



2026 STATE TRIBAL COLLABORATION ACT REPORT

New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department

Emily Kaltenbach
Cabinet Secretary

Antoinette Vigil
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Angelina Flores-Montoya, PhD
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Melissa Sanchez
Office of Indian Elder Affairs Director
ALTSD Tribal Liaison





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ALTSD Land Acknowledgement

The Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) recognizes the indigenous peoples, past and present, that have been stewards of this region since time immemorial. These lands are home to ancestral caretakers of numerous Pueblo Tribes which would come to include Mescalero Apache, Jicarilla Apache, and the Diné/Navajo Nation. Each of the Tribes has persevered and retained their language, stories, traditions, and maintains profound cultural ties to the land.

As we come together today, we recognize and honor the significant contributions of all Native Americans. ALTSD also acknowledges tribal sovereignty and tribal self-determination and is committed to building connections with tribal leaders, advocates and stakeholders who share our mission to support lifelong independence and healthy aging among New Mexico’s older adults and adults with disabilities.





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) upholds the principles of the State-Tribal Collaboration Act (STCA) through government-to-government engagement with tribal leadership and by providing support to senior centers and adult day service centers located on tribal lands. Ensuring that the needs of tribal elders are addressed remains a central priority for the Department and is carried out in accordance with Subsection A of Section 3 (11-18-3 NMSA 1978) of the STCA.

ALTSD maintains that older adults and adults with disabilities in New Mexico have the right to remain active in their communities, to age with dignity and respect, to be protected from abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and to have equitable access to health care services. The Department leads statewide efforts to design programs and establish partnerships that advance lifelong independence and promote healthy aging.

Within ALTSD, the Office of Indian Elder Affairs (OIEA) serves as the Department's primary entity for advocating funding, services, resources, and healthy aging initiatives for senior centers and adult day service centers serving New Mexico's 23 Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations. OIEA further supports tribal elders, caregivers, and families by disseminating information regarding available programs and resources.

Each year, ALTSD conducts a comprehensive review of organizational metrics to identify opportunities to strengthen support for New Mexico's Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations and to enhance the effectiveness of Department divisions and programmatic efforts. This report fulfills the statutory reporting requirements of the State-Tribal Collaboration Act by presenting an overview of ALTSD's organizational structure and outlining how tribal eldercare centers function within the national Aging Network.





AGENCY OVERVIEW

The New Mexico State Legislature established the Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) in 2004. ALTSD administers the state's Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), the State Ombudsman Program, and the Long-Term Care Division, and serves as the designated state agency for Adult Protective Services and the State Agency Unit on Aging. As an integral partner within New Mexico's Aging Network, ALTSD supports aging in place by delivering services in homes and communities, developing programs, and providing resources that strengthen caregiver support, reduce senior hunger, promote healthy and productive aging, and build the capacity necessary to address emerging needs and challenges.

In FY26, the New Mexico Legislature and Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham appropriated \$98,678,800 to ALTSD to support developing and administering a multi-year state plan that advocates for and provides assistance to older residents, their families and adults with disabilities. Of this amount, OIEA was allocated \$6.7 million to provide supplemental funding to NM's Tribes, Pueblos and Nations providing senior services. ALTSD, which serves as a State Unit on Aging (SUA) agency, within the National Aging Network, provides funding through New Mexico's four Area Agencies on Aging (AAA's) and the six Planning and Service Areas (PSA's) designated to these AAA's. The six PSA's, develop programs to meet the specific needs of older persons residing in the PSA areas and funding for programs is allocated to each PSA based on the number of persons over the age of 60 in the state, and 50+/55+ within Nations, Pueblos, Tribes, residing in these designated PSA's.

ALTSD MISSION

Providing accessible, integrated services to older adults, adults with disabilities, and caregivers to assist them in maintaining their independence, dignity, autonomy, health, safety & well-being, thereby empowering them to live on their own terms in their own communities as productively as possible.

ALTSD GOALS

Goal 1: Administer and expand core programs that enable older New Mexicans to remain in their residence and community through the availability of and access to high-quality home and community services and supports, including supports for families and caregivers.

Goal 2: Promote equity and well-being for older adults with greatest economic and social need across New Mexico by responding to social determinants of health, including food and housing security, social support and connection, employment and meaningful engagement, and access to information and health services.

Goal 3: Reduce occurrences of abuse, neglect and exploitation while improving outcomes in communities and long-term care settings and preserving the rights and autonomy of older New Mexicans.

Goal 4: Assist Tribes, Pueblos and Nations in accessing Title III funding and enhance coordination between Title III and Title VI programs.

ALTSD AGENCY ORGANIZATION



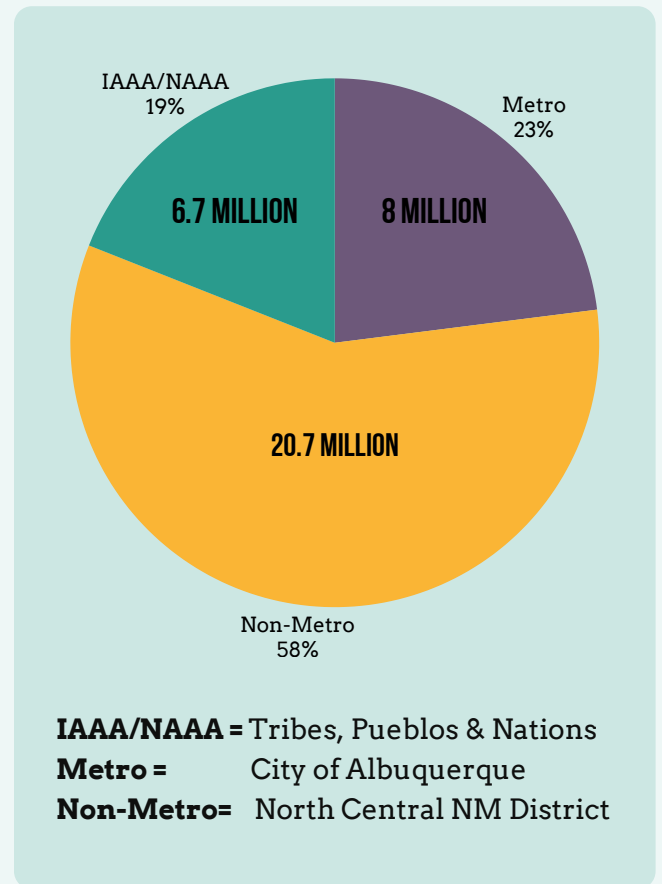
THE AGING NETWORK

This section will provide a general understanding of the national “Aging Network” in connection to New Mexico, ALTSD, OIEA and New Mexico’s Tribes, Pueblos & Nations.

Note: In the “Aging Network”, senior and adult day services centers are referred to as “Providers”.

The Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA) established a national network of federal, state, and local agencies to plan and provide services that help older adults to live independently in their homes and communities. This interconnected structure of agencies is known as the Aging Network and is headed by the Administration for Community Living (ACL) which is a federal agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The Aging Network includes 56 State Unit Agencies on Aging (SUA), 629 Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), and 281 Native American aging programs. New Mexico’s Aging Network is comprised of the State Unit on Aging, the Area Agencies on Aging, and the Planning and Service Areas.



ALTSD is New Mexico’s “State Units on Aging” (SUA).

State Units on Aging (SUAs) are the designated agencies at the state level responsible for developing and administering a multi-year state plan that advocates for and provides assistance to older residents, their families and for adults with physical disabilities. This assistance is provided through the state’s established Area Agencies on Aging (AAA).

Area Agencies on Aging (AAA).

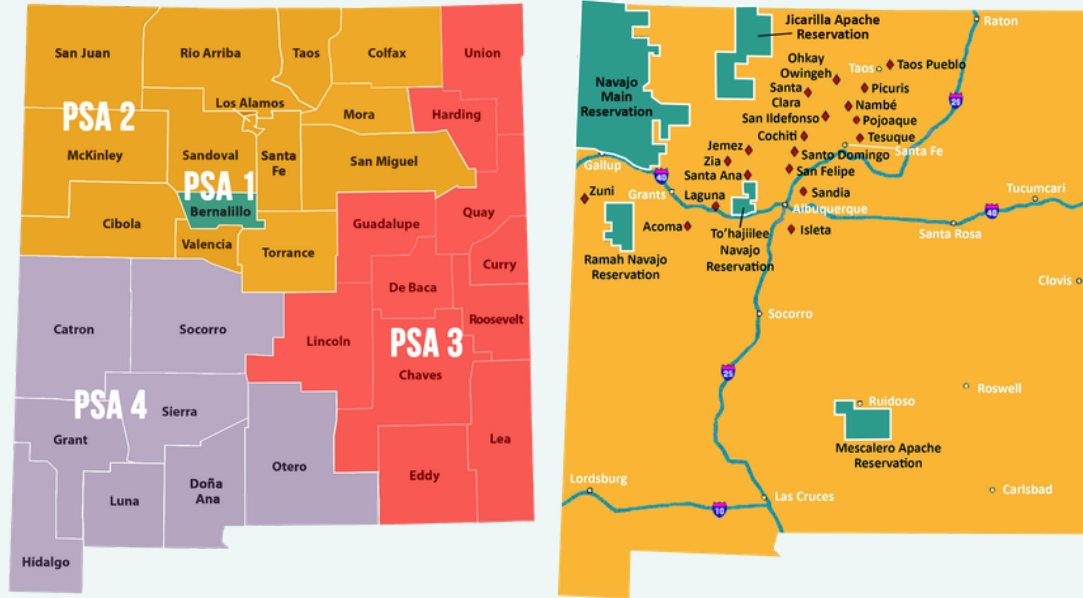
An AAA is a public or private nonprofit agency designated by a state to address the needs and concerns of older persons. AAA’s coordinate and offer services that make it possible for older individuals to choose the services and living arrangements that suit them best. The AAA’s are responsible for a geographic area known as a Planning and Service Area (PSA).

Planning and Service Areas.

There are six PSA’s in New Mexico that make up the ALTSD Aging Network. This network includes two federally recognized AAA’s and two Native American AAA’s that oversee the collective six PSA’s and the Providers within these locations.



PLANNING AND SERVICE AREAS (PSA)



PSA 1 serves Bernalillo County.

PSA 2 serves Cibola, Colfax, Los Alamos, McKinley, Mora, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, San Miguel, San Juan, Santa Fe, Taos, Tarrant, and Valencia counties.

PSA 3 serves Chaves, Curry, De Baca, Eddy, Guadalupe, Harding, Lea, Lincoln, Quay, Roosevelt, and Union counties.

PSA 4 serves Catron, Doña Ana, Grant, Hidalgo, Luna, Otero, Sierra, and Socorro counties.

PSA 5 serves the NM portion of the Navajo Nation .

PSA 6 serves New Mexico's 19 Pueblos, Jicarilla Apache Nation, and Mescalero Apache Tribe

IAAA - Pueblos & Apaches Senior Centers and Adult Day Centers

- There are **21** senior centers
- There are **4** adult day service centers

NAAA - Navajo Nation Senior Centers

- There are 30 senior centers

Services & Resources

Support and assistance offered by tribal senior and adult day services centers may include:

- In-Center Meals
- Home-Delivered Meals
- Case Management
- Transportation
- Homemaking/Housekeeping
- Personal Care
- Respite for Caregivers
- Physical Fitness & Exercise



OFFICE OF INDIAN ELDER AFFAIRS



OIEA OVERVIEW

OIEA was created by the New Mexico Legislature, per N. M. S. A. 1978, § 9-23-10, which reads as follows: “The ‘office of Indian elder affairs’ is created within the office of the secretary. The office of Indian elder affairs shall assume the responsibilities of the Indian area agency on aging, including contract management, program compliance monitoring, technical assistance, advocacy and training to Pueblo and Apache tribe Older Americans Act of 1965 programs, and to establish relationships that support the efforts of the Navajo area agency on aging, and shall participate with the other divisions of the department to review and make recommendations regarding other health and social programs of the department that serve Indian elders. Abolishment or transfer of the office of Indian elder affairs out of the department shall require approval of the legislature. ”

OIEA manages 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), and serves as the office within ALTSD to support New Mexico’s 23 Tribes, Pueblos & Nations in the development of a comprehensive and coordinated service system of tribal senior centers and adult day services centers.

OIEA’s general operational functions include advocating for and facilitating state general funding allocations, IAAA/NAAA contract management of state general funds, technical assistance, advocacy, and training.

OIEA MISSION

Coordinate and enhance a system of services that empower American Indian Elders with support and resources to live a healthy lifestyle with joy, respect, and dignity in their tribal communities.



TRIBAL SENIOR CENTERS & ADULT DAY CENTERS

NAAA - PSA 5			
Senior Centers			
Alamo Senior Center	HWY 169 MM29	Alamo, NM 87825	575-854-2664
Baca Senior Center/Baca/Dewitt Chp.	22B Pillow Crest Rd	Prewitt, NM 87045	505-972-2993
Beclabito Senior Center	US Hwy 64 West Rd. #9083	Shiprock, NM 87420	928-6563685
Breadsprings Senior Center Baahaali /Chapter	190 C Rodeo Rd	Gallup, NM 87305	505-778-5888
Casamero Lake Senior Center	CR19 Bldg. 6339	Crownpoint, NM 87313	505-786-2460
Chichiltah Senior Center	Jones Ranch Rd Bldg. #7174	Gallup, NM 87305	505-591-4501
Church Rock Senior Center	57A Telestar Rd. Bldg# SA9187	Church Rock, NM 87311	505-905-5683
Crownpoint Senior Center	Chaco Blvd East	Crownpoint, NM 87313	505-786-2360
Crystal Senior Center	PO Box 775	Navajo, NM 87328	505-777-2806
Hogback Senior Center	West Highway 64 N, BIA Route 5031	Shiprock, NM 87420	505-368-1474
Iyanbito Senior Center	211 Sweetwater Rd. Bldg# 4495	Fort Wingate, NM 87316	505-905-5404
Lake Valley Chapter Senior Center	NM 371 C. Rd 7750 #567	Crownpoint, NM 87313	505-786-2146
Nageezi Senior Center	11551 Hwy 505	Bloomfield, NM 87413	505-960-3106
Nahodishgish Senior Center	13 Mile West of Crownpoint	Crownpoint, NM 87313	505-786-2375
Naschitti Senior Center	PO Drawer D	Sheepsprings, NM 87364	505-732-4220
Newcomb Senior Center	MM 56.6 US Hwy 491	Newcomb, NM 87455	505-696-5485
Ojo Encino Senior Center	Indian Service Rt 471	Cuba, NM 87013	505-731-1503
Pinedale Senior Center	HWY 11 N 11-49 Mile Marker 5	Churchrock, NM 87311	505-786-2375
Pueblo Pintado Senior Center	3633 E. Route 9	Cuba, NM 87013	505-655-5413
Red Rock Tse'Lichii Senior Center	CR #2/Refuge Road	Gallup, NM 87305	602-637-5688
Sanostee Senior Center	8 miles West on N34	Sanostee, NM 87461	505-723-2711
Sheepsprings Senior Center	PO Box 1459	Sheepsprings, NM 87364	505-732-5415
Shiprock Senior Center	91 Hwy 491 S	Shiprock, NM 87420	
Smith Lake Senior Center	Bld#7201 State Rd HWY 371 N BIA Route N	Smith Lake, NM 87325	505-786-2049
Thoreau Senior Center	#14 Little Prairie Dog Lane NM HWY 371	Thoreau, NM 87323	505-905-7662
Torreón Senior Center	HWY 197 Mile Marker 126	Cuba, NM 87013	505-492-4003
Twin Lakes Bahastl'ah Senior Center	PO Box 4424	Yahtahey, NM 87375	505-735-2606
Two Grey Hills Senior Center	SR. CTR. Building #T007-002 6 miles West N19, 4 miles South N5000	Newcomb, NM 87455	505-789-3111
Upper Fruitland Senior Center	MP 23 on N36	Fruitland, NM 87416	505-960-6369
Whitehorse Lake Senior Center	HCR 79 Box 4068	Cuba, NM 87013	505-655-5406
IAAA - PSA6			
Senior Centers			
Eight Northern Indian Pueblo Council Senior Program	PO Box 969	Ohkay Owingeh, NM 87566	505-692-2060
Jicarilla Apache Nation Senior Center	#17 Commercial Street	Dulce, NM 87528	575-419-0987
Mescalero Apache Tribe Senior Center	456 Lipan Avenue	Mescalero, NM 88340	575-464-1614
Ohkay Owingeh Senior Center	217 N. Cross Place	Ohkay Owingeh, NM 87566	505-852-4516
Picuris Pueblo Senior Center	Picuris Pueblo Highway 75	Penasco, NM 87553	575-587-2116
Pueblo de Cochiti Senior Center	255 Cochiti Street	Cochiti Pueblo, NM 87072	505-977-4766
Pueblo de San Ildefonso Senior Center	2 Tunyo Po	Santa Fe, NM 87501	505-455-7326
Pueblo of Acoma Senior Center	70 Pins Barri Drive	Acoma Pueblo, NM 87034	505-552-5175
Pueblo of Isleta Elder Center	1005 Tribal Road 140	Isleta Pueblo, NM 87022	505-869-9770
Pueblo of Jemez Senior Center	129A Canal Street	Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024	575-834-9168
Pueblo of Laguna Kawaika Senior Center	9 Bay Tree Road	Casa Blanca, NM 87007	505-552-9072
Pueblo of Nambe Senior Center	55 Tayen Huu U	Santa Fe, NM 87506	505-455-2770
Pueblo of Pojoaque Senior Center	106 Lightning Loop	Santa Fe, NM 87506	505-455-2240
Pueblo of San Felipe Senior Center	127 Hagen Road	San Felipe Pueblo, NM 87001	505-867-2349
Pueblo of Sandia Senior Center	481 Sandia Loop	Bernalillo, NM 87004	505-771-7971
Pueblo of Santa Ana Senior Center	2 Dove Road	Bernalillo, NM 87004	505-627-5834
Pueblo of Santa Clara Senior Center	626 Kee Street	Espanola, NM 87532	505-692-6244
Pueblo of Santo Domingo Senior Center	15 Eagle Street	Santa Domingo Pueblo, NM 87052	505-585-0117
Pueblo of Tesuque Senior Center	Route 42, Box 360 T	Santa Fe, NM 87506	505-709-1291
Pueblo of Zia Senior Center	115A Capitol Square Drive	Zia Pueblo, NM 87053	505-810-1724
Pueblo of Zuni Senior Center	1386 N.M. Hwy 53	Zuni, NM 87327	505-782-5541
Taos Pueblo Lillian Romero Senior Center	PO Box 1846	Taos Pueblo, NM 87571	575-758-7502
Adult Day Centers			
Pueblo of Isleta Adult Day Services Center	1005 Tribal Road 140	Isleta Pueblo, NM 87022	505-869-9770
Pueblo of Santa Clara Adult Day Care Center	PO Box 580	Espanola, NM 87532	505-692-6324
Pueblo of Santa Ana Adult Day Care Center	2 Dove Road	Bernalillo, NM 87004	505-967-9791
Pueblo of Zuni Adult Day Care Center	1386B HWY 53	Zuni, NM 87327	505-782-5541



IAD STCA GUIDELINES



ALTSD STCA COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION & CONSULTATION POLICY

Please see appendix for policy details.

AGENCY CONTACTS & TRIBAL LIAISON INFORMATION

Emily Kaltenbach

ALTSD Cabinet Secretary
emily.kaltenbach@altsd.nm.gov

Angelina Flores-Montoya

ALTSD Deputy Cabinet Secretary
angelina.flores-montoya@altsd.nm.gov

Antoinette Vigil

ALTSD Deputy Cabinet Secretary
antoinette.vigil@altsd.nm.gov

Melissa Sanchez

Office of Indian Elder Affairs Director
ALTSD Tribal Liaison
melissa.sanchez@altsd.nm.gov

ALTSD STCA POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

ALTSD has and will continue to actively engage in meaningful communication, collaboration and consultation with Tribes, Nations, and Pueblos. Additionally, all communication, collaboration, and consultation has been consistent with the ALTSD State-Tribal Consultation, Collaboration and Communication Policy as well as NMSA 1978 Section 11-18-1 through 11-18-5.

Pursuant to the ALTSD State-Tribal Consultation, Collaboration and Communication Policy (ALTSD STCCCP) section III(A), both the State and Tribes are sovereign governments, and all communication is effectuated with a deep understanding and respect for the sovereignty of each entity. Further, section III(B) of the ALTSD STCCCP indicates that Government-to-Government Relations require the department to recognize any programmatic actions that may have tribal implications and make good faith efforts to collaborate with impacted tribal entities to resolve any concerns.



Independent of the ALTSD STCCCP, ALTSD and department communications are driven by a deep and continued respect for the sovereignty of all Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations. ALTSD recognizes the value of Tribal input in all areas of the work that ALTSD does but specifically as it relates to the programmatic action development process. ALTSD respects, welcomes and encourages diverse perspectives.

One of the primary functions of the ALTSD Office of Indian Elder Affairs (OIEA) is to ensure regular, consistent, and culturally appropriate communication with all Tribal entities. To support this commitment, OIEA conducts both monthly and quarterly meetings with Tribal providers, during which a wide range of topics are discussed and Tribal entities are invited to share feedback and engage directly with OIEA. ALTSD OIEA has taken significant steps to ensure that all communication is consistent, timely, and informative. As part of these ongoing efforts, ALTSD and OIEA recognized the value of expanding engagement beyond routine meetings. This commitment to deeper partnership and more structured dialogue led to the development of a broader, statewide convening designed to bring Tribal leadership and ALTSD together in a more comprehensive forum.

ALTSD Tribal Leadership Summit

In Fiscal Year 2026, the Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) convened its inaugural Tribal Leadership Summit, which ALTSD plans to host every year. This Summit was specifically designed for leaders from New Mexico's 23 Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations. Its primary objective is to strengthen collaboration, communication, and government-to-government relations between ALTSD, the Office of Indian Elder Affairs (OIEA), and Tribal governments. The Summit serves as a formal forum to present updates on ALTSD and OIEA initiatives, funding opportunities, outreach efforts, and available resources; to enhance government-to-government partnerships; to provide Tribal leaders and service providers with a comprehensive overview of the Aging Network across federal, state, and Tribal systems; and to highlight ongoing collaborative efforts within Tribal communities supported by ALTSD, OIEA, and Tribal providers. This milestone event established a solid foundation for structured, sustained engagement and strengthened collaboration aimed at supporting Tribal elders throughout New Mexico. A total of 77 participants attended, including ALTSD Secretary Emily Kaltenbach, Deputy Secretary Angelina Flores-Montoya, division directors, resource staff, and 18 Tribal leaders—comprising Governors, Lieutenant Governors, Tribal Council members, and Tribal Administrators. Thirteen Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations were represented.

ALTSD STCA EMPLOYEE TRAINING

ALTSD staff are required, and notified by ALTSD Human Resources, to attend, participate and complete "State Tribal Collaboration Act Cultural Competency Training" offered through the State Personnel Office in conjunction with the Indian Affairs Department. In FY26, 210 ALTSD staff members, which equals 95.5%, completed the training.



PROGRAMS, SERVICES, AND FUNDING

State General Funds - Senior Services & Programs

- ALTSD awarded supplemental funding to IAAA/NAAA through 25 Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) with tribes providing senior services. This funding benefited 55 tribally operated senior and adult day centers.
- Funding increased by 2.38% from FY25 (\$6,883,318) to FY26 (\$7,051,001)

New Mexico Grown

New Mexico Grown funding was made available to interested IAAA/NAAA Providers to ensure freshly harvested local foods supplement the nutritional value of meals being served. FY26 New Mexico Grown Participation included 19 Pueblo Senior Centers, one Apache Senior Center and 34 Navajo Senior Centers.

TOTAL FY26 ALLOCATIONS = \$7,051,001

Tribal Provider	Senior Center	Adult Day Center	NM Grown
Pueblo of Acoma	\$ 224,898.00		\$ 11,906.00
Pueblo of Cochiti	\$ 175,758.00		\$ 9,304.00
Pueblo of Isleta Senior Center	\$ 288,116.00	\$ 144,075.00	\$ 15,252.00
Jicarilla Apache Nation	\$ 288,116.00		\$ 15,252.00
Pueblo of Jemez	\$ 288,116.00		\$ 15,252.00
Pueblo of Laguna	\$ 288,116.00		\$ 15,252.00
Mescalero Apache Tribe	\$ 248,730.00		
Navajo Nation	\$ 1,336,034.00		\$ 70,727.00
Ohkay Owingeh	\$ 224,898.00		\$ 11,906.00
Pueblo of Pojoaque	\$ 154,888.00		\$ 8,200.00
Pueblo of San Felipe	\$ 288,116.00		\$ 15,252.00
Pueblo de San Ildefonso	\$ 170,942.00		\$ 9,049.32
Pueblo of Sandia	\$ 175,873.00		\$ 9,310.00
Pueblo of Santa Ana Senior Center	\$ 175,758.00	\$ 87,682.00	\$ 9,304.00
Pueblo of Santa Clara Senior Center	\$ 288,116.00	\$ 144,075.00	\$ 15,252.00
Pueblo of Santo Domingo	\$ 288,116.00		\$ 15,252.00
Pueblo of Taos	\$ 224,898.00		\$ 11,906.00
Pueblo of Tesuque	\$ 154,888.00		
Pueblo of Zia	\$ 175,758.00		\$ 9,304.00
Pueblo of Zuni Senior Center	\$ 378,181.00	\$ 189,168.00	\$ 20,021.00
Eight Northern Indian Pueblo Council, Inc. (Nambe and Picuris)	\$ 341,884.00		\$ 18,099.68
	\$ 6,180,200.00	\$ 565,000.00	\$ 305,801.00

Aging Network Division (AND)

The Aging Network Division (AND) administers key programs that support older adults across New Mexico, including nutrition services, senior employment initiatives, Area Agencies on Aging, and capital outlay funding for senior centers. AND coordinates a statewide network of national, state, and local partners dedicated to promoting community-based living for older adults and individuals with disabilities. Supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), this network delivers a range of programs to meet the specific needs in their local communities.

KEY TERMS

Title III Programs

Title III of the Older Americans Act provides funding to states to support services that help older adults stay independent. These services include congregate meals, home-delivered meals, transportation, caregiver support, and health programs. Title III funds go through state agencies and local providers to support seniors in all communities.

Title VI Programs

Title VI of the Older Americans Act provides similar types of funding, but specifically for Tribal Nations. These programs support Native American elders with nutrition services, caregiver support, transportation, and other resources chosen by each Tribe to meet local needs. Title VI programs are designed to honor Tribal sovereignty and ensure culturally appropriate services.

Title III/Title VI Coordination

Title III and Title VI programs often coordinate to make sure Native American elders can easily access services both through Tribes and through local senior programs across the state. This collaboration helps fill gaps and ensures elders receive consistent support no matter where they live.

Aging Network Division - Senior Employment

Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)

SCSEP is a federal program that provides part-time, paid community service jobs for low-income adults age 55 and older. It helps participants build skills and work experience so they can successfully transition into regular employment



Senior Employment Program (SEP)

SEP is a state-funded program that provides paid, part-time job training for older adults and offers broader eligibility than SCSEP. It helps participants build practical skills and gain work experience to prepare for regular employment and serves seniors who may not qualify for SCSEP or who need additional support.

Highlights:

- Older Americans Act Title III Services data show that 3,712 unduplicated Native American individuals accessed services across PSA1–PSA4 providers, demonstrating effective Title III/Title VI coordination.
- AND & OIEA implemented a Title III/Title VI Coordination Workgroup in August 2025. Metro AAA, Non-Metro AAA, and other Title III and Title VI service providers participate in the monthly virtual meetings to strengthen service coordination and enhance resource sharing
- Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP – federal grant): Of the 23 funded positions, 5 SCSEP participants were Native American
- Senior Employment Program (SEP – state funded): 2 part-time participants in FY26 were Native American.
- SCSEP and SEP participants are placed with host agencies located off Tribal lands, including New Mexico Children, Youth, and Families Department in Albuquerque, NM Equity and Social Justice, the Community Pantry in Gallup, and the Upper Fruitland Senior Center in San Juan County. AND coordinates with the National Indian Council on Aging (NICOA) on Tribal placement opportunities, as NICOA administers the second largest SCSEP program in New Mexico, following Goodwill.

Aging Network Division - Office of Capital Outlay

Emergency Funding Requests

In Laws 2022 Chapter 53, Section 5, Paragraph 17 - \$1,000,000 was identified for FY2022 through FY2026. There were seven (7) 2022 emergency grants issued to NPTs for a total of \$215,757.03

In Laws 2023 Chapter 199, Section 4, Paragraph 65 - \$3,000,000 was identified for FY2023 through FY2027. There are ten (10) 2023 emergency grants issued to NPTs for a total of \$140,286.33 (this grant does not revert until 2027. Five of the grants have been closed and 5 are open)

TABLE: FY26 EMERGENCY FUNDING REQUESTS

Pueblo/Tribe	Project	Requested	Expended
Pueblo de San Ildefonso	Kitchen Equipment	\$37,443.00	\$37,443.00
Pueblo of Pojoaque	Renovation	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00
Pueblo of Santa Clara	Renovation	\$7,981.19	\$7,981.19
Pueblo of Acoma	Kitchen Equipment	\$17,385.20	\$17,385.20
Pueblo of Santa Clara	HVAC system	\$44,698.10	\$44,698.10
Pueblo of Zia	Replace grease trap	\$36,424.86	\$36,424.86
Pueblo of Santo Domingo	Kitchen and other equipment	\$83,106.00	\$83,106.00
Pueblo of Isleta Pueblo	Kitchen and other equipment	\$7,665.00	\$7,665.00
Pueblo of Santa Clara	Kitchen and other equipment	\$16,636.62	\$16,636.62
Pueblo of Santa Clara	Renovation - Gate	\$9,208.16	\$9,208.16
Pueblo of Taos	Kitchen and other equipment	\$10,043.62	\$10,043.62
Pueblo of Zia	Kitchen and other equipment	\$13,626.93	\$13,626.93
Pueblo of Zuni	Renovations (Door)	\$8,580.00	\$0
Pueblo of Standing Rock	Kitchen and other equipment	\$4,650.85	\$0
Pueblo of Laguna	Purchase and equip vehicle	\$85,708.00	\$0
Pueblo of Jemez	Kitchen and other equipment	\$8,341.86	\$0
Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Purchase and equip vehicle	\$95,912.00	\$0
Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Kitchen and other equipment	\$15,314.23	\$0
Pueblo of Acoma	Kitchen and other equipment	\$11,088.00	\$0



Figure 1:

Cabinet Secretary Emily Kaltenbach, OIEA Director Melissa Sanchez, and OIEA staff member Anastasia Jim joined Pueblo of Zia Governor Boyd Toribio and Zia Elders as they celebrated their new transport van—made possible in part through ALTSD Capital Outlay support. The visit honored the partnership and the shared commitment to supporting Zia Elders.

Capital Outlay Projects

During the 2026 legislative session, ALTSD was appropriated **\$26,296,250** in capital outlay funding. Of this amount, **\$4,210,000** was designated for **19** TPN projects. Since 2022, there is a total of **\$16,820,172** in **70** open TPN capital outlay projects.

Application Cycle: Technical Training Overview

During FY26, the ALTSD Capital Outlay Infrastructure Funding for the FY27 Senior Center Facilities application cycle ran from November 3, 2025–February 3, 2026 with a deadline extension to February 27. ALTSD Capital Outlay offered eight comprehensive technical training sessions covering Planning & Design, New Construction, Renovation, Meals & Equipment, and Vehicles & Equipment. Training sessions were held on September 16 and 18; October 7, 8, 21, and 22; and November 5 and 6. The frequency and variety of these sessions demonstrate ALTSD’s strong commitment to providing extensive and accessible technical assistance to Senior Center facilities throughout the Capital Outlay process.

Project Progress Review and Tribal Site Visits

The Capital Outlay team meets quarterly with the Nations, Pueblos, Tribes (NPTs) and monthly with the Navajo Nation to review the status of capital outlay projects. In partnership with the Capital Outlay team, OIEA participates in these visits to enhance site awareness and support advocacy efforts. In FY26, Capital Outlay staff conducted site visits to Tesuque, Acoma, Laguna, Pojoaque, Santa Ana, San Ildefonso, Jicarilla, Santa Clara, Cochiti, Nambe, and Isleta, strengthening collaboration and increasing understanding of facility needs across Tribal communities.



Figure 1 (left):

Secretary Kaltenbach serves BBQ to Conference on Aging attendees at the social dance.

Figure 2 (above):

Lightning Boy Foundation Hoop Dancer at the 2026 Conference on Aging.

FY26 Reimbursed Projects: Total = \$2,960,448.20

Sum of Amount					
PO No.	Supplier2	Invoice	Voucher	Dept	Total
0000023088	PUEBLO OF POJOAQUE	A22G5370-2	00085210	A22G5370	\$17,757.950
		A22G5370-3	00086436	A22G5370	\$6,083.120
0000023088					
Total					\$23,841.070
0000023238	PUEBLO OF ISLETA	A23H2068-14-1	00085044	A23H2068	\$7,665.000
0000023238					
Total					\$7,665.000
0000023259	PUEBLO OF SAN FELIPE	A22G5369-1	00084727	A22G5369	\$100,000.000
0000023259					
Total					\$100,000.000
0000023433	TAOS PUEBLO TRIBAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS	A22G2021-2	00084259	A22G2021	\$10,729.360
		A22G2021-3	00084950	A22G2021	\$16,002.310
		A22G2021-4	00085842	A22G2021	\$36,182.790
		A22G2021-5	00087248	A22G2021	\$22,756.520
0000023433					
Total					\$85,670.980
0000023462	TAOS PUEBLO CMS	A22G5371-1	00084358	A22G5371	\$148,048.350
		A22G5371-2	00084548	A22G5371	\$347,064.230
		A22G5371-3	00084897	A22G5371	\$318,667.300
0000023462					
Total					\$813,779.880
0000023463	TAOS PUEBLO CMS	A22G2021-1	00084258	A22G2021	\$211,281.000
0000023463					
Total					\$211,281.000
0000023806	TAOS PUEBLO CMS	A23H2068-23-1	00084902	A23H2068	\$10,043.620
0000023806					
Total					\$10,043.620
0000023824	TAOS PUEBLO CMS	A25J4406-1	00086112	A19D2077	\$1,001,436.390
		A25J4406-2	00086418	A19D2077	\$131,766.520
0000023824					
Total					\$1,133,202.910
0000023917	PUEBLO OF ACOMA	A25I5326-1	00087097	A24I5326	\$185,000.000
0000023917					
Total					\$185,000.000
0000024035	PUEBLO OF ZIA	A25J2034-1	00087228	A25J2034	\$300,000.000
0000024035					
Total					\$300,000.000
0000024091	PUEBLO OF LAGUNA	A23H2012-2	00087382	A23H2012	\$89,963.740
0000024091					
Total					\$89,963.740
Grand Total					\$2,960,448.20

FY26 Current Projects: Total Appropriated = \$11,892,538.02

Grantee	PSA	GA's	Project Type	Reversion Date	GA Amt
McKinley NN -Bread Spring	5	H23-2030	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2027	\$519,750.00
San Juan NN- Gadii'/To'Koi	5	H23-2046	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2027	\$75,000.00
Santa Ana Pueblo	6	H23-2053	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2027	\$854,184.00
San Ildefonso	6	H23-2058	New Construction	6/30/2027	\$18,500.00
Acoma Pueblo	6	I24-2011	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2028	\$10,000.00
Acoma Pueblo	6	I24-2012	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2028	\$25,000.00
McKinley NN -Coyote Canyon	5	I24-2015	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2028	\$110,000.00
Jicarilla Nation	6	I24-2019	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2028	\$173,250.00
San Juan NN- Gadii'/To'Koi	5	I24-2020	Planning & Design	6/30/2028	\$247,500.00
Acoma Pueblo	6	I24-5324	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2028	\$10,000.00
Acoma Pueblo	6	I24-5325	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2028	\$61,000.00
To'hajiilee Chapter	5	I24-5327	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$1,485,000.00
To'hajiilee Chapter	5	I24-5328	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$112,000.00
McKinley NN -Baca center	5	I24-5340	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$220,770.00
McKinley NN Breadspring	5	I24-5341	New Construction	6/30/2029	\$1,142,460.00
McKinley NN -Bread Spring/Baahaali	5	I24-5342	Meals & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$14,000.00
McKinley NN -Chichiltah	5	I24-5343	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$29,000.00
McKinley NN -Chichiltah	5	I24-5344	New Construction	6/30/2029	\$87,000.00
McKinley NN Pinedale	5	I24-5346	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$95,000.00
McKinley NN Pinedale	5	I24-5347	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$95,000.00
McKinley NN -Whitehorse Lake	5	I24-5348	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$95,000.00
Mescalero Apache	6	I24-5350	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$137,000.00
Santa Clara AD	6	I24-5353	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2028	\$23,000.00
Santa Clara AD	6	I24-5354	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2028	\$49,000.00
Santa Clara SC	6	I24-5355	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2028	\$185,130.00
San Juan NN -Beclabito	5	I24-5356	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$600,000.00
San Juan NN-Crystal	5	I24-5359	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$80,000.00

San Juan NN -Hogback	5	I24-5362	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$120,000.00
San Juan NN-Lake Valley	5	I24-5363	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$50,000.00
San Juan NN- Lake Valley	5	I24-5364	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$90,000.00
San Juan NN- Naschitti	5	I24-5365	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$670,000.00
San Juan NN- Naschitti	5	I24-5366	New Construction	6/30/2029	\$118,800.00
San Juan NN- Naschitti	5	I24-5367	New Construction	6/30/2029	\$643,500.00
San Juan NN- Naschitti	5	I24-5368	Meals & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$65,000.00
San Juan NN- Naschitti	5	I24-5369	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$80,000.00
San Juan NN- Newcomb	5	I24-5370	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$554,400.00
San Juan NN Sheepspring	5	I24-5376	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$327,000.00
San Juan NN- Sheepspring	5	I24-5377	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$346,500.00
San Juan NN- Sheepspring	5	I24-5378	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$134,000.00
San Juan NN-Upper Fruitland	5	I24-5379	Meals & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$47,000.00
San Juan NN-Upper Fruitland	5	I24-5380	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2029	\$65,000.00
Pueblo of Jemez	5	I24-5391	Meals & Equipment	6/30/2028	\$31,000.00
Jicarilla Nation	6	J25-2032	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2027	\$25,000.00
San Juan NN -Huerfano	5	J25-2033	Vehicles & Equipment	6/30/2027	\$50,000.00
San Juan NN -Newcomb	5	J25-2037.43	Meals & Equipment	6/30/2027	\$24,000.00
Isleta Senior Center-Pueblo of Isleta	5	J25-2037.44	Meals & Equipment	6/30/2027	\$23,000.00
Isleta Senior Center-Pueblo of Isleta	5	J25-2037.45	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$300,000.00
Pueblo of Santa Clara AD	6	J25-2037.46	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2029	\$250,000.00
San Juan NN - Gadii'ahi/To'koi	5	J4268/F2045	New Construction	6/30/2027	\$15,000.00
San Juan NN -Shiprock	5	J4292/G2012	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2027	\$350,000.00
Cochiti Pueblo	6	J4325/F2049	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2027	\$175,000.00
Cochiti Pueblo	6	J4326/F3166	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2027	\$175,000.00
Pueblo of Nambe	6	J4354/F3167	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2027	\$10,372.36
Pueblo of Nambe	6	J4362/F2055	Renovation/Code Compliance/Addition	6/30/2027	\$15,321.66

Projects with Budget Pending: Total \$1,650,000

Pueblo of Isleta	5	K2088	Budget Pending	\$460,000.00
McKinley-NN Church Rock		K2100	Budget Pending	\$85,000.00
McKinley-NN Coyote Canyon	5	K2101	Budget Pending	\$80,000.00
McKinley-NN Nahodishgish		K2102	Budget Pending	\$100,000.00
McKinley-NN Pinedale	5	K2103	Budget Pending	\$150,000.00
McKinley-NN Pintado	5	K2104	Budget Pending	\$100,000.00
McKinley-NN Tse'Lichll Chapter		K2105	Budget Pending	\$200,000.00
McKinley-NN Thoreau		K2106	Budget Pending	\$100,000.00
Rio Arriba-Jicarilla Apache	6	K2110	Budget Pending	\$25,000.00
San Juan-NN Crystal Chapter	5	K2115	Budget Pending	\$100,000.00
San Juan-NN Gadii'ahi/To'Koi/To'Koi Chapter	5	K2116	Budget Pending	\$250,000.00

Consumer & Elder Rights Division

Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC):

The ADRC provides free information, referral, and assistance to Native American elders and individuals with disabilities, improving access to culturally responsive long-term services.

- **Medicare and Medicaid Benefits; In-Home Supports:** ADRC provides information, referrals, and assistance. In partnership with Title VI programs, Tribal organizations and OIEA, ADRC strengthens access to culturally responsive services that support Native American elders aging in place.
- **State Health Insurance Program (SHIP):** SHIP assists Native American elders in navigating Medicaid and state marketplace insurance options in coordination with the Indian Health Service (IHS) and Tribal clinics. Native Americans receive special protections, including year-round enrollment, certain premium and copay exemptions, and continued access to IHS facilities regardless of insurance coverage.
- **Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP):** SMP is a national, grant funded program that assists Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers in preventing, detecting, and reporting healthcare fraud, errors, and abuse. The program provides free, confidential counseling and education, delivered largely through trained volunteers, to safeguard seniors and protect Medicare resources. SMP supports Native American communities by offering culturally informed fraud prevention guidance and collaborates with Tribal councils, Area Agencies on Aging, and Indian Health Service (IHS) clinics. SMP also works alongside SHIP and Tribal aging programs to offer comprehensive benefits counseling upon request in Tribal communities.
- **Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA):** MIPPA uses federal funding to provide free outreach, education, and one-on-one enrollment assistance to low-income Medicare beneficiaries, including those in rural and Tribal communities. Administered in New Mexico through SHIP, the program helps residents access financial assistance programs such as Medicare Savings Programs (which cover Part B costs and have no asset limit in New Mexico), the Part D Low-Income Subsidy/"Extra Help" (which reduces prescription drug expenses), and preventive care benefits.

Long Term Care Division

In FY26, the Long Term Care (LTC) division conducted outreach across multiple Tribal communities to expand awareness of its programs and strengthen access for Native Americans in New Mexico. LTC also gathered Tribal feedback to inform the Roadmap to Address Brain Health and Dementia. As a new Division with five programs:

- **New MexiCare Program:** Provides financial assistance and training to caregivers supporting older adults and adults with disabilities.
- **Veteran's Directed Care Program:** Enables eligible Veterans to direct their own long-term services by managing individualized budgets and selecting caregivers.
- **Care Transitions Program:** Helps individuals safely return home after hospital or facility stays through improved coordination and support.
- **Kinship Pilot Program:** Supports relatives caring for children when parents cannot, offering guidance and resources to kinship caregivers.
- **Office of Alzheimer's & Dementia Care:** Leads statewide dementia initiatives through outreach, education, caregiver support, and implementation of New Mexico's dementia roadmap.

FY26 marked a foundational year for establishing the systems needed for future demographic tracking. LTC began developing key processes and implemented new case management systems for New MexiCare and Care Transitions to support consistent tracking of Native Americans elders served.

LTC Tribal Outreach Events:

Despite limited formal tracking, the Long-Term Care Division conducted numerous Tribal-focused outreach activities:

- New MexiCare held three Tribal outreach events at Navajo Nation/Shiprock and Santa Clara Pueblo.
- Veteran Directed Care held one Tribal-specific event and regularly engaged Native American Veterans through monthly VA partner outreach.
- Care Transitions held two Tribal outreach events and participated in more than 80 broader outreach activities that likely included Native American participants.
- The Office of Alzheimer's & Dementia Care conducted four Tribal-focused events and, through partners, facilitated more than 36 virtual trainings and support sessions with likely Tribal participation.

EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION OF ALTSD STCA PROVISIONS

Notification methods include communication through senior, divisional, and all-staff meetings, email, media advisories and/or press releases, as examples. Moreover, all ALTSD employees have been notified through ALTSD Human Resources that FY26 mandatory department training courses includes Indian Affairs Department “Cultural Competency”, and ALTSD STCA consultation, collaboration and communication policies shall be disseminated to all new and current employees as part of new employee orientation as well as continued employee training.





APPENDIX

ALTSD State-Tribal Consultation, Collaboration and Communication Policy

Sample Procedures for State-Tribal Workgroups

**New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department
State-Tribal Consultation, Collaboration and Communication Policy**

Section I. Background

- A. In 2003, the Governor of the State of New Mexico and 21 out of 22 Indian Tribes of New Mexico adopted the *2003 Statement of Policy and Process* (Statement), to "establish and promote a relationship of cooperation, coordination, open communication and good will, and [to] work in good faith to amicably and fairly resolve issues and differences." The Statement directs State agencies to interact with the Tribal governments and provides that such interaction "shall be based on a government-to-government relationship" aimed at furthering the purposes of meaningful government-to-government consultation.
- B. In 2005, Governor Bill Richardson issued Executive Order 2005-004 mandating that the Executive State agencies adopt pilot tribal consultation plans with the input of the 22 New Mexico Tribes.
- C. The New Mexico Health and Human Services Tribal Consultation meeting was held on November 17-18, 2005 to carry out Governor Richardson's Executive Order 2005-004 calling for a statewide adoption of pilot tribal consultation plans to be implemented with the 22 Tribes within the State of New Mexico. This meeting was a joint endeavor of the five executive state agencies comprised of the Aging and Long-Term Services Department, the Children, Youth and Families Department, the Department of Health, the Human Services Department and the Indian Affairs Department. A State-Tribal Work Plan was developed and sent out to the Tribes on June 7, 2006 for review pursuant to the Tribal Consultation meeting.
- D. On March 19, 2009, Governor Bill Richardson signed SB 196, the State Tribal Collaboration Act (hereinafter "STCA") into law. The STCA reflects a statutory commitment of the state to work with Tribes on a government-to-government basis. The STCA establishes in state statute the intergovernmental relationship through several interdependent components and provides a consistent approach through which the State and Tribes can work to better collaborate and communicate on issues of mutual concern.
- E. In Fall 2009, the Healthy New Mexico Group, comprised of the Aging and Long Term Services Department, the Children, Youth and Families Department, the Department of Health, the Department of Veterans' Services, the Human Services Department, the Indian Affairs Department, and the Office of African American Affairs, met with representatives from the Tribes to develop an overarching Policy that, pursuant to the STCA:
 - 1. Promotes effective collaboration and communication between the Agency and Tribes;

2. Promotes positive government-to-government relations between the State and Tribes;
 3. Promotes cultural competence in providing effective services to American Indians/Alaska Natives; and
 4. Establishes a method for notifying employees of the Agency of the provisions of the STCA and the Policy that the Agency adopts.
- F. The Policy meets the intent of the STCA and defines the Agency's commitment to collaborate and communicate with Tribes.

Section II. Purpose

Through this Policy, the Agency will seek 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.

Section III. 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.
- 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-

- }. 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.

Section IV. Definitions

A. The following definitions shall apply to this Policy:

1. American Indian/Alaska Native - Pursuant the STCA, this means:
 - a) Individuals who are members of any federally recognized Indian tribe, nation or pueblo;
 - b) Individuals who would meet the definition of "Indian" pursuant to 18 USC 1153; or
 - c) Individuals who have been deemed eligible for services and programs provided to American Indians and Alaska Natives by the United States public health service, the bureau of Indian affairs or other federal programs.
2. Collaboration - Collaboration is a recursive process in which two or more parties work together to achieve a common set of goals. Collaboration may occur between the Agency and Tribes, their respective agencies or departments, and may involve Indian organizations, if needed. Collaboration is the timely communication and joint effort that lays the groundwork for mutually beneficial relations, including identifying issues and problems, generating improvements and solutions, and providing follow-up as needed.
3. Communication - Verbal, electronic or written exchange of information between the Agency and Tribes.

4. **Consensus** - Consensus is reached when a decision or outcome is mutually-satisfactory to the Agency and the Tribes affected and adequately addresses the concerns of those affected. Within this process it is understood that consensus, while a goal, may not always be achieved.
5. **Consultation** - Consultation operates as an enhanced form of communication that emphasizes trust and respect. It is a decision making method for reaching agreement through a participatory process that: (a) involves the Agency and Tribes through their official representatives; (b) actively solicits input and participation by the Agency and Tribes; and (c) encourages cooperation in reaching agreement on the best possible decision for those affected. It is a shared responsibility that allows an open, timely and free exchange of information and opinion among parties that, in turn, may lead to mutual understanding and comprehension. Consultation with Tribes is uniquely a government-to-government process with two main goals: (a) to reach consensus in decision-making; and (b) whether or not consensus is reached, to have considered each other's perspectives and honored each other's sovereignty.
6. **Cultural Competence** - Refers to an ability to interact effectively with people of different cultures. Cultural competence comprises four components: (a) awareness of one's own cultural worldview, (b) appreciation of cultural differences, (c) knowledge of different cultural practices and worldviews, and (d) honing cross-cultural skills. Developing cultural competence improves one's ability to understand, communicate with, provide services and resources to, and effectively interact with people across cultures.
7. **Culturally Relevant** - Describes a condition where programs or services are provided according to the clients' cultural backgrounds.
8. **Government-to-Government** - Describes the intergovernmental relationship between the State, Tribes and the Federal government as sovereigns.
9. **Indian Organizations** -Organizations, predominantly operated by American Indians/Alaska Natives, that represent or provide services to American Indians and/or Alaska Natives living on and/or off tribal lands and/or in urban areas.
10. **Internal Agency Operation Exemption** - Refers to certain internal agency operations and processes not subject to this Policy. The Agency has the authority and discretion to determine what internal operations and processes are exempt from this Policy.
11. **Internal Tribal Government Operations Exemption** - Refers to certain internal tribal government operations not subject to this Policy. Each Tribe has the authority and discretion to determine what internal operations and processes are exempt from this Policy.

12. **Linguistic Competence** - Refers to one's capacity to communicate effectively and convey information in a manner that is understood by culturally diverse audiences.
13. **Participation** - Describes an ongoing activity that allows interested parties to engage one another through negotiation, compromise and problem solving to reach a desired outcome.
14. **Programmatic Action** - Actions related to the development, implementation, maintenance or modification of policies, rules, programs, services, legislation or regulations by the Agency, other than exempt internal agency operations, that are within the scope of this Policy.
15. **Tribal Advisory Body** - A duly appointed group of individuals established and organized to provide advice and recommendations on matters relative to Agency programmatic action.
16. **Tribal Implications** - Refers to when a programmatic action by the Agency will have substantial direct effect(s) on American Indians/Alaska Natives, one or more Tribes, or on the relationship between the State and Tribes.
17. **Tribal Liaison** - Refers to an individual designated by the Agency, who reports directly to the Office of the Agency Head, to:
 - a) assist with developing and ensuring the implementation of this Policy;
 - b) serve as a contact person responsible for maintaining ongoing communication between the Agency and affected Tribes; and
 - c) ensure that training is provided to staff of the Agency as set forth in Subsection B of Section 4 of the STCA.
18. **Tribal Officials** - Elected or duly appointed officials of Tribes or authorized intertribal organizations.
19. **Tribes**- Means any federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or pueblo located wholly or partially within the boundaries of the State of New Mexico. It is understood that "Tribes" in the plural form means that or those tribe(s) upon which programmatic actions have tribal implications.
20. **Work Groups** - Formal bodies and task forces established for a specific purpose through joint effort by the Agency and Tribes. Work Groups can be established to address or develop more technical aspects of programmatic action separate or in conjunction with the formal consultation process. Work groups shall, to the extent possible, consist of members from the Agency and participating Tribes.

Section V. General Provisions

A. Collaboration and Communication

To promote effective collaboration and communication between the Agency and Tribes relating to this Policy, and to promote cultural competence, the Agency shall utilize, as appropriate: Tribal Liaisons, Tribal Advisory Bodies, Work Groups and Informal Communication.

1. **The Role of Tribal Liaisons.** To promote State-Tribe interactions, enhance communication and resolve potential issues concerning the delivery of Agency services to Americans Indians/Alaska Natives, Tribal Liaisons shall work with Tribal Officials and Agency staff and their programs to develop policies or implement program changes. Tribal Liaisons communicate with Tribal Officials through both formal and informal methods of communication to assess:
 - a) issues or areas of tribal interest relating to the Agency's programmatic actions;
 - b) Tribal interest in pursuing collaborative or cooperative opportunities with the Agency; and
 - c) the Agency's promotion of cultural competence in its programmatic actions.
2. **The Role of Tribal Advisory Bodies.** The Agency may solicit advice and recommendations from Tribal Advisory Bodies to collaborate with Tribes in matters of policy development prior to engaging in consultation, as contained in this Policy. The Agency may convene Tribal Advisory Bodies to provide advice and recommendations on departmental programmatic actions that have tribal implications. Input derived from such activities is not defined as this Policy's consultation process.
3. **The Role of Work Groups.** The Agency Head may collaborate with Tribal Officials to appoint an agency-tribal work group to develop recommendations and provide input on Agency programmatic actions as they might impact Tribes or American Indians/Alaska Natives. The Agency or the Work Group may develop procedures for the organization and implementation of work group functions. (See, e.g., the sample procedures at Attachment A.)
4. **Informal Communication.**
 - a) **Informal Communication with Tribes.** The Agency recognizes that consultation meetings may not be required in all situations or interactions involving State-Tribal relations. The Agency recognizes

that Tribal Officials may communicate with appropriate Agency employees outside the consultation process, including with Tribal Liaisons and Program Managers, in order to ensure programs and services are delivered to their constituents. While less formal mechanisms of communication may be more effective at times, this does not negate the Agency's or the Tribe's ability to pursue formal consultation on a particular issue or policy.

- b) **Informal Communication with Indian Organizations.** The State-Tribal relationship is based on a government-to-government relationship. However, in certain instances, communicating with Indian Organizations can benefit and assist the Agency, as well. Through this Policy, the Agency recognizes that it may solicit recommendations, or otherwise collaborate and communicate with these organizations.

B. Consultation

Consultation shall be between the Agency Head and Tribal Officials or their delegated representatives who possess authority to negotiate on their behalf.

1. **Applicability** - Tribal consultation is most effective and meaningful when conducted before taking action that impacts Tribes and American Indians/Alaska Natives. The Agency acknowledges that a best case scenario may not always exist, and that the Agency and Tribes may not have sufficient time or resources to fully consult on a relevant issue. If a process appropriate for consultation has not already begun, through this Policy, the Agency seeks to initiate consultation as soon as possible thereafter.
2. **Focus** - The principle focus for government-to-government consultation is with Tribes through their Tribal Officials. Nothing herein shall restrict or prohibit the ability or willingness of Tribal Officials and the Agency Head to meet directly on matters that require direct consultation. The Agency recognizes that the principle of intergovernmental collaboration, communication and cooperation is a first step in government-to-government consultation, and is in accordance with the STCA.
3. **Areas of Consultation** - The Agency, through reviewing proposed programmatic actions, shall strive to assess whether such actions may have Tribal Implications, as well as whether consultation should be implemented prior to making its decision or implementing its action. In such instances where Tribal Implications are identified, the Agency shall strive to pursue government-to-government consultation with relevant Tribal Officials. Tribal Officials also have the discretion to decide whether to pursue and/or engage in the consultation process regarding any proposed programmatic action not subject to the Internal Agency Operation Exemption.

4. Initiation - Written notification requesting consultation by an Agency or Tribe shall serve to initiate the consultation process. Written notification, at the very least, should:
 - a) Identify the proposed programmatic action to be consulted upon.
 - b) Identify personnel who are authorized to consult on behalf of the Agency or Tribe.
5. Process - The Agency, in order to engage in consultation, may utilize duly-appointed work groups, as set forth in the previous section, or otherwise the Agency Head or a duly-appointed representative may meet directly with Tribal Officials, or set forth other means of consulting with impacted Tribes as the situation warrants.
 - a) Consultation shall be between the Agency Head and Tribal Officials or their delegated representatives with authority to negotiate on their behalf.
 - b) The Agency will make a good faith effort to invite for consultation all perceived impacted Tribes.
6. Limitations on Consultation -
 - a) This Policy shall not diminish any administrative or legal remedies otherwise available by law to the Agency or Tribe.
 - b) The Policy does not prevent the Agency and Tribes from entering into Memoranda of Understanding, Intergovernmental Agreements, Joint Powers Agreements, professional service contracts, or other established administrative procedures and practices allowed or mandated by Federal, State or Tribal laws or regulations.
 - c) Final Decision Making Authority: The Agency retains the final decision-making authority with respect to actions undertaken by the Agency and within Agency jurisdiction. In no way should this Policy impede the Agency's ability to manage its operations.

Section VI. Dissemination of Policy

Upon adoption of this Policy, the Agency will determine and utilize an appropriate method to distribute the Policy to all its employees.

Section VII. Amendments and Review of Policy

The Agency shall strive to meet periodically with Tribes to evaluate the effectiveness of this Policy, including the Agency's promotion of cultural competence. This Policy is a working document and may be revised as needed

Section VIII. Effective Date

This Policy shall become effective upon the date signed by the Agency Head.

Section IX. Sovereign Immunity

The Policy shall not be construed to waive the sovereign immunity of the State of New Mexico or any Tribe, or to create a right of action by or against the State of New Mexico or a Tribe, or any State or Tribal official, for failing to comply with this Policy. The Agency shall have the authority and discretion to designate internal operations and processes that are excluded from the Policy, and recognizes that Tribes are afforded the same right.

Section XI. Closing Statement/ Signatures

The Aging and Long-Term Services Department hereby adopts the State-Tribal Consultation, Collaboration and Communication Policy.



Michael Spaulier, Cabinet Secretary
Aging and Long-Term Services Department

12J7b
Date

ATTACHMENT A

Sample Procedures for State-Tribal Work Groups

DISCLAIMER: The following illustration serves only as sample procedures for State-Tribal Work Groups. The inclusion of this Attachment does not mandate the adoption of these procedures by a work group. Whether these, or alternative procedures, are adopted remains the sole discretion of the Agency Head and/or as duly-delegated to the Work Group.

- A. **Membership** - The Work Group should be composed of members duly appointed by the Agency and as appropriate, participating Tribes, for specified purpose(s) set forth upon the Work Group's conception. Continued membership and replacements to Work Group participants may be subject to protocol developed by the Work Group, or otherwise by the designating authority or authorities.
- B. **Operating Responsibility** - The Work Group should determine lines of authority, responsibilities, definition of issues, delineation of negotiable and non-negotiable points, and the scope of recommendations it is to disseminate to the Agency and Tribes to review, if such matters have not been established by the delegating authority or authorities.
- C. **Meeting Notices** - Written notices announcing meetings should identify the purpose or agenda, the Work Group, operating responsibility, time frame and other relevant tasks. All meetings should be open and publicized by the respective Agency and Tribal offices.
- D. **Work Group Procedures** - The Work Group may establish procedures to govern meetings. Such procedures can include, but are not limited to:
 - 1. Selecting Tribal and Agency co-chairs to serve as representatives and lead coordinators, and to monitor whether the State-Tribal Consultation, Collaboration and Communication Policy is followed;
 - 2. Defining roles and responsibilities of individual Work Group members;
 - 3. Defining the process for decision-making,
 - 4. Drafting and dissemination of final Work Group products;
 - 5. Defining appropriate timelines; and
 - 6. Attending and calling to order Work Group meetings.

- E. **Work Group Products** - Once the Work Group has created its final draft recommendations, the Work Group should establish a process that serves to facilitate implementation or justify additional consultation. Included in its process, the Work Group should recognize the following:
1. **Distribution** - The draft recommendation is subjected for review and comment by the Agency, through its Agency Head, Tribal Liaison, and/or other delegated representatives, and participating Tribes, through their Tribal Officials.
 2. **Comment** - The Agency and participating Tribes are encouraged to return comments in a timely fashion to the Work Group, which will then meet to discuss the comments and determine the next course of action. For example:
 - a) If the Work Group considers the policy to be substantially complete as written, the Work Group can forward the proposed policy to the Agency and participating Tribes for finalization.
 - b) If based on the comments, the Work Group determines that the policy should be rewritten; it can reinstitute the consultation process to redraft the policy.
 - c) If the Agency and participating Tribes accept the policy as is, the Work Group can accomplish the final processing of the policy.
- F. **Implementation** - Once the collaboration or consultation process is complete and the Agency and Tribes have participated in, or have been provided the opportunity to participate in, the review of the Work Group's draft recommendations, the Work Group may finalize its recommendations. The Work Group co-chairs should distribute the Work Group's final recommendations to the Agency, through its delegated representatives, and to participating Tribal Officials. The Work Group should record with its final recommendation any contrary comments, disagreements and/or dissension, and whether its final recommendation be to facilitate implementation or pursue additional consultation.
- G. **Evaluation** - At the conclusion of the Work Group collaboration or consultation process, Work Group participants should evaluate the work group collaboration or consultation process. This evaluation should be intended to demonstrate and assess cultural competence of the Agency, the Work Group, and/or the process itself. The evaluation should aid in measuring outcomes and making recommendations for improving future work group collaboration or consultation processes. The results should be shared with the Agency, through its delegated representatives, and participating Tribal Officials.



8500 Menaul Blvd. NE
Suite B-350
Albuquerque, NM 87112
505 - 316 - 5292

2550 Cerillos Road
Santa Fe, NM 87505
800 - 432 - 2080

   
@NewMexicoAging