



MEMO

To: ACF Board of Trustees
From: Brian Colón, NMCT Board Chair
Date: April 23, 2025
Re: NMCT Update: Activity & Assessment

Activity Update

San Juan County Outreach

Efforts in San Juan County continue to progress, with outreach to the following prospective partners:

- San Juan Community College Foundation – Pending
- NextEra Energy – exploring various collaborations through ACF/NMCT
- Mr. Jack Fortner - Pending
- San Juan County Partnerships - Pending
- San Juan Basin Chapter of New Mexico Society of CPAs – Pending
- Brindle Foundation – Engagement via statewide funder meeting, meeting on 4/3
- San Juan United Way – Engagement via statewide funder meeting
- Future Focused Education – School District Initiative (NEW) – Exploring fiscal sponsorship and pooled funds

Intermediary Work

NM Department of Finance & Administration (DFA)

DFA has approached NMCT about two new opportunities to deepen our partnership and support the state in distributing funds to nonprofit partners:

- Contract for Grantmaking Services: DFA is in the process of creating an RFP requesting grantmaking services for a variety of programs at the State. DFA is working on a timeline of July 2025 to have a contract in place.
- Statewide Pricing Agreement: NMCT and DFA have had initial conversations about entering into a statewide pricing agreement so local bodies around the state are able to contract NMCT for grantmaking services. The timeline for this initiative is still undetermined.

Kellogg Foundation – Focused on supporting immigrant communities

Future Focused Education – Working with school districts statewide and Future Focused Education to support internship programs (also referenced above in San Juan County Outreach)

Capacity Building

NMCT is in the process of submitting a \$100,000 grant request to the Thornburg Foundation to fund a position to increase capacity around compliance and grant management. This position will focus



primarily on strengthening our internal compliance and grant management practices, particularly around public and complex funds, while also supporting grantees’ capacity in compliance and grant management. Currently, the proposal is for one year of funding, but we are communicating the need for a multi-year grant to the Thornburg Foundation. Additionally, through a variety of sources, an increase in funding is anticipated into ACF’s Strengthening our Partners capacity building program, which will have impacts on NMCT.

Development

ACF has received a \$630,000, three-year grant from the Fidelity Charitable Foundation focused on increasing donor engagement and giving to promising nonprofits through “give now” approaches, building nonprofit capacity, particularly in the areas of fundraising and storytelling, and increasing internal capacity for impact and evaluation. This grant will create new positions in our Development department. We anticipate the investment in ACF will result in positive impacts on NMCT in all areas of the grant program.

Proposed Assessment Timeline & Outline

Proposed Timeline

Staff develop initial assessment based on outline	Started no later than 5/16/25, completed no later than 7/11/25
Subcommittee Meeting 1: Present & Review Staff Recommendation	No later than August 1
Additional Subcommittee meetings if necessary	August & September
Final Review: ACF Executive Committee	9/10/25
Final Review: NMCT Board	9/22/25
Final Review: ACF Board	10/8/25

Subcommittee Members

The subcommittee will be composed of 1-3 members each of the NMCT and ACF Boards of Trustees.

NMCT: Brian Colón, Beverly Bendicksen, Walter Stern

ACF: TBD



Assessment Outline

- I. Revisit Purpose and Strategic Direction
- II. Reflections
 - a. What were the unexpected opportunities?
 - b. What went differently than we anticipated?
 - c. What were the challenges?
- III. Administration/Operations
 - a. What are the benefits of our current structure?
 - b. What are the areas of our structure that are challenging?
 - c. What are opportunities for streamlining and deeper efficiencies?
- IV. Structure
 - a. Review and assess possible structures for NMCT
 - i. Continuing as is – 501c3 with sole member
 - ii. Supporting Organization
 - iii. Other options
- V. Review Existing and Potential Business.
 - a. How would a structure change impact current and future opportunities
 - i. Housing Stability/Federal Government/DFA
 - ii. Department of Finance & Administration, State of New Mexico
 - iii. LANL Foundation – Northern NM Youth Fund (pooled fund)
 - iv. Maddox Foundation (DAF)
 - v. 529 Savings for Success
 - vi. Future Focused Education/McCune Foundation