



Tsiporah Nephesh
New Mexico Thrives

August 2, 2021

Speaker of the House Brian Egolf	Senate President Pro Tempore Mimi Stewart
Acting Majority House Leader Doreen Gallegos	Senate Majority Leader Peter Wirth
Minority House Leader James Townsend	Senate Minority Leader Gregory Baca

Dear Representatives Brian Egolf, Doreen Gallegos, James Townsend, and Senators Mimi Stewart, Peter Wirth, Gregory Baca,

As the State of New Mexico contemplates how to distribute American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for state, local, territory, and tribal governments, we urge you to **protect services and jobs, and invest in advancing New Mexico by setting aside \$50 million in relief funds for grants to New Mexico's charitable nonprofits.**

When the pandemic hit New Mexico, nonprofits didn't hesitate to respond. Despite loss of revenue and volunteers, nonprofits adapted and delivered ([COVID-19 New Mexico Nonprofit Impact Report](#), June 2020). They provided food, emergency shelter and other vital services. As trusted voices in communities, nonprofits were able to share crucial information regarding the latest developments and guidelines. Nonprofits helped community members find and access available resources.

Charitable nonprofits are integral to our communities. Investing in nonprofit resilience is an investment in everyone's economic future and well-being. Nonprofits have been your allies in crisis response and we are a vital part of the recovery equation.

Nonprofits are economic multipliers (see [Nonprofits' Role in New Mexico's Economy](#)). Investing in nonprofits will reap multiple benefits:

- Enabling nonprofits to rehire employees and hire even more people to deliver services
- Rebuilding or expand capacity to provide child care, elder care and other supports that people need to participate in the workforce
- Enabling nonprofits to hire contractors to improve programs, internal operations and expand capacity
- Building capacity to pursue federal and national funding

Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to the people of New Mexico.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tciporah Nephesh".

Tsiporah Nephesh, Executive Director
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