

CON ALMA HEALTH FOUNDATION
Heroes of Health History by Recipients & Nominees

In 2009, Con Alma started a tradition of recognizing individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the health of their communities, large and small. They can be health care providers, advocates, administrators, clinicians, or policy makers, among other eligible categories. We especially love to hear about “unsung” heroes—volunteers and workers whose efforts make a difference in their communities. Each year, we call for nominations for Heroes, and they are recognized at our annual Grantee Recognition Event. A \$1,000 donation is given to an eligible New Mexico nonprofit of the honoree’s choosing (beginning in 2010). In 2025, the donation increased to \$2,000.

RECIPIENTS (list):

2025 Hero of Health – Shelbie Corriz, Road Runner Food Bank

2024 Hero of Health – Dr. Anjali Taneja, Casa de Salud, Albuquerque and Youth Hero of Health: Sophia Weatherly, Taos, NM

2023 Hero of Health – Lisa Walker and Youth Hero of Health Raven Ward

2022 Heros of Health - Tina Cordova, co-founder of Tularosa Basin Downwinders Consortium, and Noah Blue Elk Hotchkiss, co-founder of Tribal Adaptive Organization

2021 Hero of Health - Melissa McCue, executive director of Mandy’s Farm

2020 Hero of Health - Leroy “Buster” Silva, community coordinator for Notah Begay III Foundation

2019 Hero of Health - Trinidad de Jesus Arguello, PhD., LCSW, PMHRN-BC-RN, Compostela Community and Family Cultural Institute

2018 Hero of Health - Thomas Faber, MD, Director, Zuni Youth Enrichment Project

2017 Hero of Health

Ophelia Reeder, Executive Director Behavioral, Health Substance Treatment Center
Mary Stoecker, Health Promotions Specialist, New Mexico Department of Health (retired)

2016 Hero of Health

Douglas Meiklejohn, Executive Director, NM Environmental Law Center
Lauren Reichelt, Director of Rio Arriba County Department of Health & Human Services

2015 Hero of Health - Mr. Kim Posich, Executive Director, New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty

2014 Hero of Health - Vicki Johnson, resident of Silver City and founder of the First Born Program

2013 Hero of Health - Juliana Anastasoff, UNM Health Extension Rural Officer, based in Taos

2012 Hero of Health

Chuck Howe, President, National Veterans Wellness and Healing Center
Rebecca Palacios, PhD, Assistant Professor, Public Health Sciences, New Mexico State University
Senator Dede Feldman (Honorary Hero of Health)

2011 Hero of Health - Kristine Suozzi: Public Health Advocate, NM Health Equity Working Group
Linda Lane Rigsby - *Special Award (posthumous)*
Advocate for Health Resources who helped found Con Alma Health Foundation and establish our Community Advisory Council. (*Linda’s award was accepted by her husband David Rigsby*)

2010 Hero of Health Mario Pacheco, M.D., Pojoaque Primary Care & Northern NM Residency Program

2009 Hero of Health – (Inaugural Class of Heroes) *All selected*

Robert Benon, Teen Health Centers, Presbyterian Medical Services
Mary Louise Romero Betancourt, Juvenile Justice Monitoring Program, 1st Judicial District
Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM)
Monica Leyba, Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center
Larry Martinez, North Central Region, Presbyterian Medical Services
Patricia Montoya, New Mexico Medical Resources Association
Winthrop “Win” Quigley, Albuquerque Journal
Dolores E. Roybal, Con Alma Health Foundation
Fred Sandoval, Income Support Division, NM Human Services Department
Cynthia Simonetti, Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center
Eliseo Torres, Ph.D, University of New Mexico
Bert Umland, M.D., Presbyterian Medical Services
Facundo Valdez, Social Work Educator and Community Advocate
Alfredo Vigil, M.D. Secretary, NM Department of Health

Hero of Health Recipients & NOMINEES

2024 HEROS OF HEALTH

Recipients: Dr. Anjali Taneja, Casa de Salud, Albuquerque and **Youth Hero of Health:** Sophia Weatherly, Taos, NM

NOMINEES:

1. Janet Page-Reeves, *UNM Office of Community Health's Tertulias Program*
2. Laura Rodriguez, *Centro Savila*
3. Lisa Walraven, *De Baca Family Practice Clinic*
4. Simran Priel, *The Birthing Tree*
5. Nancy Rodriguez, *New Mexico Alliance for School-Based Health Care*
6. Allison Martin, *TOTAL NM*
7. Valeria Alarcon, *New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils*
8. Jennifer Smith, *Chaves Cty CASA/Chaves County Health Council*
9. Hannah Wood, *YMCA Central New Mexico*
10. Kris Pikaart, *Gallup Community Health*
11. Ryan Steinz, *PFLAG Las Cruces*
12. Virginia Nechochea, *New Mexico Environmental Law Center*
13. Chica, *Chance Of a Lifetime (COLT)*
14. Iris Wisnoski, *Lakeview Christian Home Health & Hospice*
15. Abigail Lanin Eaves, *Dar a Luz Birth & Health Center*
16. Renee Sandoval, *Española Y Teen Center*
17. Holly Noonan, *Crooked Forest Institute*
18. Missy Bowie, *CARC Inc.*
19. Brenda Dunn, *NM Lions KidsIGHT*
20. Barbara Crowell Roy and Dr. Robert Crowell, *Eve's Fund for Native American Health Initiatives*
21. Jazamyne Myers, *ARCA*
22. Patricia Corona de Ortega, *UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center, Comadre a Comadre Program*
23. Laurie Roach, *PNM Resource Foundation*
24. Jen Gruger, *CHRISTUS Health*
25. Paul Charlton, *Healthy Climate New Mexico and Indian Health Service*
26. Kathy Kroll, LCSW, *Albuquerque High School*

2023 HEROS OF HEALTH

Recipients: Lisa Walker and Youth Hero of Health Raven Ward

NOMINEES:

1. Brad Rikel, *Mental Health Resources, Inc.*
2. Dr. Trinidad de Jesus Arguello, *Compostela Community & Family Cultural Institute*
3. Elais Ponton, MSN BSN RN, *Nurses With Heart*
4. Esther Sánchez, *Hope for Gardner homecare*
5. Janie Lee Hall, BSRN, *NMDOH and PIRE*
6. Jess Freschette Gutfreund, *Birth Center Equity*
7. Kim Kerschen, *Locker#505*
8. Lisa Patch, *Alamogordo Public Schools*
9. Margarita Galvis, *Centro Savila*
10. Melissa Pharis, *Roosevelt General Hospital*
11. Nancy Pope, *New Mexico Foundation*
12. Nichole Medina Stine
13. Soozie Zamora, *Meals on Wheels New Mexico*
14. Virginia Nechochea, *New Mexico Environmental Law Center*
15. Brenda Dunn, *New Mexico Lions Operation KidSight Inc*

Youth Track

1. Anikka C de Vaca, *St. Christus and Presbyterian*
2. Dharma Johnson, *NAMI Southern New Mexico*
3. Indica Simpson, *United Voices for Newcomer Rights*

2022 HEROS OF HEALTH

Recipients: Tina Cordova, co-founder of Tularosa Basin Downwinders Consortium, and Noah Blue Elk Hotchkiss, co-founder of Tribal Adaptive Organization

NOMINEES:

1. Roman Abeyta, *Community organizer, director of Boys & Girls Club of Santa Fe/Del Norte, past City Councilor*
2. Yolanda Cruz, *Philanthropy HUB Coordinator at Santa Fe Community Foundation*
3. Krystal Curley, *Executive Director at Indigenous Lifeways*
4. Cody St. Arnold, *Health Communications Specialist/Graphic Designer with Albuquerque Area Southwest Tribal Epidemiology Center*
5. Maya Trujillo, *Association of Students of NMSU*

2021 HERO OF HEALTH

Recipient: Melissa McCue, executive director of Mandy's Farm

NOMINEES:

1. John Andazola, *Southern New Mexico Family Medicine Residency Program*
2. Johnny Armijo, *Albuquerque Center for Hope and Recovery*
3. Taylor Bacote, *Presbyterian Medical Group*

4. Dr. Michelle Bean, *Pink "Me"*
5. Shawnadine Becenti, *University of New Mexico - Gallup Nursing*
6. Carla Benford, *The Salvation Army of Hobbs, Client Choice Food Bank*
7. Dr. Mark Bjorklund, *El Centro Family Health Clinic*
8. Glenys Carl, *Scott's House*
9. Noelle Chavez, *H2 Academics*
10. Marian Méndez Cera, *El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos*
11. Rachel Conover, *Eastern New Mexico University - Roswell Nursing*
12. Jessica Cordova, *Patient Support*
13. Tina Cordova, *Tularosa Basin Downwinders Consortium (TBDC)*
14. David Davis, *The Memory Care Alliance*
15. Elizabeth Derry, *Otero Birth*
16. Rayna Dineen & Staff, *Reading Quest*
17. Brenda Dunn, *NM Lions Kidsight*
18. Rev. Dr. Anne Hays Egan, *New Ventures Community Building*
19. Kristi Erikson, *Santa Fe Community College Department of Nursing*
20. Anastasia Estocin LCSW, MPH, *UNM Cancer Center*
21. Anji Estrellas, *Esperanza Shelter*
22. Mrs. Shauna Frost, *Meals on Wheels of Albuquerque*
23. Natasha Garcia, *NM Women's Reentry Center*
24. Jackie Gibbs, *YouthWorks*
25. John Greydanus, *Bethel CR Church in Shiprock*
26. Annabelle X Gutierrez Sisneros, *Northern New Mexico College*
27. Pamelya Herndon, *Law Center for Social Justice and Change & NM House Representative*
28. Donald Hume, *Presbyterian*
29. Guadalupe Lugo, *La Semilla Food Center*
30. Shauna Mangum, *San Juan Community College - Department of Nursing Assistant Director / Assistant Professor*
31. Shelley Mann-Lev, *New Mexico Public Health Association President*
32. Laura Massey, *Head Nurse for Portales Municipal Schools*
33. Holly Mata, PhD, CHES, CPH, *Otero County Community Health Council President*
34. Melissa McCue, *Mandy's Farm, Executive Director*
35. Anahi Mena, *La Semilla Food Center, Community Education Program Coordinator*
36. Ana Morelos, *Las Cumbres Community Services, Inc.*
37. Jackie Perez, *Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Centro Savila*
38. Joanna "Joie" Pena, LCSW, *Veterans Justice Outreach Social Worker*
39. Charlene Psykoty MPH, *Bernalillo County Commission, Steering Committee Tularosa Basin Downwinders Consortium*
40. Anna Rondon, *New Mexico Social Justice & Equity Institute*
41. Irma Saenz, *HMS*
42. Lupe Salazar, *Barrios Unidos*
43. Roxanne Sanchez, *SPOT for Community Wellness: Program Director/ Manager*
44. Patricia Schindler, *Covid Travel Nurse*
45. Mary Trujillo, *Nurse at El Centro Family Health Clinic*
46. Victoria Van Dame, *AndMe Therapy and The OT Circus (president)*
47. Stephanie Villalobos, *Valencia Shelter Services Executive Director*
48. Amy Wagner, *Silver City Gospel Mission, Director*
49. Gwendolynn Weishapl, *Central New Mexico Community College - Nursing Instructor*
50. Kenneth Winfrey, LCSW, RYT *Umoja Behavioral Health*
51. Casey Woods, *Mandys farm volunteer*
52. Duane Chili Yazzie

2020 HERO OF HEALTH

Recipient: Leroy "Buster" Silva, community coordinator for Notah Begay III Foundation

NOMINEES:

1. Stranger that became a neighbor, *Resident of New Mexico*
2. Pamela Angell, *St. Luke's Health Care Clinic dba AMADOR HEALTH CENTER*
3. Victoria Baca, *Rio Grande ATP, Inc.*
4. Glenys Carl, *Scott's House, Inc.*
5. Tina Cordova, *Tularosa Basin Downwinders Consortium (TBDC)*
6. Shakera Crawley, *Families & Youth, Inc.*
7. Dr. Michael DeBernardi, PsyD, MS, *The Life Link*
8. Jessica Delgado, *HopeWorks*
9. Brenda Dunn, *New Mexico Lions Operation KidSight, Inc.*
10. David Elliot, *Holy Cross Medical Center*
11. Rebecca Evanko, *Wilderwood Equine Therapy and Rescue*
12. Priscilla Juarez and Elizabeth Muller, *UNM School-Based Health Center Program*
13. Christopher Lara Jr., *Memorial Medical Center*
14. Grace Vickers Lassiter, *Membres Memorial Hospital*
15. Nancy Laster, *Lovelace Medical Center*
16. Fatima McElveen, *Amador Health Center*
17. Lawrence Medina, *Rio Grande ATP*
18. Tram D Nguyen, *Presbyterian Healthcare Services. Paradise Urgent Care*
19. Blanca Pedigo, *East Central Ministries, which oversees and runs One Hope Centro de Vida Health Center*
20. Jackie Perez, *Centro Savila*
21. Elais Ponton, BSN RN, *Nurses With Heart Home Care*
22. Melissa Roberts, *Presbyterian Medical Services - Hobbs Family Health Center*
23. Rosita Rodriguez, *Las Cumbres Community Services*
24. Julissa Rubio, *Mountain View Hospital*
25. Leroy Silva, *Notah Begay III Foundation*
26. Gail Stamler, *Cassie Health Center for Women, Silver City, NM*
27. Tom Starke, *Santa Fe Recovery Center*

2019 HERO OF HEALTH

Recipient: Trinidad de Jesus Arguello, PhD., LCSW, PMHRN-BC-RN, Compostela Community and Family Cultural Institute

NOMINEES:

1. Michelle Allen, *Las Cruces Public Schools*
2. Lilly-Marie Blecher, *Taos Whole Health*
3. Enrique Cardiel, *Bernalillo County Community Health Council*
4. Mary Carter, *Women's Intercultural Center*
5. Jess Clark, *Solace Crisis Treatment Center*
6. Tina Cordova, *Tularosa Basin Downwinders Consortium*
7. Barbara Crowell Roy, *Eve's Fund for Native American Health Initiatives*
8. Megan Delano, *Las Cumbres Community Services*
9. Marisol Diaz-Bolivar, *The Center for Health Innovation*
10. Patti Farley, *Brews & Props (Angel Flight)*
11. Sharon Finarelli, *Appletree Network*
12. Jessica Frechette-Gutfreund, *Breath of My Heart Birthplace*
13. Christine S. Glidden, *Women to Be*

14. Allison Hendricks-Smith, *Pink Warrior House Foundation*
15. Lisa Jimenez, MD, *After Hours Pediatric*
16. Petra Jimenez-Maes, JD, *NM Supreme Court*
17. Bill Jordan, *NM Voices for Children*
18. Diana Kinney, *Northwest NM First Born*
19. Jacob Kualapai, *Dental Care In Your Home*
20. Marnella Kucate-Yepa, *Pueblo of Zuni*
21. Jennifer Landau, *New Mexico Immigrant Law Center*
22. Havens Levitt, *SAGE Albuquerque*
23. June L. Lorenzo, *Laguna-Acoma Coalition for a Safe Environment*
24. Shelley Mann-Lev, *New Mexico Public Health Association*
25. Holly Mata, PhD, *Adjunct Faculty NM State University and Univ. of Texas at El Paso*
26. Stephanie Michnovicz, *Cancer Services of New Mexico*
27. Roger Montoya, *Moving Arts Espanola*
28. Catherine A. Offutt, *Manage Your Chronic Disease (MyCD)*
29. Jackie Perez, *Centro Savila*
30. Veronica Plaza, *University of New Mexico*
31. Matt Probst, *El Centro Family Health*
32. Valerie Quintana, *Presbyterian Healthcare Services*
33. Lori Ray, *DOH Hobbs, Public Health Division*
34. Tomas Rivera, *Chainbreaker Collective*
35. Elba L. Saavedra- Ferrer, *Comadre A Comadre*
36. Kym Sanchez, *Not Forgotten Outreach, Inc.*
37. Arika E. Sanchez, *NMCAN*
38. Therese Sankovitz, *Albuquerque Speech Language Hearing Center*
39. Loretta Sesbeau, *ARCA*
40. Paula Smith, *My Power Inc.*
41. Edith Sparks, *Solace Crisis Treatment Center*
42. Phoebe Spencer, *My Power Inc.*
43. TBDC Steering Committee, *Tularosa Basin Down-winders Consortium*
44. Cynthia Tena, *Cibola General Hospital*
45. Terri Tewart, *Santa Fe Community College*
46. Jose Villegas, Jr., *State, County & FBI Law Enforcement*

2018 HERO OF HEALTH

Recipient: Thomas Faber, MD, MPH, Director, Zuni Youth Enrichment Project

NOMINEES

1. Amanda Trujillo-Gonzales, *McCurdy Ministries Community Center*
2. Bob Kristy, LSCW, *NMSIP/The Sky Center*
3. Sandy Dawson, RN, *Luna County Parents As Teachers*
4. Veronica Plaza, MD., MPH, *The University of New Mexico*
5. Charlie Alfero, *Southwest Center for Health Innovation*
6. Daniel Hena, *Tesuque Pueblo*
7. James Ziomek, MD, *Los Alamos Medical Care Clinic*
8. Barbara Nelson, *Imagination Library of Grant County, Inc.*
9. Suzanne Lawson, *SLC*
10. Olga Hernandez, *Strong Families New Mexico*
11. Colleen C. Dearmin, MSM, RN, *Solace Crisis Treatment Center*

12. Lewis Rosenthal, *Mt. Home Health – Hospice Division*
13. Nevin Marquez, *Hope Works*
14. Jesse Barnes, MD, *First Choice Community Health*
15. Stephanie Michnovicz, *Cancer Services of New Mexico*
16. Sunshine Muse, *NM Black Health*
17. Lynn Haynes, LCSW, *El Puente de Encuentros*
18. Allan Sanchez, *CHI St. Joseph's Children*
19. Michael C. Parks, J.D., *Senior Citizens' Law Office*
20. Michele Suina, PhD, *Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board*
21. Brenda Dunn, *New Mexico Lions Operation KidSight, Inc.*
22. Olivia Seppi, *Dona Ana County Head Start*
23. Juventino Vasquez, *Dona Ana County Head Start*
24. Esther Abeyta, *San Jose Neighborhood*
25. David A. Gonzales, MD, *Presbyterian Medical Services*
26. Stacy Keener, *Mental Health Resource*
27. Yolanda Diaz, *Cancer Aid Resource & Education (CARE)*
28. Mary Vallejos, *Dental Care in Your Home*
29. Nandini Pillai Kuehn, PhD, *Health Services Consulting*
30. Bill Jordan, *New Mexico Voices for Children*
31. Leslie Morrison, MD, *UNMH*
32. Glenn Banks, *Christus St. Vincent Sports Medicine*
33. Marcos Zubia, *Esperanza Shelter*
34. Lupe Salazar, *Barrios Unidos*
35. Karla Thornton, MD, MPH, *UNM Medical School and Project Echo*
36. Judith Pierce, MSN, RN, *Taos Public Health Office*
37. Tom Faber, MD, MPH, *Zuni Youth Enrichment Project*
38. Caren Gala, *Santa Fe Indian Center*
39. Janet Johnson, *Santa Clara Pueblo*
40. Siena Sanderson, *Las Cumbres Community Services*
41. Victoria VanDame, *The OT Circus*
42. Jenny Landen, PhD, Cand/RN, *Santa Fe Community College*
43. Jack Barrett, *Mountain Home Health Care*
44. Bud Hamilton, *Cancer Foundation for New Mexico*
45. Terri McCaslin, M.Ed., *Inside Out Recovery*
46. Claudia Medina, J.D., *Enlace Comunitario*
47. Adela Trujillo, *Community Action Agency of Southern NM*
48. Loretta Sesbeau, *ARCA*
49. Dolly Narang, *Pueblo de San Ildefonso*
50. Jan Rivera – Velasquez, *Guadalupe County Health Council*
51. Yolanda B. Cruz, *San Miguel County DWI Program*
52. Curtis Breitner, *Epilepsy Research Association*
53. Marsha McMurray – Avila, *Bernalillo County Community Health Council*
54. Ashley Armijo, *New Mexico Center for Therapeutic Riding*
55. Patricia Walsh, *New Mexico State Parks*
56. Mary Laumbach, *Harding Health Council*

2017 HERO OF HEALTH

Recipient(s):

Ophelia Reeder, Executive Director Behavioral, Health Substance Treatment Center
 Mary Stoecker, Health Promotion Specialist, New Mexico Department of Health (retired)

NOMINEES:

1. Trinidad de Jesus Arguello, PhD, *Compostela Community & Family Cultural Institute*

2. Alida Brown, *Quay County Health Council*
3. Neal Devitt, MD, *La Familia Medical Center*
4. Donald Clark, MD, *Brain Injury Alliance New Mexico*
5. Shirley A. Ellison, Ed.D, *American Diabetes Association*
6. Ron Hale, *NM Alliance of Health Councils*
7. Alisha Hawthorne-Martinez, *Second Chance Counseling, Coalition to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse*
8. Jeffrey Holland, *Endorphin Power Company*
9. Pixie Hopkins, *Nor-Lea Hospital District*
10. Erin Hourihan, *Childhaven, Inc.*
11. Donald Hume, *Molina Health Care*
12. Philip Jameson, MD, *Sandia Lab Health Management Clinic, Amer. Diabetes Assoc.*
13. Jennifer Landman, *Presbyterian Hospital*
14. Stephanie Gurule Leyba, *Santa Fe Public Schools- Capital High School*
15. Azul La Luz, PhD, *Nuevalight Enterprises*
16. James H. Lubowitz, MD, *Taos Orthopaedic Institute*
17. Michelle Melendez, *Rio Grande Community Development Corp.*
18. Andrés Mercado, *City of Santa Fe Fire Department*
19. Mary Meyer, *Kids Cook!*
20. Ana Morelos, *Las Cumbres Community Services*
21. Josue De Luna Navarro, *NM Dream Team/ United We Dream*
22. Aamna Nayyar, DDS, *Santa Fe Community College Dental Dept.*
23. Maria D. Otero, *Nuestra Salud*
24. Wanda Ross Padilla, DPA, *A Better Life Now*
25. Nick Pavlakos, *Share your Care Adult Day Services*
26. Allen Sanchez, *CHI St. Josephs Children*
27. Renee Sandoval, *Española YMCA Teen Center*
28. Adrienne R. Smith, *New Mexico Direct Care Givers Coalition*
29. Lisa D. Thompson, *Lea Regional Medical Center*
30. Donna Ortiz & Judith Trujillo, *UNM Robertson High School*

2016 HERO OF HEALTH

Recipient(s): Douglas Meiklejohn, Executive Director, NM Environmental Law Center
 Lauren Reichelt, Director, Rio Arriba County Department of Health & Human Services

NOMINEES:

Angie Sanchez Corral	Bob Kristy
Huong Nguyen	Tina Cordova
Sharlene Rogers, RN, CDE	Jerry Ortiz y Pino
Ben Sandoval	Kristine M. Meurer
Sarah Lee	Dr. Neal Devitt & Dr. Paula Devitt
Jennifer Landau	Megan Delano
Joe Martinez	Peggy Gutjahr
Cathy Elliott	Sunshine Muse
Seferino Montano	Alan Day
Kathleen Holmes Cates	Janette Segura
Yvonne Gomez	Mary Stoecker

2015 Hero of Health

Recipient: Mr. Kim Posich, Executive Director of New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty

NOMINEES:

Pamela L. Angell	Lynn Walters
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Carlos Flores
Felipe Ortega
Ralph Moya
Alice Ka-hee
Mandy Pino
Lauraliz Morales
LeAnne Parsons
Mary Carter
Lexie Shabel
Dr. Mark Bjorklund

Elba Saavedra
Dr. Javier Aceves
Susan Wilger
Carolyn Roberts MSN, RN
Anzia Bennett
Amy Gundelach, RN, BSN, OCN
Kim Posich
Dr. Daniel Meehan
Eliseo Torres

2014 Hero of Health

Recipient: Vicki Johnson, resident of Silver City and founder of the First Born Program

Nominees:

Aggie Olsen
Jane McGrath, MD, FAAP
Chi-Hsin Chang
Delfinia Romero
Penny Carroll
Art Tangen
Jinlen Silver

Matias Vega, MD
Dr. Sue Forster-Cox
Harriet Mandy Pino
Stephanie Michnovicz
Roxane Spruce Bly
Representative Michael Padilla
Representative Kelly Fajardo

2013 Hero of Health

Recipient: Juliana Anastasoff, Picuris-Peñasco Valley resident and UNM Health Extension Rural Officer, Taos

Nominees:

Dr. Ruth Bernal
Dr. Samuel A. Berne
Roxane Spruce Bly
Bette J. Ciesielski
Kimberley Craft
Robert M. Crowell
Luke Esquibel
Glenn Ford
Mary Gilliland
Susan Gonzales
Arthur Kaufman, MD

Jahaan Martin
Joe Martinez
Patty Morris, Ph.D.
Mike Nunez
Jane Peacock
Dorothy Portillo
Dr. Camila Romero
Allen Sanchez
Rebecca Trujillo
Susie Trujill

2012 Hero of Health

Recipients: Chuck Howe, President, National Veterans Wellness and Healing Center & Rebecca Palacios, PhD, Assistant Professor, Public Health Sciences, New Mexico State University

Senator Dede Feldman (*Honorary Hero of Health*) for her works as a public champion for health and health care in our state since she was first elected to the New Mexico Legislature in 1997.

Nominees:

Deborah Armstrong
Barbara Blair
Kathleen Holmes Cates
Marisa DenBaars
Linda Dickson
Susan Herrera
Meriam Jawhar
Richard Kozoll, MD, MPH

Mary Ellen Lopez
Robert T. Maruca
Erin Mollett
Mary M. Ramos, MD, MPH, FAAP
Dalia Romero
Mary Ann Shaening, Ph.D.
Lisa Cacari Stone
Melanie Velasquez

2011 Heroes of Health

Recipients: Kristine Suozzi, Public Health Advocate, New Mexico Health Equity Working Group

Linda Lane Rigsby - *Special Award (posthumous)*, Advocate for Health Resources who helped found Con Alma Health Foundation and establish our Community Advisory Council. (*Linda's award was accepted by her husband David Rigsby, who designated the \$1,000 contribution for Planned Parenthood of NM.*)

Nominees:

Glenys Carl, Executive Director, Coming Home Connection
Gail Evans, Legal Director, New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty
Dr. Warren Graham, Corporate Dental Director, Presbyterian Medical Services
Barry MacIntosh, Program Director, Planned Parenthood of New Mexico
Sylvia Ruiz, Executive Director, New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition
Chris Shuey, Director, Uranium Impact Assessment Project, Southwest Research & Info Center
Mary Zouhar, Respite Care volunteer at the Metropolitan Homelessness Project, Albuquerque

2010 Hero of Health

Recipient: Mario Pacheco, M.D., Pojoaque Primary Care & Northern New Mexico Residency Program

Nominees:

Jane Batson, Eastern New Mexico University, Roswell
David Bouquin
Bill Humphries, Presbyterian Medical Services
Marvel Kellogg, Ph.D.
Edward Kleiner, M.D., Arroyo Chamisa
Blair Larson, Cancer Services of New Mexico
Wendy Marcus
Azucena Molinar, East Central Ministries
Ellen Morris, Self Help
Linda Simon, La Buena Vida, Inc.
Sid Singer, Ph.D.
Shirley Villegas, New Mexico Family Network

2009 Heroes of Health – (Inaugural Class of Heroes)

Recipients: All selected

Robert Benon, Teen Health Centers, Presbyterian Medical Services
Mary Louise Romero Betancourt, Juvenile Justice Monitoring Program, 1st Judicial District
Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM)
Monica Leyba, Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center
Larry Martinez, North Central Region, Presbyterian Medical Services
Patricia Montoya, New Mexico Medical Resources Association
Winthrop “Win” Quigley, Albuquerque Journal
Dolores E. Roybal, Con Alma Health Foundation
Fred Sandoval, Income Support Division, NM Human Services Department
Cynthia Simonetti, Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center
Eliseo Torres, Ph.D, University of New Mexico
Bert Umland, M.D., Presbyterian Medical Services
Facundo Valdez, (retired), founder and director, Social Work Department, NMHU
Alfredo Vigil, M.D. Secretary, NM Department of Health

09/08/2022 DJM