Four-Corners area.

### **Legal Services for the Elderly Program (LREP)**

The ALTSD provides funding to organizations that provide advocacy and legal representation to assist older adults (including Native American older adults) with greatest economic need or social needs in securing and maintaining government benefits, housing, health care, human rights, consumer protection and domestic protection. ALTSD contracts directly with the Legal Services for the Elderly Program, or LREP, for the provision of statewide legal services for individuals age 55 and older. LREP staff reach out to tribal programs by providing their monthly service/status report to the Navajo Area Agency on Aging and the ALTSD Office of Indian Elder Affairs. LREP conducts free workshops/legal clinics throughout the state, and ensures that all tribal programs receive a written notification regarding workshops in or in close proximity to tribal communities.

In FY20, LREP held 16 Legal Workshops/Clinics across the state with 410 participants in attendance. LREP executed 56 Powers of Attorney and 47 Advance Health Care Directives for individuals statewide.

### **State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program**

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP) is federally and state mandated to provide independent oversight and advocacy services to residents living in New Mexico's long-term care facilities. The Program's staff and volunteers regularly visit nursing homes and assisted living facilities, and they advocate for the recognition, respect, and enforcement of residents' civil and human rights. A regular and required part of our program is a training on cultural competency when working with Native American Elders for Ombudsman staff and volunteers. In FY 2020, the program hired a Northwest Ombudsman Regional Coordinator with a special focus on outreaching to Pueblos, Tribes, and Nations to make sure we understand the role of the LTCOP in supporting Native American elders and adults living with disabilities in facilities.

We spoke with adult day care centers, senior centers, and long-term care facilities on tribal land. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on the Native American community in New Mexico. When residents in long-term care facilities started testing positive in long-term care facilities, we recruited volunteers who speak Navajo so we could serve our Navajo speaking COVID positive residents and their families. Recruiting volunteers who speak a Native American language continues to be a priority for the LTCOP in FY 2021.

### **Corps Volunteer Programs**

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) is a federal agency that improves lives, strengthens communities and fosters civic participation through service and volunteering. Senior Corps, a division of CNCS, operates three volunteer programs for seniors: the Foster Grandparent Program, the Senior Companion Program, and RSVP. The Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) receives an annual legislative appropriation to support the operations of local projects statewide under these three programs. ALTSD, in collaboration with the CNCS, provides training and technical assistance to Volunteer Programs statewide, as well as monitoring to ensure program compliance. In State Fiscal Year 2020, **Pueblo of Zuni** was awarded a contract for the provision of services under the Foster Grandparent Program and Senior Companion Program(s). Training and technical assistance include the statewide Senior Corps Grantee meetings, biweekly state calls and Fall 2019 training, quarterly Grantee Calls with all state program directors, as well as regular one-to-one technical assistance with Pueblo of Zuni program and fiscal staff. SSB conducted an on-site visit with Pueblo of Zuni volunteer program and fiscal staff on November 19, 2019.

FY 20 Pueblo of Zuni Volunteer Programs Data:

Foster Grandparent Program		
Number of Volunteers	Number of Children Served	Total Volunteer Hours Served (all funding sources)
9	111	4,449
Senior Companion Program		
Number of Volunteers	Number of Children Served	Total Volunteer Hours Served (all funding sources)
19	22	8,924

The Independent Sector\* has established the Value of Volunteer Time at \$25.43/hour. Pueblo of Zuni Volunteers contributed approximately \$340,075 in volunteer service during FY20.

**\*\$25.43 per hour Estimated National Value of Each Volunteer Hour. *New Value of Volunteer Time data is typically released in April. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we anticipate that 2019 government data that we use to calculate this value may be delayed. We appreciate your patience and understanding.***

- B. *Main agency accomplishments and challenges regarding work with tribes and native organizations including significant state-tribal issues, recommendations and/or priorities addressed in FY20.*

**ALTSD/OIEA Collaborative Efforts and Involvement**

#	Area	Collaborative Effort and Involvement
1	<i>Transition of older adults to home- and community-based services</i>	The OIEA continues to provide opportunities for OIEA contractors to meet with tribal liaisons affiliated with New Mexico's Managed Care Organizations to discuss options to establish a tribal-MCO revenue stream. The OIEA coordinates with the ALTSD's Aging Disability Resource Center.
2	<i>Promotion of healthy aging</i>	The OIEA is currently implementing a Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Framework with an emphasis on elevating the health status of NM American Indian elders. The OIEA collaborates with the NM Department of Health on a variety of joint initiatives. The OIEA coordinates with NM Senior Olympics, especially in the provision of "All Indian Game Day".  The Alzheimer's Association in collaboration with OIEA has begun piloting the "Healthy Brain Initiative Roadmap for Indian Country" in New Mexico.
3	<i>Support to caregivers</i>	The OIEA, the Alzheimer's Association—New Mexico Chapter, the National Indian Council on Aging and the ALTSD Office of Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care, are teaming together to promote the Savvy Caregiver program to the Pueblos and Tribes. One of the overarching goals is to have at least one "Savvy Caregiver in Indian Country" trainer in each tribal community.

**Goal 1:** Ensure all ALTSD staff members have completed the State Personnel Office cultural competency training. “The goals of this statutory training are to provide effective communication and collaboration between state agencies and tribes, develop positive state-tribal government-to-government relations, and to develop cultural competency to provide effective services to tribal governments and tribal citizens.” State Personnel Office

**Goal 2:** Collaborate with the Department of Workforce Solutions to implement the AmeriCorps planning grant and develop a sovereign food and economic development project that will utilize a partnership with the Pueblo of Zuni.

**Goal 3:** Collaborate with the Alzheimer’s Association piloting the “Healthy Brain Initiative Roadmap for Indian Country” in New Mexico.

**C. Goals for fiscal year FY20 relating to tribes and native organizations**

ACL—Current Strategic Plan Goals (2013–2018)	ALTSD 2017–2021 State Plan Goals	ALTSD—OIEA 2020
<b>Goal 1: Advocacy</b> — <i>Advocate to ensure the interests of people with disabilities, older adults, and their families are reflected in the design and implementation of public policies and programs.</i>	Maintain an effective aging network structure that provides a coordinated delivery system of services to older New Mexicans.	<b>Goal 1</b> —Comply, as applicable, with all federal and state statutes, rules and policies.
<b>Goal 2: Protect Rights and Prevent Abuse</b> — <i>Protect and enhance the rights, and prevent the abuse, neglect, and exploitation, of older adults and people with disabilities.</i>	Support innovation in evidence-based health promotion, disease prevention, nutrition, and caregiver support initiatives.	<b>Goal 2</b> —Develop and administer a comprehensive and coordinated system of services for American Indian elders who reside in rural and frontier areas.
<b>Goal 3: Individual Self-Determination and Control</b> — <i>Work with older adults and people with disabilities as they fully engage and participate in their communities, make informed decisions, and exercise self-determination and control about their independence, well-being, and health.</i>	Enhance public and private collaborative partnerships to build capacity and maintain and develop quality state-wide services and supports. Improve nutritional health, alleviate hunger and prevent malnutrition by providing nutritionally adequate meals to older adults throughout New Mexico.	<b>Goal 3</b> —Through collaborative networks, set strategic priorities for the delivery of contracted tribal aging services to elders, spouses, adults with disabilities and caregivers.
<b>Goal 4: Long-Term Services and Supports</b> — <i>Enable people with disabilities and older adults to live in the community through the availability of, and access to, high-quality long-term services and supports, including supports for families and caregivers.</i>	Maintain an effective aging network structure that provides a coordinated delivery system of services to older New Mexicans.	<b>Goal 4</b> —Provide program monitoring, technical assistance, capacity building and training to ensure continuous quality improvement (CQI)
<b>Goal 5: Effective and Responsive Management</b> — <i>Implement management and workforce practices that support the integrity and efficient operations of programs serving people with disabilities and older adults and ensure stewardship of taxpayers’ dollars.</i>	Enhance public and private collaborative partnerships to build capacity and maintain and develop quality state-wide services and supports.	<b>Goal 5</b> —Contribute to tribal, state, and national dialogue, to advocate for public policies and programs which meet the needs of American Indian elders, adults with disabilities and caregivers.

## ACL's Mission

Maximize the independence, well-being, and health of older adults, people with disabilities across the lifespan, and their families and caregivers.

## ACL's Vision

For all people, regardless of age and disability, to live with dignity, make their own choices, and participate fully in society. Therefore, we will:

For the people we serve	Promote strategies that enable people to live in their communities.
For our networks	Provide leadership and support.
For our partners	Be a source of collaboration, innovation, and solutions.
For our employees	Support their contributions, professional growth, and work-life balance.
For the public	Be effective stewards of public resources and a source for information.

Last modified on 06/25/2020

### ALTSD—OIEA—2021 Objectives

#### Tribal Driven Objectives

The OIEA objectives are being developed using results based management and community-based participatory processes to ensure a comprehensive and coordinated system of services for AI/AN elders, adults with disabilities and caregivers.

Each contractor has developed objectives, through its 4-Year Local Plan, which will be monitored through the OIEA assessment and evaluation processes. These processes determine how effectively each pueblo, tribe or nation, is in meeting its stated program goals and objectives.

### ALTSD—OIEA—Requested Support FY21

Tribes, Pueblos and the Navajo Nation have specifically asked for support to:

- 1) Help tribal leaders, Title VI and Senior Center program managers create a vision for the further development of tribal elder programs.
- 2) Establish a better communication system utilizing an OIEA Director that communicates, advocates, and informs tribal entities of opportunities that develop and provide support to tribal elder programs that includes site visits to pueblos, nations and tribes.
- 3) The OIEA Director needs to build relationships with people they serve and act as a conduit to the department, involve pueblos, tribes and nations, as well as other state agencies that serve native elders (e.g. Indian Affairs Department).
- 4) Establish a method by which annual legislative appropriations for tribal services are clearly and accurately generated. This can be accomplished by creating a reporting system that feeds in to the end-of-year legislative session planning and information needs that has already been provided by tribes, pueblos, and nation to minimize last minute data collection needs that are burdensome to tribal elder program directors.
- 5) Provide transparency regarding appropriations and funding formulas.
- 6) Conduct an equity study that ensures all funding for tribes, pueblos, and nations is equally distributed.

## ALTSD—OIEA—Requested Support FY21 continued

- 7) Ensure that tribal leaders, Title VI and Tribal Senior Program Managers have a role in providing input to the development of programs they administer by incorporating and utilizing a formalized tribal consultation process to develop and strengthen program development and program implementation. (Establish a process by utilizing the guidelines of the State Tribal Collaboration Act (STCA).
- 8) Review the age-related service guidelines and take into consideration life expectancy and health related issues when determining age eligibility for tribal programs.
- 9) Examine Intervention considerations for vulnerable elders versus just Prevention considerations.
- 10) Review and examine the Federal Statute for tribal programs to access Title III funding opportunities. New Mexico is the only state in the Union that does not fund Title III for tribal elder programs. (In reference to Keller as AG's finding.)
- 11) Work closely with tribal entities such as the All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG)—Elders Committee, the Apache Tribes, and the Navajo Nation to develop programs that are developed and implemented with cultural relevance and consideration for how tribes, pueblos, and nations operate.
- 12) Incorporate cultural sensitivity and respect for cultural aspects of how tribes, pueblos and nations operate in interactions and program development.
- 13) Tribal elders are asked to go to the legislature to support elder programs throughout the state. Please inform tribes and pueblos what ALTSD is asking for regarding Indian Elder programs, and show them how elders benefit from their time and effort to go to the legislature.
- 14) The Native American Budget and Policy Institute will host an *Elders Convocation* in March or April of 2020 (Postponed due to COVID-10). The outcomes of the convocation will lead to program development needs and aspects that can strengthen and support the development of tribal programs. The APCG-Elder's Committee requests full engagement of ALTSD in the process of listening to and actively working with the pueblos to support and develop elder programs.
- 15) The APCG-Elders Committee asks that the ALTSD and OIEA personnel need to understand that fundamental interactions are important, and department personnel need to exhibit sensitivity to Native American Tribes and Pueblos in the process of any interactions with them. Business should be conducted through a "Government-to-Government" relationship, as opposed to a "top-down" or through a "dictatorship" mentality.
- 16) The OIEA needs to work with the Indian Affairs Department (IAD) to develop an methodology for conducting a "government-to-government" relationship with pueblos, tribes and nations.
- 17) The OIEA should work with the Tribal Program Directors of pueblos, tribes and nations to establish a timeline and an agenda for 2020 and 2021.
- 18) The OIEA should work with Tribal Program Directors of pueblos, tribes and nations, as well as the Title VI Coalition and NM Indian Council on Aging, to review and develop policy, set goals, and guide and inform outcomes that effect elder programs.
- 19) The OIEA should work with the tribal support network at the local, regional and national levels to be informed and to inform tribes and pueblos and nations of opportunities to access funding, and to strengthen and expand services they provide.
- 20) The OIEA, with input from tribes and nations, must develop an approach to support tribes to define potential for capacity building and assist tribes in building capacity.

## ALTSD—OIEA—Requested Support FY21 continued

- 21) The ALTSD-OIEA contractual agreements must be reviewed by the department and tribes to ensure realistic measures and/or deliverables.
- 22) The Navajo Nation-Department of Health- Division of Aging and Long-Term Care Support has requested a work meeting to evaluate senior programs and identify ways the ALTSD can provide support to build capacity in the Navajo Nation Programs.
- 23) The Jicarilla and Mescalero Apache Tribes has requested on-site visits to evaluate and identify ways the ALTSD can provide support to build capacity within the Apache Tribes.

The Office of Indian Elder Affairs is committed to addressing the issues raised by the tribes, pueblos, and nation. The “Elders Consortium” that was planned in Spring of 2020 was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the OIEA will continue to address concerns as they are presented and as they arise.

## V. Training and Employee Notification (11-18-4. (4)(6))

### A. STCA Training and Certification

The Department and OIEA offer multiple training events each year, designed to educate and inform aging network providers statewide. Representatives from all pueblos, tribes, and nations participated in the trainings in FY 2020.

ALTSD’s New Mexico Conference on Aging offers older adults, caregivers, and the professionals who work with them a chance to learn and have fun in an environment that supports independence and dignity. Drawing approximately 1500 people annually, this is one of the few conferences attended by both older adults and professionals. Conference attendance is reflective of New Mexico’s ethnic and cultural diversity.

Currently, all ALTSD senior managers are required to participate in the State Personal Office cultural competency training. In addition, mid-level managers and supervisors have been strongly encouraged to attend, especially those working directly with tribal communities.

### B. Employee Notification about STCA

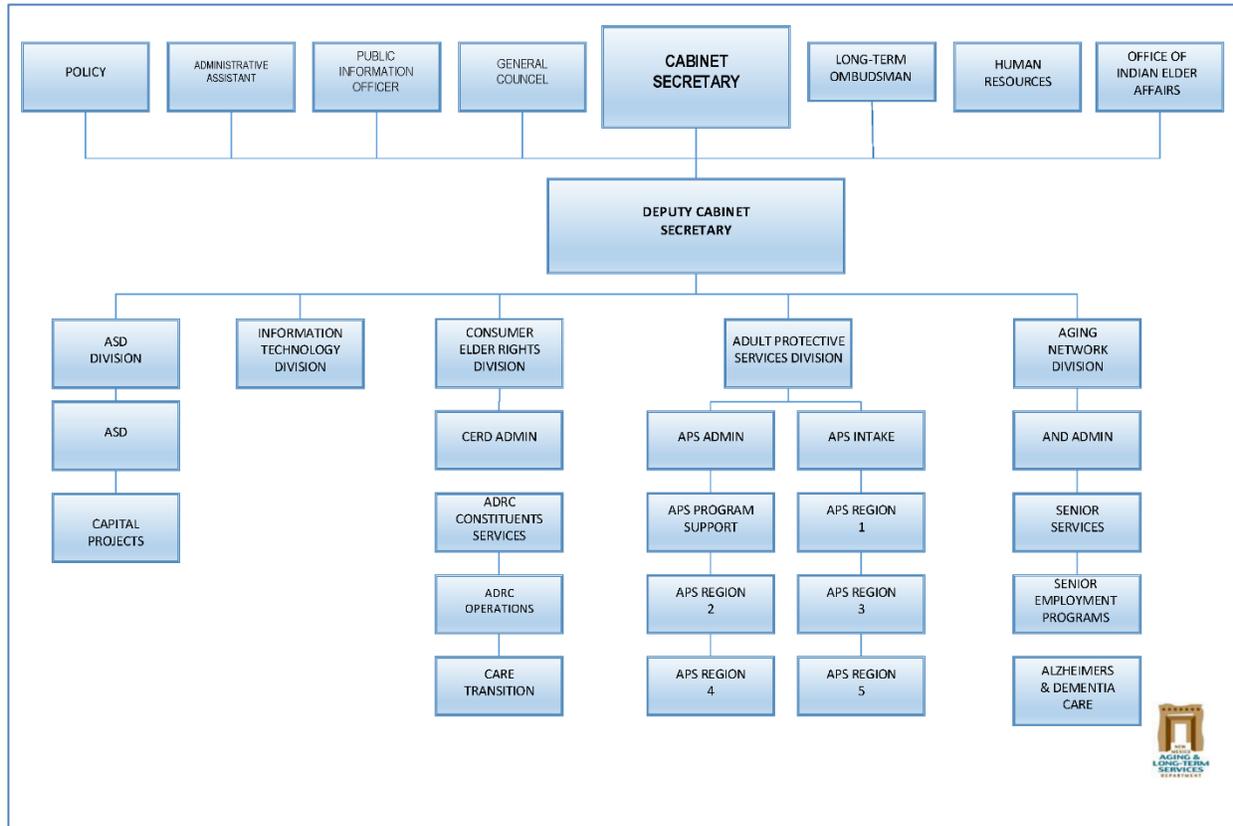
ALTSD notification about the STCA consists of the following:

- Senior management meeting topic
- Telephone consultation with ALTSD Division Directors
- Email notifications—limited to key information, critical information and data that will help improve performance outlined in the STCA

## VI. Key Names & Contact Information (11-18-4.C (2))

### A. Org chart and contact information

The diagram below outlines the internal structure of the ALTSD. It outlines the roles, responsibilities and relationships between individuals within the ALTSD organization.



#### KEY NAMES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

<b>Cabinet Secretary:</b> Katrina Hotrum-Lopez P. O. Box 27118 2550 Cerrillos Rd. Santa Fe, NM 87502-7118 Phone: (505) 476-4990 Email: <a href="mailto:Katrina.Hotrum-Lopez@state.nm.us">Katrina.Hotrum-Lopez@state.nm.us</a>	<b>Deputy Secretary:</b> Sam Ojinaga P.O. Box 27118 2550 Cerrillos Rd. Santa Fe, NM 87502-7118 Phone: (505) 476-4708 Email: <a href="mailto:Sam.Ojinaga@state.nm.us">Sam.Ojinaga@state.nm.us</a>
<b>Office of Indian Elder Affairs Director</b> Rebecca Baca, Director on Contract P. O. Box 27118 2550 Cerrillos Rd. Santa Fe, NM 87502-7118 Phone: (505) 918-2495 Email: <a href="mailto:RebeccaBaca@aol.com">RebeccaBaca@aol.com</a>	<b>Tribal Liaison:</b> Evone Gallegos 625 Silver SW, Suite 414 Albuquerque, NM 87102 Phone: (505) 690-5306 Email: <a href="mailto:Evone.Gallegos2@state.nm.us">Evone.Gallegos2@state.nm.us</a>
<b>Office of Indian Elder Affairs</b> Marvinia Chavez, Program Manager 8500 Manual NE B350 Albuquerque, NM 87112 Phone: (505) 629-8544	<b>Capital Projects Bureau</b> Barbara Romero, Capital Outlay Bureau Chief 2550 Cerrillos Rd, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505 P.O. Box 27118, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502 Office 505-476-4704 Email: <a href="mailto:Barbara.Romero@state.nm.us">Barbara.Romero@state.nm.us</a>

## VII. Relevant Statutes and Mandates

### A. Agency specific and applicable state or federal statutes and mandates. (Ex. State Tribal Collaboration Act, Transfer of Water Rights, National Historic Preservation Act, etc.)

Federal and State statutes and mandates applicable to ALTSD are:

1. "Congress passed the **Older Americans Act (OAA)** in 1965 in response to concern by policymakers about a lack of community social services for older persons. The original legislation established authority for grants to states for community planning and social services, research and development projects, and personnel training in the field of aging. The law also established the Administration on Aging (AoA) to administer the newly created grant programs and to serve as the federal focal point on matters concerning older persons. Although older individuals may receive services under many other federal programs, today the OAA is considered to be a major vehicle for the organization and delivery of social and nutrition services to this group and their caregivers. It authorizes a wide array of service programs through a national network of 56 state agencies on aging, 629 area agencies on aging, nearly 20,000 service providers, 244 Tribal organizations, and 2 Native Hawaiian organizations representing 400 Tribes. The OAA also includes community service employment for low-income older Americans; training, research, and demonstration activities in the field of aging; and vulnerable elder rights protection activities."<sup>5</sup>
2. **State Tribal Collaboration Act**—"Relating To Governmental Affairs; Enacting The State-Tribal Collaboration Act; Requiring State-Tribal Collaboration And Communication; Declaring An Emergency."<sup>6</sup> Compliance with the State Tribal Collaboration Act in its entirety is required by ALTSD and its divisions and offices.
3. 2017 New Mexico Statutes  
**Chapter 9—Executive Department**  
**Article 23—Aging and Long-Term Services Department**  
**Section 9-23-1—Short title.**  
**Universal Citation:** [NM Stat § 9-23-1 \(2017\)](#)  
**9-23-1. Short title.**  
Sections 1 through 11 of this act [9-23-1 through 9-23-11 NMSA 1978] may be cited as the "Aging and Long-Term Services Department Act".  
**History:** Laws 2004, chapter. 23, 1.
4. Capital Outlay—NMAC 2.61.6 Bond Disbursement Rule, Executive Order 2013-006 and the DFA State Board of Finance Release of Funds Conditions (Anti-donation Clause of NM Constitution, Art. IX, Sec.14)

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<sup>5</sup> ACL Administration for Community Living. <https://acl.gov/about-acl/authorizing-statutes/older-americans-act>

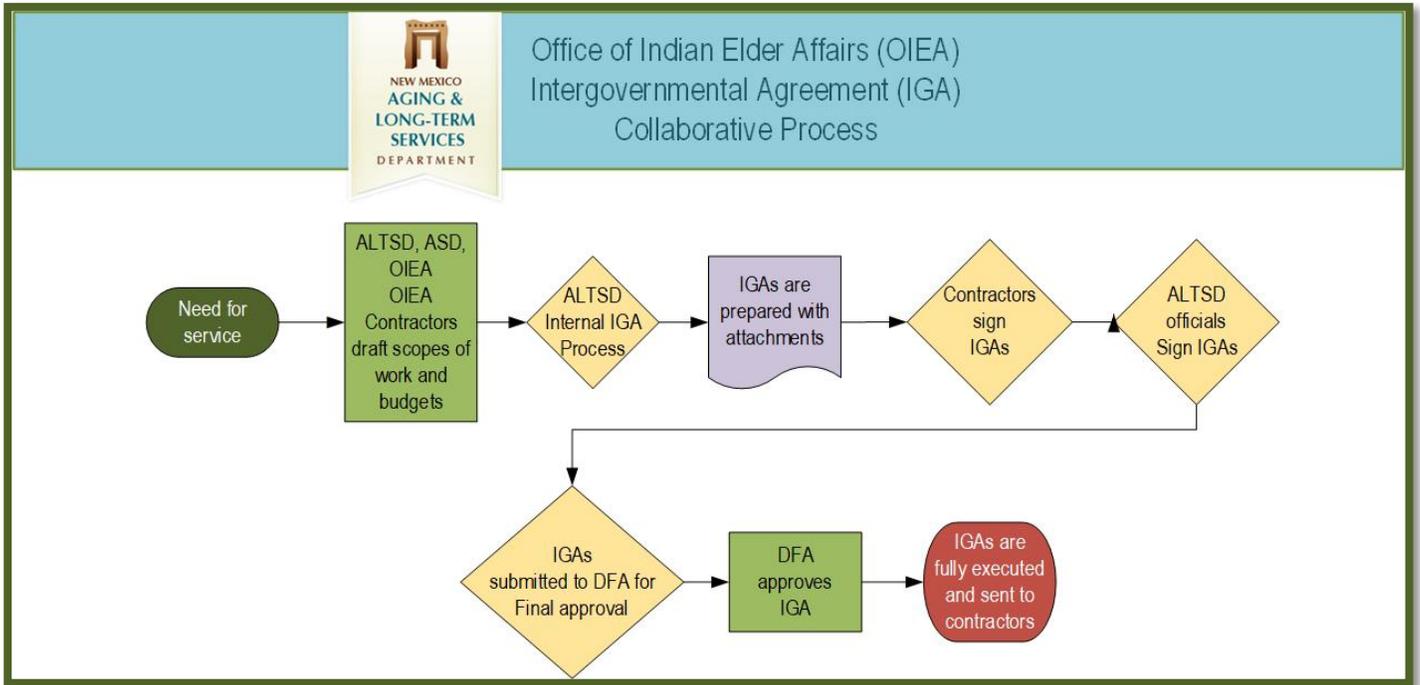
<sup>6</sup> SB 196. An Act. State Tribal Collaboration Act.

## VIII. Agreements

### A. A list of any current or pending agreements with tribal nations, the site location

Current agreements with New Mexico's tribes, pueblos, and nations are listed below.	
Tribal Nation	Site Location
Acoma Pueblo	Acoma Senior Center
Cochiti Pueblo	Cochiti Senior Center
Isleta Pueblo	Isleta Senior Center
Jemez Pueblo	Jemez Senior Center
Jicarilla Apache Nation	Jicarilla Senior Center
Laguna Pueblo	Laguna Senior Center
Navajo Nation	Navajo Area Agency on Aging
Mescalero Apache Tribe	Mescalero Senior Center
Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo	Ohkay Owingeh Senior Center
San Felipe Pueblo	San Felipe Senior Center
Sandia	
Santa Ana Pueblo	Santa Ana Pueblo Senior Center
Santa Clara Pueblo	Santa Clara Senior Center
Santo Domingo Pueblo	Santo Domingo Senior Center
Taos Pueblo	Taos Senior Center
Tesuque Pueblo	Tesuque Senior Center
Zia Pueblo	Zia Senior Citizen Center
Zuni Pueblo	Zuni Senior Center
Nambé, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Ildefonso,	8 Northern Indian Pueblos Council, Inc. Senior Centers
Isleta Pueblo	Isleta Adult Daycare Center (ADC)
Santa Clara Pueblo	Santa Clara ADC
Zuni Pueblo	Zuni ADC
Zuni Pueblo	Zuni Senior Center Foster Grandparent Program
Zuni Pueblo	Zuni Senior Center Senior Companion Program

Diagram of the OIEA Intergovernmental Agreement Process:



The OIEA staff complies with all federal and state statutes, rules and policies with regard to general operational functions, including contract management, program monitoring and provision of technical assistance, advocacy and training. OIEA staff conduct periodic site visits of contractors, at the Department's discretion, to evaluate progress, identify best practices or problem areas and determine actions to be taken by parties to resolve any problems that may be identified.

An OIEA review team conducts on-site program and fiscal monitoring reviews of each contractor at least once every 2 years and provides contractors with reports of findings. The OIEA staff schedules reviews at mutually convenient times, and provides the contractors with monitoring tools prior to reviews. OIEA staff certify monthly contractor requests for reimbursement which are matched to the service data, and are subject to approval by the ALTSD/OIEA Director, to ensure that expenditures meet all federal and state requirements.

## IX. Acronyms

ALTSD	Aging and Long-Term Services Department
ADC	Adult Day Care
DALTCS	Navajo Department of Aging and Long-Term Care Services
FGP	Foster Grandparent Program
IAAA	Indian Area Agency on Aging
IGA	Intergovernmental Agreement
LTCOP	Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program
NAAA	Navajo Area Agency on Aging
OIEA	Office of Indian Elder Affairs
PAC	Policy Advisory Committee
RSVP	Retired Senior Volunteer Program
SCP	Senior Companion Program
SHIP	State Health Insurance Program
SMP	Senior Medicare Patrol
STCA	State-Tribal Collaboration Act