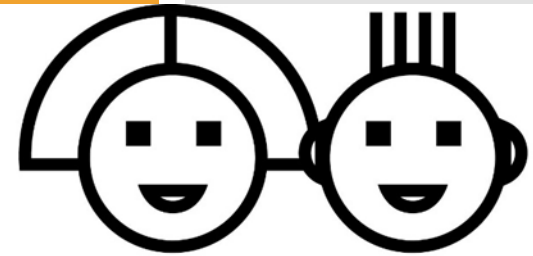


Aligning Early Childhood Education and Care

NM Early Childhood Development Partnership

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new mexico early childhood development partnership

About the New Mexico Early Childhood Development Partnership (NMECDP)

- NMECDP researches, develops and advocates for **early learning policy** and investment to support **quality, accountability, and long-term sustainability** in early childhood programs.
- We are committed to a **long-term policy vision** while pursuing a **clear short-term agenda**.
- We work to advance policy at multiple levels using **legislative, executive and administrative strategies**.
- Through our actions we **cultivate, engage and align multiple champions** and partners.



NMECDP Legislative History

- **Early Care and Education Act (2011)**
- **Home Visiting Accountability Act (2013)**
- **Childcare Assistance Accountability Act (2015 – Legislative approval, Governor vetoed)**



Early Childhood Governance Research

NMECDP did an analysis of early childhood governance structures across different states (including Georgia, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania) and found that an array of benefits come from bringing early childhood programs together including:

- **Coherence among policies and services**
- **Coordination and alignment**
- **Data sharing**
- **Clear accountability**
- **Streamlined efforts with greater efficiency**

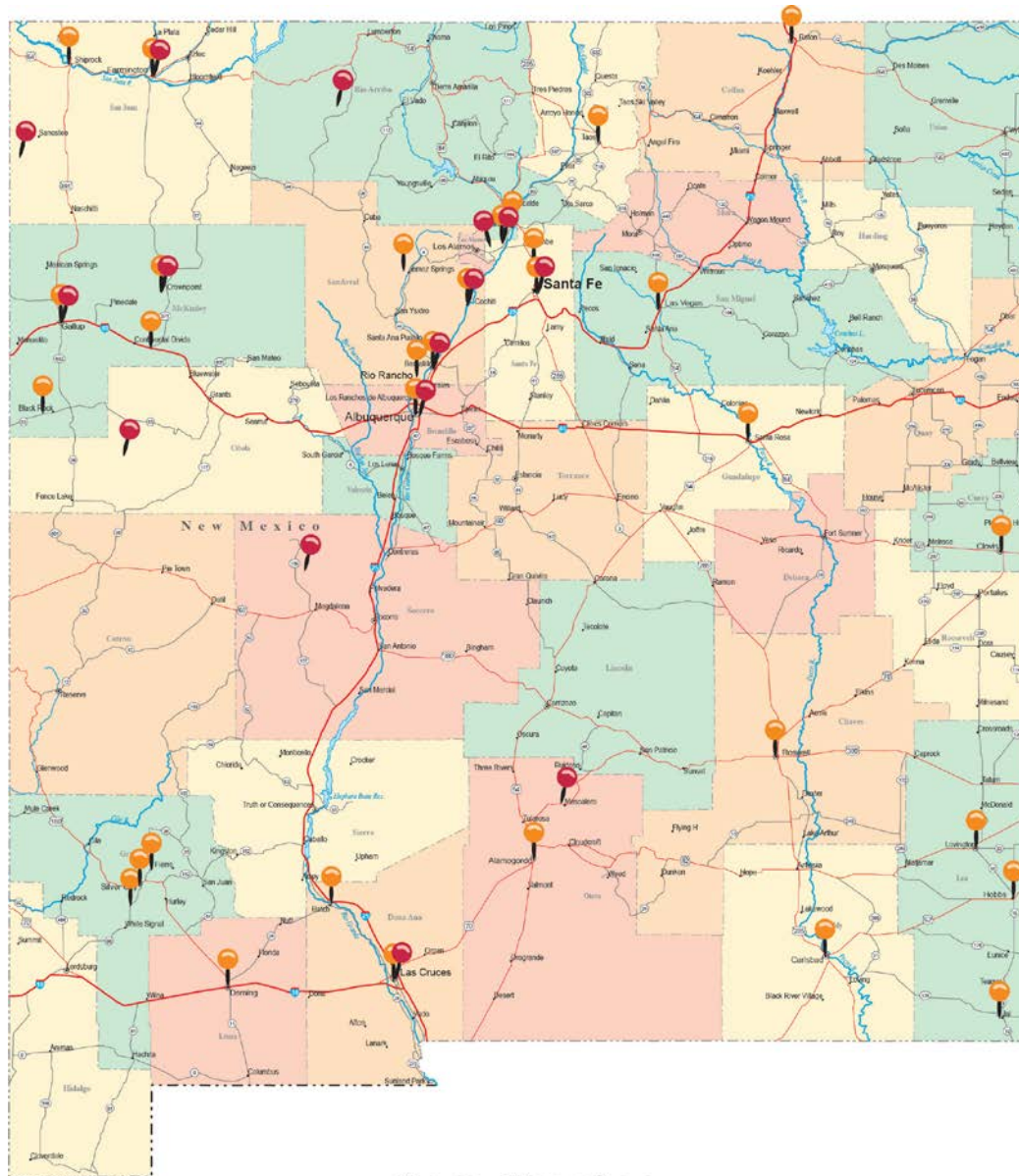


Community Conversations across New Mexico

- After hearing from hundreds of stakeholders over five months, NMECDP produced a Community Outreach Report which includes **policy recommendations** based on what we heard. These include:
 - Create a **Department of Early Childhood**
 - Do **strategic workforce development** and planning
 - **Expand** early childhood programs with quality



Community Conversations across New Mexico



New Mexico



Community Conversations across New Mexico

- NMECDP partnered with the Native American Budget and Policy Institute (NABPI) to do **community engagement** across New Mexico and in tribal communities around 'A Business Plan for Early Childhood'
- Major Themes heard by NMECDP include:
 - Need for **better alignment** of services
 - **Qualified workers** are needed throughout NM
 - More **local control** means more **culturally appropriate** and targeted services
 - More **high-quality services/slots** are needed (especially in rural areas)



Creating an Early Childhood Department

WHY NOW?

- Programs have grown substantially due to Legislative will
– Funding is more than **\$325 million in FY19**
- Understanding of the **value of investment** has grown
 - According to Nobel Laureate economist, Dr James Heckman, “high-quality birth-to-five programs for disadvantaged children can deliver a **13% per child, per year return on investment** through better outcomes in education, health, social behaviors and employment, reducing taxpayer costs down the line and preparing the country's workforce for a competitive future.”
- Voters Agree – In a poll **80% said it is important** to have “better coordination between the various agencies that provide early childhood services.”
- Early Efforts included Children’s Cabinet and Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) models
- Allow focus needed in CYFD for **culture change** and in PED for rebuilding and ability to address Yazzie lawsuit
- Improved **accountability** and **alignment** of goals



Creating an Early Childhood Department: The Bill

- Senate bill to create **The Early Childhood Department** serving families and children from birth to kindergarten with duties that include:
 - **Aligning existing programs** and expanding access
 - Planning **to address needs and gaps** with emphasis on risk factors
 - Providing a **continuum of programming** from birth until kindergarten
 - Advancing **high-quality** programs
 - Developing data systems to **effectively measure outcomes**
 - **Improving workforce** development
 - Enhancing of **culturally and linguistically appropriate** programs



Creating an Early Childhood Department: The Bill

- Sponsored in 2019 by **Senator Padilla** and based on legislation done by **Senator Morales** and Senator Padilla in previous years
- **Aligns early childhood functions** from other agencies:
 - From **CYFD** - Early Childhood Services Division, Infant Mental Health
 - From **DOH** – FIT, WIC, Family First Home Visiting, IDEA
 - From **PED** – Pre-K



Creating an Early Childhood Department: The Bill

- Maintains **Mixed-Delivery Model** – Protecting Rural Services and Hundreds of Women Owned Businesses
- Requires **Four-Year Finance Plan**
- Provides for **Clear Leadership**
- Provides for **Unified Data and Accountability**
- Revives **Children’s Cabinet**
- Provides for Position to **Work with Native American Communities** in the Office of the Secretary
- **\$2.5 Million** Allocation – Non-Recurring



Thank You!



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