



Cuidando

• Los Niños •

clnabq.org



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About Us

Serving children and their families experiencing homelessness for over 35 years. Family and child homelessness in Albuquerque, Bernalillo County and across the nation is a rising crisis. Losing access to housing stability can happen to anyone, regardless of zip code, neighborhood, occupation, income, or household size. Overcoming homelessness and gaining stable housing is nearly impossible if supportive resources and services aren't available in the community.

The image and definition most commonly associated with the word “homeless” seems to be rooted in the media portrayals of individuals on street corners, tents set up in local neighborhood parks, while incorporating drug & alcohol use into those images. Little media and education attention focuses on the bigger picture of homelessness: families with young children, living in their vehicles behind a community center, a single parent with 4 children living in various motels over the course of a year, or the mother with her newborn infant, staying in a domestic violence shelter after fleeing from an abusive partner. Little exposure to this other side of homelessness (whether by the media, policy makers, or in institutes of education) has caused a lack of understanding and acknowledgement by the public - community members, law makers and city/county/State officials.

Our Mission

The mission of Cuidando Los Niños is to break the cycle of homelessness for children and families. We do this by providing high quality early childhood education, supportive housing, parent education and advocacy alongside the families.

Services

Education Programs

We help students thrive at every stage of their development.

By using the High Scope curriculum, we ensure students reach developmental milestones through creativity and play, provide necessary services if milestones are not met, have highly trained educators for trauma-affected students, and celebrate diversity by representing all cultures in our classrooms.

Supportive Housing

Life, love, and learning start in the home. So we make sure everyone has one.

Cuidando follows a “housing first model,” meaning we believe families have a much better chance of overcoming their adverse circumstances if they are given a stable home first. Then families can begin to utilize our other services such as workforce development, trauma informed teaching, and family success planning. Our housing program combines rental assistance and support services to provide a multifaceted approach to stabilizing our families.

Workforce Development

The path from living to thriving starts here.

Cuidando Los Niños’ Workforce Development Program helps prepare individuals to enter or re-enter the workforce. Our Workforce Case Manager works with individuals by providing personalized and individual coaching and mentoring to assist participants to gain employment and/or developing education/training opportunities.

Trauma-Informed Development

We believe that kids with Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) deserve a trauma-sensitive agency.

Trauma-informed teaching addresses the impact of trauma on students and caregivers by building protective factors. Parents complete an ACES questionnaire upon enrollment to assess trauma, guiding our support team to provide appropriate services. The ACES Case Manager administers the questionnaire and offers case management; children with high scores may join our trauma-informed program for additional support from a trauma specialist.

Services

Transportation Services

Transportation services for children to and from Cuidando Los Niños are provided for those staying in local shelters.

Advocacy

Our Advocacy Mission: To elevate voices with lived experience of homelessness and housing instability.

We help parents develop their voices to advocate for themselves and other homeless families. The Cuidando Los Niños Advocacy department plans community projects, builds relationships with aligned organizations, and provides leadership opportunities through the "Parents As Advocates" Group, where parents learn about trauma, time and money management, and professional writing. Parent Advocates also participate in the Bernalillo County Early Childhood Coalition and join our leadership team annually at the Roundhouse to elevate the voices of families facing housing instability.

Nutrition

In partnership with the Bishop Store House we provide our families with nutritious foods such as meats, fresh produce, and canned goods.

We serve nutritious breakfast, lunch, and snacks daily, and our foods are freshly prepared onsite using organic and local produce.

Our nutrition program is funded through the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Each classroom participates in monthly hands-on nutritional projects to enhance their learning of healthy eating.

Resource Guide

Find our Bernalillo County Resource Guide [here](#).

In working with experienced professional, passionate educators and volunteers, and partnering with outside organizations we strive to make a lasting impact in our community.

The cost of the homeless is borne by the entire community. Healthy communities are those in which all members can share in wealth and opportunity. Poverty creates divisions within a community.



**"The smallest act of
kindness is worth more than
the grandest intention."**



Partners



Circles ABQ


Circles USA is a national non-profit focused on poverty alleviation through community, personal transformation, and systemic change. Launching an Albuquerque chapter, it brings together individuals striving to escape poverty with middle- and high-income volunteers for support. Through training and weekly meetings, these relationships help families achieve financial stability, sharing their experiences to celebrate successes and address barriers.



Early Childhood Coalition


Our Coalition Goal: To engage community organizing groups & to bring awareness to early childhood services.

The Early Childhood Coalition (ECC) consists of seven organizations and 15 individuals dedicated to ending early childhood homelessness and addressing inequities. ECC values reciprocal relationships built on mutual respect, involving families in planning while providing supportive, developmentally appropriate experiences for children, creating an interdependent dynamic.



Why Should We Expand/Move?

To better serve our community and meet the growing demand for our services, we urgently require a new and/or larger facility. This expansion is crucial for us to enhance the care and education we provide to families, ensuring that no child faces homelessness.



A more spacious facility will enable us to:



Expand Our Reach

By accommodating more families, we can significantly increase our impact in ending childhood homelessness.



Improve Efficiency & Execution

With additional space, we can streamline our operations, allowing us to serve our community more effectively.



Gain Greater Autonomy

A larger facility will offer us the independence needed to tailor our services to the specific needs of our community.



As our city and county continue to grow, so does the need for our essential services. Investing in a larger facility will allow us to continue delivering world-class support to the families who depend on us. We are committed to fostering a brighter future for our community, and this expansion is a vital step in that direction.





How to Help





Thank You



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