



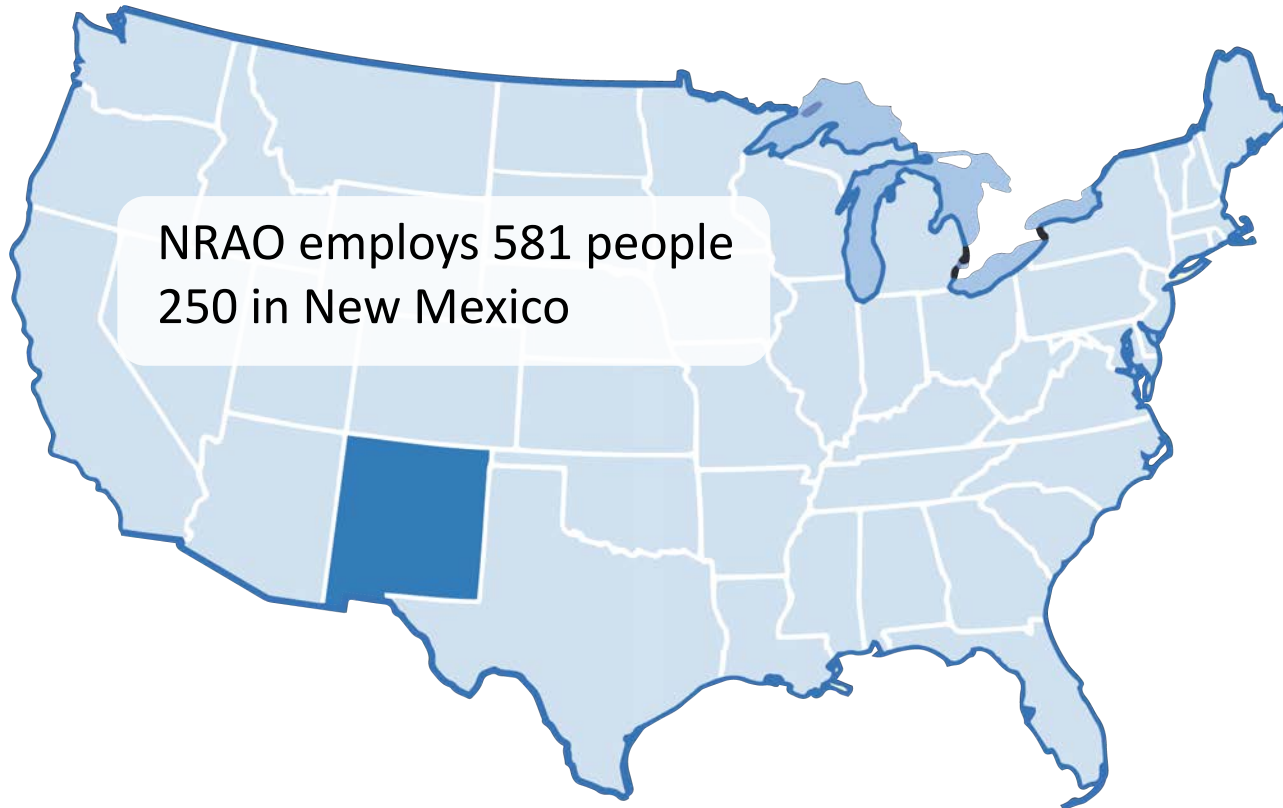
Dr. Patricia Henning, Director of New Mexico Operations National Radio Astronomy Observatory

Presentation to the Legislative Finance Committee
July 16, 2024 Socorro



**National Radio
Astronomy
Observatory**

Who Operates the Very Large Array?



Current VLA

~**250** employees

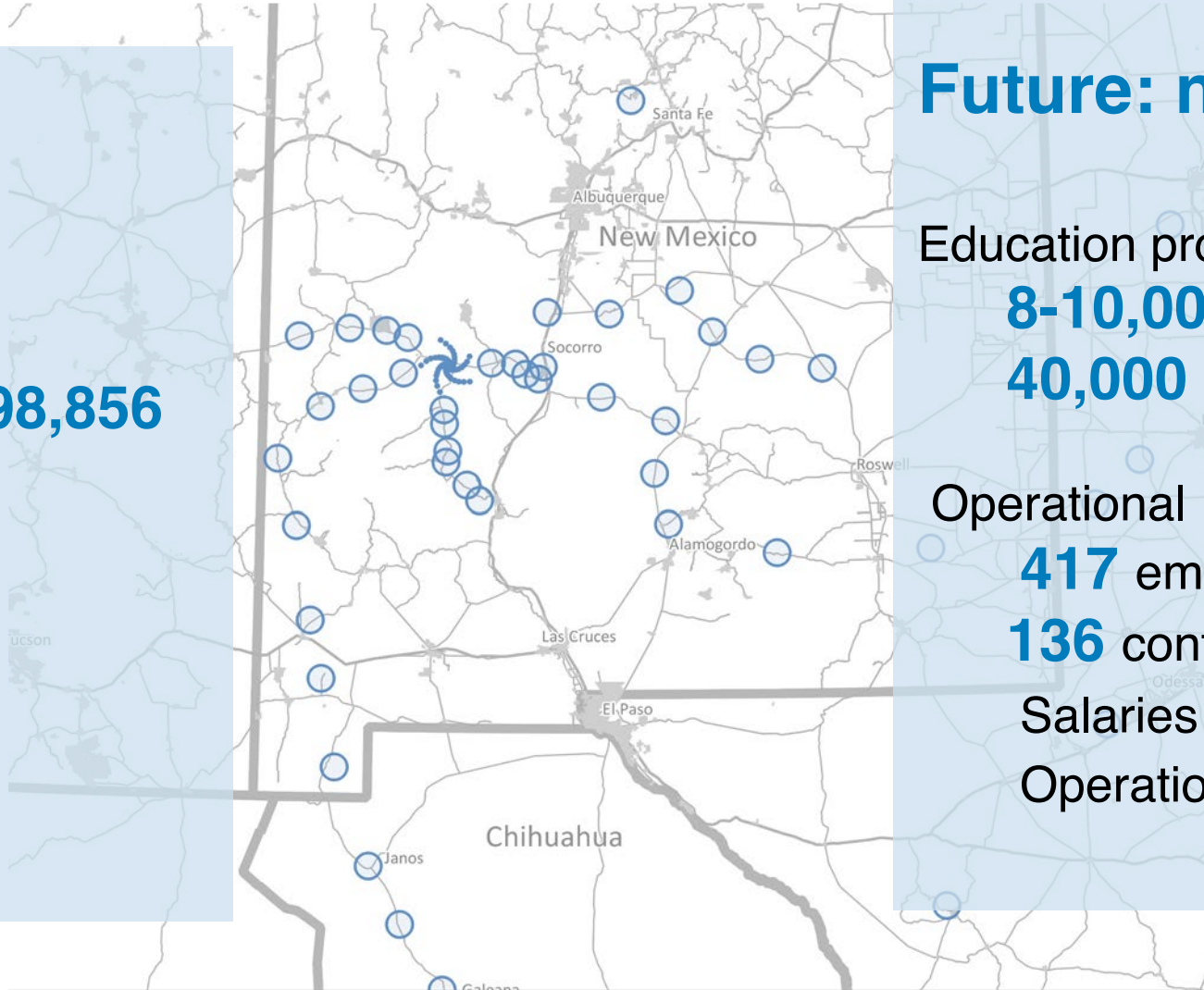
average salary **\$98,856**

27.5% women

23% Latino

Salaries **\$16.9M**

\$25M operations



Future: ngVLA

Education programs will serve

8-10,000 students

40,000 visitors annually

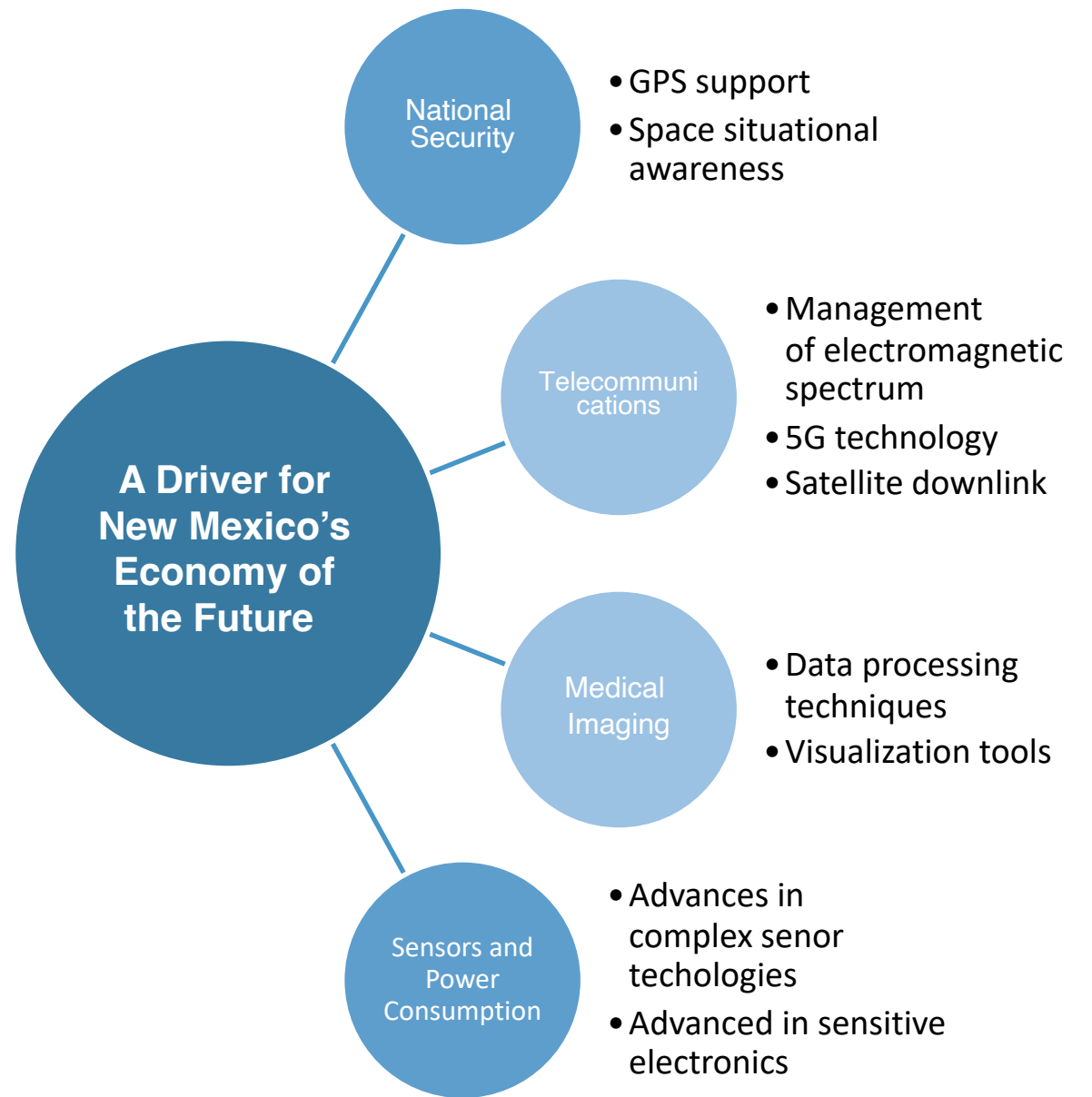
Operational

417 employees

136 contractors

Salaries **\$29.3M** annually

Operations **\$70.7M** annually



ngVLA Expansion Needs



Removal of
Barriers to
Recruiting
Employees



Viable
Solutions to
design and
Development
Needs



Building
Pathways into
STEM jobs



Attracting
Tourists



Partnerships with State and Federal Agencies



Federal partnerships include

- US Navy, NASA, Smithsonian, FCC

Historic Partnership with State

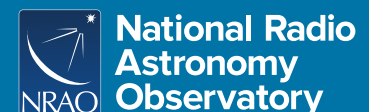
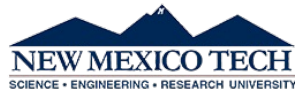
- Previous Visitor center development

New Mexico Tech and University of New Mexico

- Annual Symposium

Next Generation STEM Learning Center

- Total economic impact **\$53M**
- **387** jobs during construction
- **\$22.1M** in local income



Capital Outlay Request

Economic Impact of the Next Generation STEM Learning Center

Short Term (2026-2029)

\$25.5M direct construction spending

\$20M indirect & induced

387 jobs

\$22.1M worker income

Long Term (2029 on)

21 permanent local jobs

\$1.23M annual worker income

\$2.86M annual output

Educational Infrastructure

- Federal CDS commitment
- Serve every K-12 student in New Mexico
- Enthusiastic stakeholder support
- Strong track record running STEM learning center in rural area

From economic impact study conducted by Dr. Kelly O'Donnell in 2024.



This is a unique opportunity for New Mexico to leverage this substantial federal investment to enhance scientific and educational prospects for students of all ages throughout the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today and thank you for your service to our state.

We are grateful for your time and consideration.