

**Cultivating Solutions: Collaborating for Southern New Mexico**  
NMSU Outreach Conference 2024

**November 19, 2024**  
**Las Cruces Convention Center**

*Highlighting partnerships between New Mexico State University and Southern New Mexico*

**Agenda**

**8:00 am - 8:30 am:** Registration & Networking

**8:30 am - 8:45 am:** Welcome & Introductions

- Opening Remarks
  - Ammu Devasthali, NMSU Board of Regents Chair
  - Monica Torres, NMSU Interim President
- Overview of Objectives & Agenda, Conference Co-Chairs
  - Jon Boren, ACES Associate Dean & Director, Cooperative Extension Service
  - Terra Winter, President and Chief Executive Officer, Community Foundation of Southern NM

**8:45 am - 9:30 am:** Opening Discussion: Importance of Collaboration between NMSU and Community Partners (*Conference Moderator: Justin Bannister, AVP, NMSU Marketing and Communications*)

- **Panelists:**
  - NMSU Interim President Monica Torres
  - Las Cruces Mayor Eric Enriquez
- **Format:** Fireside Chat moderated by Justin Bannister

**9:30 am - 10:45 am:** Panel Discussion: Building Strong Community Partnerships

- **Panelists:**
  - Terra Winter – President and CEO, Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico, Panel Facilitator
  - Abel Covarrubias – Chief Executive Officer, Aprendamos Family of Services
  - Michael Law – Chair, Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce
- **Topics:** Strategies for effective partnership development and sustainability
- **Format:** Panelist Remarks, Q&A session

**10:45 am - 11:00 am:** Refreshment Break

**11:00 am - 12:15 pm:** Workshop Sessions (Choose One)

**Community Partnerships in Education**

- **Panelists:**
  - Susan Brown, Interim Director, NMSU STEM+ Education Research Institute, Panel Facilitator
  - Stephanie Bestelmeyer, Asombro Institute for Science Education
  - Wanda Bulger-Tamez, NMSU STEM+ Outreach Center
  - Liz Anachini, La Semilla Food Center
  - Lori Martinez, Ngage New Mexico

- Traci Curry, NM Agriculture in the Classroom, NM Farm & Livestock Bureau
- Cheryl Carreon, Cruces Creatives
- Mario Garcia, STEM Program Specialist, NMSU College of Engineering
- **Topics:** Strategies for enhancing educational outcomes through collaboration
- **Format:** Panelist Remarks, Q&A session

### **Community Partnerships in Health**

- **Panelists:**
  - Becky Pearson, Department Head, Public Health Sciences, Panel Facilitator
- **Topics:** Improving community health outcomes through joint initiatives
- **Format:** Panelist Remarks, Q&A session

### **Community Partnerships in Economic Development**

- **Panelists:**
  - Davin Lopez, Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance, Panel Facilitator
- **Topics:** Collaborating to support economic development
- **Format:** Panelist Remarks, Q&A session

### **Community Partnerships in Social Transformation**

- **Panelists:**
  - Julie Steinkopf, NMSU College of HEST, Panel Facilitator
- **Topics:** Looking at innovative ways to engage with NMSU
- **Format:** Panelist Remarks, Q&A session

### **12:15 pm - 1:30 pm: Luncheon and Award Presentation**

- **Keynote:** Jon Barela, Chief Executive Office, The Borderplex Alliance, 2023 Boberg Award Recipient  
*“Importance of Community Engagement & Relationships between NMSU and Business Development”*
- **Boberg Award Presentations for Outstanding Community Partnership**

### **1:30 pm - 2:45 pm: Panel Discussion: Case Studies in Successful Partnerships**

- **Panelists:**
  - Dana Catron, Interim Director and CEO, NMSU Arrowhead Center, Panel Facilitator
  - College Assistance Migrant Program, Cynthia Bejarano, NMSU College of Arts and Sciences
  - Certified Butcher Training Program with Stampede Meat
  - Student Programs at PSL – PSL, DoD, Arrowhead, College of Engineering, White Sands Missile Range, LCPS-ACE Program
- **Topics:** Showcase of successful collaborations between NMSU and community partners
- **Format:** Presentations of Case Studies, Q&A session

### **2:45 pm - 3:00 pm: Refreshment Break**

### **3:00 pm - 4:00 pm: Panel Discussion: Community Coalitions & Resources**

- **Panelists:**
  - Dona Ana Wellness Institute  
Jamie Michael, Director, Dona Ana County Health and Human Services
  - LC3 Behavioral Health Collaborative, Families & Youth Innovations Plus  
Tenika Sosa-Gonzalez, Director of Community Solutions and Impact  
Logan Howard, Manager of Community Impact

- Dona Ana Resilience Leaders  
Kasandra Grandara,
- The Success Partnership, Ngage New Mexico  
Marisa DeWolf, Director, Kinder-Career Coalition Coordinator  
Alejandra Montelongo, Early Childhood Education Coalition Coordinator
- **Topics:** Presentation of coalitions and resources available, collaboration opportunities
- **Format:** Panelist Presentations, Q&A session

**4:00 pm:** Closing Remarks and Networking

- Recap of key insights from the day, opportunities for continued collaboration and next steps
- Closing Remarks  
Garrett Moseley, NMSU Board of Regents

*Updated: 9/13/24*

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