

NORTH CENTRAL NEW MEXICO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT



Message from Executive Director Monica Abeita

The start of our new fiscal year is ushering in good news and new opportunities for the region. This month, we announce our region's first two awards for U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) CARES Act funding to the Jicarilla Apache Nation and Rio Arriba County. We also received notice of a new round of EDA funding through the American Rescue Plan (ARP). For the ARP funds, we will be in touch with communities that have been working with us on EDA projects to date. Our staff is here to discuss new projects with you, as well.

On the state level, we are here to assist you with your Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plans (ICIPs). Please reach out to me or new Community Development Director, Chris Madrid, for assistance in the weeks ahead.

Our next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for August 27, 2021 at 1:30 pm. We will hold this meeting virtually due to the rise in COVID-19 transmission. I look forward to seeing you all then!

Best Regards,

Monica Abeita

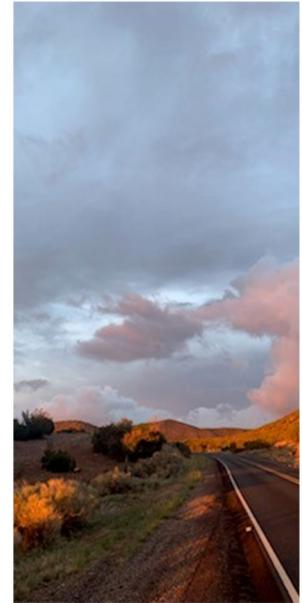
Inside NCNMEDD

EDA Awards Two Grants to North Central NM

July has brought the announcements of two Economic Development Administration Grants to the North Central region. On July 6, 2021 EDA and the Department of Commerce announced \$820,550 in grant funding to the Jicarilla Apache Nation in Dulce, NM. These dollars are being used to provide technical assistance and program funding for the creation of an inter-tribal energy resource council. With the support from both Senator Heinrich and Senator Ben Ray Lujan, Congresswoman Leger-Fernandez, and the acting federal Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, this investment could not come at a better time for New Mexico and the region. Read more about the Jicarilla project in the EDA's official press release [here](#).

Rio Arriba County received the second EDA grant for \$1 million to renovate the historic Espanola high school campus built in 1922. These renovations will support a workforce training facility for future plumbers and pipefitters. Through the CARES program, these funds were made available to ensure a more diversified future workforce for Espanola, Rio Arriba County, and the North Central region. To read more about the New Mexico congressional delegation's support for this project and information about other CARES funded awards throughout the United States, click [here](#).

NCNMEDD takes great pride in the work of our local governments on behalf of the constituents they serve in the wake of recovery from the pandemic. NCNMEDD will continue to act as an advisor and conduit for EDA grants and funds as new notices of funding opportunity are released. See page two of our newsletter for information about American Rescue Plan grant opportunities and how our office can assist in the application process.



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Transportation Updates

Local governments in the North Central region have taken the first steps to applying for three federal transportation funding sources, Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Recreational Trails Program (RTP), and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program, as part of a coordinated call for applications from NMDOT. NCNEMEDD staff are coordinating site visits and application development, with the goal of bringing more transportation and recreation funding to the region. This call is for funding for federal fiscal years 2023 and 2024. The application process continues through the summer, with NMDOT's selection process continuing into 2022, and award letters expected in March 2022.

There is another state funding opportunity open now, for the 2021 Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant. The deadline to apply is August 31, 2021, by 5 pm MT, and applications are [submitted online here](#). There is a limit of one application per entity.

This grant invests in shovel-ready infrastructure projects that enhance outdoor recreation opportunities in communities across the state. Thanks to the support of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and state lawmakers, funding for the Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant has grown to \$500,000. Grants of \$5,000 to \$25,000 will be awarded to Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations; municipalities; counties; nonprofits; public preschools, schools and districts; colleges and universities; soil and water conservation districts; and acequia associations. A one to one match is required, and in-kind and/or cash match are accepted. Other grants (state and federal) can also be used as a match. Additional guidance and information is [available here](#).

Last year, the state granted Outdoor Recreation Trails+Grant funds to six projects for a total of \$77,689. Combined, these projects will create almost 100 full-time, part-time, and seasonal jobs over the next two years and generate an additional \$304,353 in matching assistance. [Learn more about last year's recipients](#), including Santa Clara Pueblo and the Village of Taos Ski Valley, who are using these funds to improve existing recreation spaces.

If you'd like support in applying for this or other transportation funding opportunities, please contact Paul Sittig at PaulS@ncnmedd.com or call him at 505-356-9694.



EDA Announces New Funding Opportunities

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) announced six new funding opportunities on June 23, 2021. The total of \$3 billion in funding targets specific sectors of economic development such as job creation and regional economic development planning.

Build Back Better Recovery Grant— In support of regional growth clusters, this grant works to transform regional economies through groups of complementary, aligned construction and non-construction projects. Build Back Better projects will have two application phases, one for technical assistance and one for implementation.

Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant—Similar to the traditional PWEAA program, this grant will fund construction and non-construction projects to focus on workforce and economic development. The Austin Regional office of EDA that oversees funds for New Mexico was allocated \$63,792,927.

Good Jobs Challenge—This national challenge focuses on the jobs ecosystem in a region and looks to provide funds for programming to support the pipeline for workers and employers. These funds may not be used for construction costs.

Indigenous Communities Grant—This grant is designed to support indigenous communities as they respond to, and recover from, the economic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, including long-term recovery and resilience to future economic disasters.

Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Grant — This program focuses on funding travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation projects. State and local tourism promotion and marketing projects are not eligible under this NOFO. New Mexico has been granted \$7,939,998 in noncompetitive funding through this program.

Statewide Planning, Research and Networks Grant— Up to \$1 million in noncompetitive statewide planning grants, allocated to states to plan recovery efforts on a state level. Research and Communities of Practice Challenge grants will be a competitive process to focus on development of community and economic recovery.

For more information on EDA's new programs and other state and federal funding opportunities visit [our website](#) or contact Economic Development Planner, [Alison Turner](#) at (505) 716-5580, or Disaster Recovery Coordinator, [Kenny Pin](#) at (505) 356-9098.

Upcoming Webinars:

Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant Q&A Sessions:

Dates/Times in blue will link to webinar registration page.

[Wednesday, August 4, 2021—10am](#)

[Wednesday, August 25, 2021—3pm](#)

ICIP and Capital Outlay:

ICIP 101—

Friday, July 30, 2021 • 10am-12pm

Capital Outlay Process—

Thursday, August 5, 2021 • 10am-12pm

Community Development Block

Grant Opportunities—

Wednesday, August 11, 2021 • 10am-12pm

Register here:

[2021 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan \(ICIP\) Virtual Training Series 1 \(google.com\)](#)

Welcoming a new NCNMEDD Community Development Director

NCNMEDD announced this month a change in our Community Development Director. After 14 years of service on NCNMEDD's staff and six years as an Executive Committee member, Director Lesah Sedillo will retire on July 31, 2021. Her diligent work supported communities and counties with legislative priorities and helped them secure project funding, keeping everyone informed about new opportunities and requirements. Lesah worked with transportation planning, community development, and with NCNMEDD's Area Agency on Aging, and always went above and beyond to serve the North Central region. We wish Lesah all the best in her retirement.

During our June Board meeting, Executive Director Monica Abeita announced our new Community Development Director, Christopher Madrid. Christopher has been working in economic development in northern New Mexico for over 20 years. He was the founder and served as a board member of the Taos Entrepreneurial Network for many years and comes to us most recently from serving as the Economic Development Director for Rio Arriba County. In addition to all of his economic development experience, Christopher also sat on the NCNMEDD board for around three years. We look forward to his expertise for our region and invite you to reach out to him to congratulate him on his new role and to ask any questions. He can be reached via email at chrism@ncnmedd.com or by phone at (505) 920-9257.

NCNMEDD Loan Programs Defederalized

On May 3, 2021, the federal Economic Development Administration approved NCNMEDD's ability to defederalize our participating Revolving Loan Fund. This will reduce the regulatory burdens for both borrowers and NCNMEDD and provide a more efficient process to more borrowers going forward. Defederalization will also reduce interest rates and improve leverage ratios and matching fund requirements for our borrowers. During the life of the funds, this initial investment has allowed NCNMEDD to lend almost \$3.5 million to 49 firms. Projects have generated \$15 million of business development activity and have created and retained over 1,000 jobs created in the region. We expect these provisions will help us get needed funding to our local businesses more efficiently, as we continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and work together to create an environment for new businesses to flourish

Working Now Loan Limit Increased

At their July meeting, the NCNMEDD Executive Committee approved increased the lending cap of the Working Now loan program to \$25,000. These funds, backed by an EDA CARES grant, are available to small businesses in the NCNMEDD region for relief from the impacts of COVID-19. In addition to the increase to the loan amount, funds are now available for small business owners in Sandoval county, outside of Rio Rancho. If you are a small business owner looking for additional assistance, or if you know someone who may be eligible, please visit our website or contact our Economic Development Planner, Alison Turner by email at alisont@ncnmedd.com or phone at (505) 716-5580.

Working Now Loans Now Available

Working Now loans are available to help small businesses affected by the pandemic with expenses like payroll, rent, inventory, marketing, ecommerce development, personal protective equipment and small capital improvements.

Our maximum loan amount has been increased to \$25,000. The *Working Now* loan process is simple and straightforward. Our office is here to help you every step of the way.

For more information or to submit an application, please visit www.ncnmedd.com/rif or contact Alison Turner at (505)-716-5580 or alisont@ncnmedd.com



Available Positions with NCNMEDD

[Disaster Recovery Coordinator](#)

This position will help the NCNMEDD region recover from the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic by assisting with business recovery efforts, resiliency planning, economic diversification, and project management.

[NonMetro AAA VISTA Member](#)

The AmeriCorps VISTA program works across the US on anti-poverty efforts. NonMetro AAA is hiring a VISTA to address gaps in food security, healthcare, and transportation systems and services. Contact [Crystal Sanchez](#) for more information.

[Transportation Intern](#)

NCNMEDD Interns are individuals pursuing higher education in fields related to NCNMEDD programs. We are hiring an intern to assist with regional planning, grant writing, and implementation of Regional Transportation Work Programs. [Paul Sittig](#) for more information.

All job postings can be found at the [NCNMEDD website](#).



Local Government Resources

[American Rescue Plan Fact Sheet](#)— American Rescue Plan aid to state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments can be difficult to navigate. The [ARP fact sheet](#) and [FAQ](#) has been updated as of **June 24, 2021** to help define what can and cannot be funded using aid dollars and sheds light on additional programs that may supplement these funds. If you have questions about how to best use your locally allocated funds we encourage you to reach out to [Kenny Pin](#), Disaster Recovery Coordinator, for assistance.

Funding Opportunities—Loans

These loan products will help our local businesses through the recovery by allowing them to provide a safe working environment, attract and retain employees, and stay current on their bills.

[NCNMEDD Working Now Loan](#)

The Working Now Revolving Loan Fund offers interest-deferred loans up to \$25,000 to pandemic-impacted businesses in the counties of Colfax, Los Alamos, Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Taos, and Sandoval outside of Rio Rancho. Businesses in need of additional funding can contact [Alison Turner](#) at (505) 716-5580 for more information.

[NMFA Small Business Recovery Loan Fund](#)

New Mexico owned businesses with net revenue of less than \$5 million that have experienced a decline in revenue or disruption due to the coronavirus pandemic are eligible to apply for loans of up to three times their average monthly business expenses at a 1.625% interest rate.

[Community Facilities Loan Program](#)

The Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) offers loans up to \$10,000 for early property acquisition, predevelopment, interim construction costs and long-term permanent financing. Nonprofit organizations, public agencies and tribal governments are eligible to apply. Contact [Georgianne McConnell](#) at (916) 917-4319 for more information.

Funding Opportunities—Grants

Grant funding opportunities provide needed investments for future local government projects. NCNMEDD will continue to maintain an updated list of existing state and federal grants along with related information provided by the granting agencies. If you have questions about any of the following opportunities contact [Alison Turner](#) at (505) 716-5580.

[RDC's Tribal Economic Diversity Fund](#)

Deadline: August 2, 2021

Any business owned by a federally recognized Indian tribe or by an enrolled member(s) of a federally recognized Indian tribe of one of the eight northern pueblos can apply for a grant to pay for critical technical services or equipment to diversify a product line, decrease costs, increase revenues and/or add jobs. Awards are made on a first come, first served basis and this year's award size is between \$1,000 and \$8,000.

[Consolidated Appropriations NTIA Grants—Broadband Infrastructure Program](#)

Deadline: August 17, 2021

The Broadband Infrastructure Program, Tribal Connectivity Program, and Connecting Minority Communities Program from the National Telecommunications & Information Administration is now available! These grants are eligible for covered partnerships - a partnership between a State or one or more political subdivisions of a State and a provider of fixed broadband service. For more information on the grants see the link above and to prepare for planning a community broadband roadmap see [this presentation](#).

[NM Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#)

Deadline: September 30, 2021

Rental and utility assistance is available for unpaid, current or future payments for households who are obligated to pay rent on a residential dwelling.

[FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit](#)

Applications will be accepted until funds are no longer available

The Emergency Broadband Benefit helps households pay for internet service and hardware during the pandemic. This benefit provides a discount of up to \$50 towards one month of broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase eligible computer hardware.

[SBA Shuttered Venue Operators \(SVO\) Grant Program](#)

Applications will be accepted until funds are no longer available

Over \$16 billion in grants is available to shuttered live operators, theaters, live performing arts spaces, museums, zoos, and eligible talent representatives. Grants are available for either 45% of 2019 gross earned revenue or \$10 million, whichever is less.

[Loans and Grants for Small Businesses](#)

While the PPP and Restaurant Revitalization programs are now closed, this website highlights programs that are still available such as the EIDL Advance Program and the Community Navigator Pilot Program.

Other Grant Finding Resources

- [The Grant Plant Inc. COVID-19 Emergency Grants](#)
- [Covid-Cap online Database of recovery resources](#)
- [NM Grant Makers Association](#)
- [State and Federal Grants Advisory](#)
- [GrantStation Database of COVID-19 Related Grant Opportunities](#)

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