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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 18, 2025**



### **NCNMEDD Welcomes Santiago Chavez as New Executive Director**

**Santa Fe, NM** – The North Central New Mexico Economic Development District (NCNMEDD) is pleased to announce the hiring of Santiago Chavez as its incoming Executive Director. Chavez joined NCNMEDD on August 25, 2025 and will be transitioning alongside current Executive Director Monica Abeita through September 30, 2025.

Chavez brings more than two decades of leadership in state and local government, finance, and public service. Most recently, he served for over five years as a Director at the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, where he led the Audit and Compliance Division, overseeing the administration of more than 40 tax programs. Prior to that, he directed the Property Tax Division, working closely with all counties across New Mexico to support and administer the Property Tax Code.

His extensive career also includes key leadership positions in local government and statewide organizations, including:

- Chief of Staff/Deputy Chief Administrative Officer to the Mayor of Albuquerque
- Director of Finance and Administrative Services for the New Mexico Association of Counties
- Municipal Treasurer/Finance Director at the Town of Bernalillo
- Staff at the New Mexico Finance Authority

In addition, Chavez has several years of corporate accounting experience with PNM and is a proud U.S. Army veteran, having served honorably in the 82nd Airborne Division.

A lifelong learner and leader, Chavez holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Business Administration as well as a Master's in Accounting, all from the University of New Mexico.

"I am thrilled about the opportunity to continue my public service with NCNMEDD and to support the vital services we provide to the communities of North Central New Mexico," said Chavez.

NCNMEDD and its Board of Directors extend their gratitude to Monica Abeita for her dedicated leadership and service, and they look forward to a seamless transition as Chavez steps into the role of Executive Director.

**About NCNMEDD:**

Established in 1967, the North Central New Mexico Economic Development District is a Council of Governments that provides professional assistance to its member counties and municipalities. NCNMEDD serves as a crucial resource for community and economic development projects, transportation planning, and senior services through the Non-Metro Area Agency on Aging.

**Contact:**

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