



NEW MEXICO FIRST
People. Ideas. Progress.

New Mexico First is a statewide nonprofit public policy organization, unique in its origin, history, and evolution. Co-founded in 1986 by U.S. Senators Jeff Bingaman (D) and Pete Domenici (R), the organization is best known for statewide town halls and nonpartisan policy research on critical issues facing the state. New Mexico First brings together people from all walks of life to identify practical solutions to important issues. NM First town halls allow participants to share their best ideas and wisdom and together develop consensus-based recommendations for policy change.

How NM First Town Halls Work



Transforming Behavioral Health in New Mexico:

A pathway toward hope and healing

June 15-16, 2022, New Mexico First convened a diverse cross-section of stakeholders in a hybrid (in-person/virtual) town hall-style conference. This format allowed stakeholders from around the state to participate without traveling. Using a [background report](#) with research and statistics on mental and behavioral health in the state as a starting point, the gathering brought people together to produce concrete, actionable, recommendations.

New Mexico First hosted Community Conversations in Grants, Gallup, Las Cruces, Deming, Hobbs, and two detention centers in the months before the Town Hall to gather community feedback on the topic and initial recommendations.

The Town Hall concluded with eight consensus recommendations, along with multiple other recommendations that will be workshopped and processed by New Mexicans to develop comprehensive and coherent solutions to our behavioral health challenges.

CONSENSUS: When 85% of participants can say:
"I believe you understand my point of view.

I believe I understand your point of view.

Whether or not I prefer this decision, I support it because it was arrived at openly and fairly and is the best alternative for us at this time."

In other words:
"I may not love it, but I can live with it!"

Learn More

For more information about New Mexico First by visiting www.nmfirst.org or contact us by email at info@nmfirst.org or call (505) 225-2140.