



Tsiporah Nephesh, Executive Director
New Mexico Thrives
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May 18, 2020

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham
State Capitol Building, Santa Fe

Dear Governor Lujan Grisham,

I am writing about the process for determining how relief funding will be spent. Will nonprofits be included in the recommendations for economic recovery and relief?

Nonprofits know what people and communities need, and how best to help them. We have been providing frontline services during this difficult time. The collective wisdom of nonprofits is a resource that could help inform how to maximize relief funding. I respectfully suggest that you need a representative of the nonprofit sector in whatever group is developing recommendations on relief funding. New Mexico Thrives can provide input from the nonprofit perspective and can be a conduit for information.

According to the recent Economic Impacts of the Nonprofit Sector in New Mexico Report, commissioned by the New Mexico Association of Grantmakers and conducted by UNM's Bureau of Business and Economic Research, the nonprofit sector brought \$1.86 billion into the state in 2018. In total, nonprofits accounted for \$3.22 billion in economic activity.

Many nonprofits have seen an increased demand for services and have responded to the best of their abilities. However, nonprofits have suffered greatly from loss of revenue as a result of cancelled fundraising events and a downturn in donations because so many donors have lost their jobs.

Nonprofits need to be included in economic stimulus incentives, and be part of the discussions about and the distribution of relief funding.

Your administration has demonstrated a compassionate commitment to the people of New Mexico. Nonprofits have been working alongside government to take care of our communities during this time. Please ensure nonprofits have a seat at the table in planning economic recovery and in building a brighter future for New Mexicans.

Thank you for your thoughtful leadership and dedication to our state and the people who reside here.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tsiporah Nephesh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tsiporah Nephesh, Executive Director
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