

STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Community Health Workers (CHWs) are frontline public health champions and essential members of health and social care teams in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the workforce development of public health frontline workers including CHWs, Tribal Community Health Representatives (CHRs), and Promotor(a)s de Salud is a vital public health priority, aligned with the mission of the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) to promote health equity across all communities in our state; and

WHEREAS, CHWs play a crucial role in serving New Mexico's most vulnerable populations, especially in rural and frontier areas, acting as vital community connectors and navigators who create pathways to essential health and social resources; and

WHEREAS, CHWs are instrumental in enhancing health outcomes by addressing Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) among socially vulnerable groups throughout New Mexico, thereby improving overall community health; and

WHEREAS, communities that promote healthy lifestyles and support CHWs, CHRs, and Promotor(a)s de Salud foster resilience, reduce the risk of chronic conditions, and enhance the well-being of their residents; and

WHEREAS, the NMDOH Office of Community Health Workers is guided by the New Mexico CHW Act, established by the 51st Legislature, 2nd Session, 2014, Chapter 49, Senate Bill (SB) 58, along with the State-Tribal Collaboration Act; and

WHEREAS, the NMDOH Office of Community Health Workers is dedicated to workforce development through the integration of CHWs into health and social care systems, building a competent workforce by offering two paths to state certification, with over 500 New Mexicans successfully achieving this certification; and

WHEREAS, in collaboration with key partners such as the New Mexico & Southern Colorado Community Health Representatives Association, the Southern New Mexico Promotora Association, and the National Association of Community Health Workers, the NMDOH plays a pivotal role in efforts to reduce health disparities and enhance health outcomes for all citizens of New Mexico.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim October 2025, as:

"New Mexico Community Health Workers Month"

throughout the state of New Mexico.

Attest:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver

Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this 4th day of September 2025.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Mexico.