



New Mexico Health Equity Partnership

Our Purpose: The New Mexico Health Equity Partnership (HEP) has four core partners and over 90 network members across New Mexico. HEP strengthens the capacity of communities to shift power relations and advocate for policy and systems change.

Shared Value: HEP believes every New Mexican should have the opportunity to lead a healthy life, to live in neighborhoods where our children and families thrive and have a say in the decisions that impact their communities and their lives.

Approach: We support community members to be their own champions to ensure residents have a powerful voice and seat at the table. Many people have not historically had a say in the decisions that impact their

neighborhoods not because they don't care, but because they haven't been given an opportunity. We work with residents to share their ideas and transform how decisions are made so the processes, and decisions themselves, center the perspectives/lived experiences of people most impacted. We utilize creative and accessible engagement strategies so families of all ages (i.e. children to elders) can participate. By supporting communities to develop their own solutions, HEP serves as crucial New Mexico health equity infrastructure.

Strategies: HEP utilizes three strategies to ensure every New Mexican has opportunity to succeed and live a healthy life. HEP:

- Provides funding, training and training for **community-driven research** where communities deepen knowledge of root causes and develop recommendations that ensure children's well-being is central to decision making. One tool HEP utilizes is called Health Impact Assessment. HIA helps to make the connections between policies, focused on food, built environment, etc. and community health.
- **Foster relations** among HEP partners, leverage resources, and promote cross-community learning and action via gatherings and communications platforms.
- Provide **resources to increase capacity** of three place-based teams in Doña Ana, McKinley, and San Juan counties for their communities to move issues forward that matter to them and improve well-being.

