

# EngAGE New Mexico: Promoting and Strengthening Grantmaking in New Mexico to support an Aging Population



March 2013



*Celebrating 20 years of philanthropy in New Mexico | 1991-2011*



*2005 – Present*

# ***AGING IN NEW MEXICO***



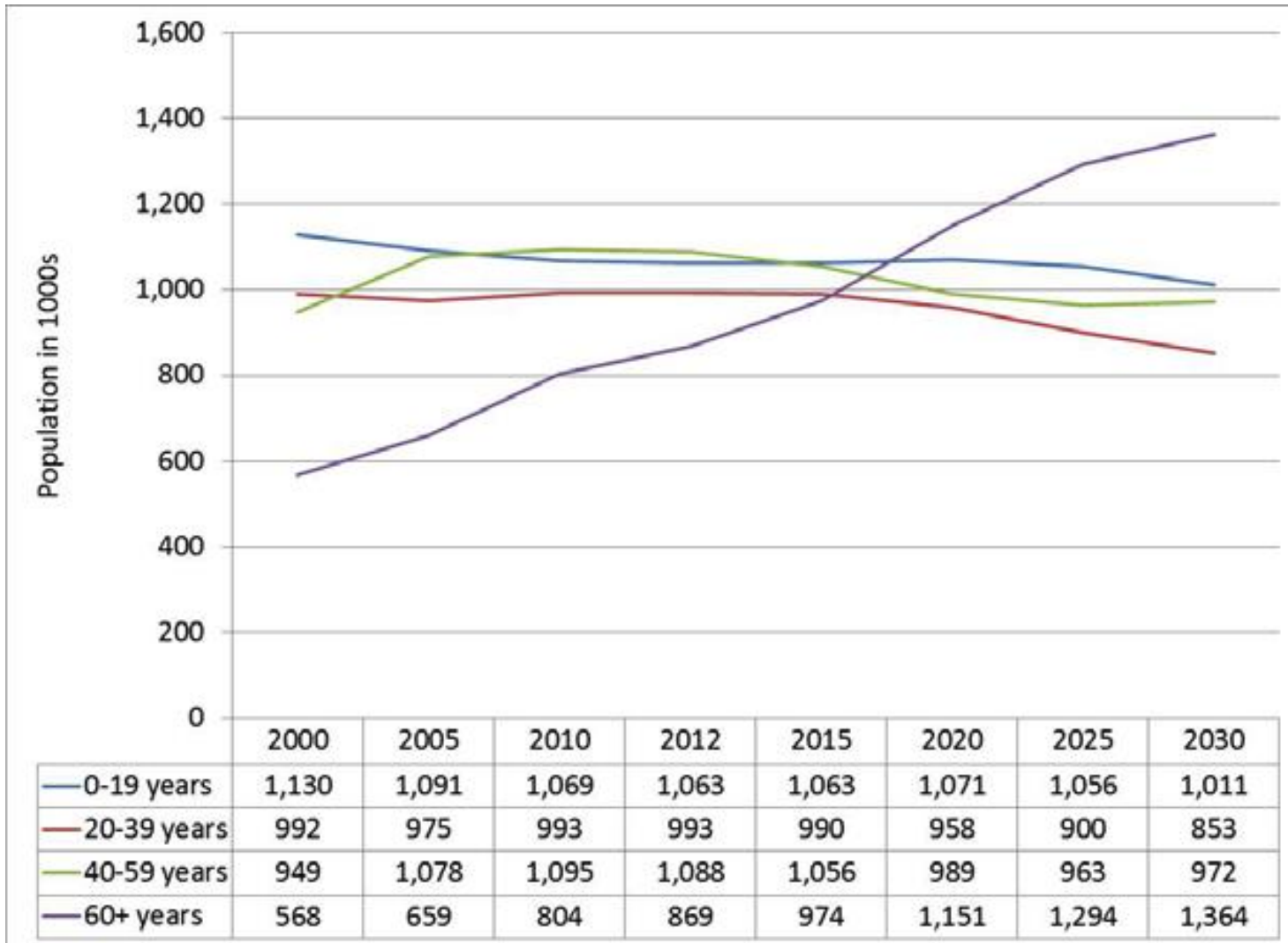
*To promote the independence and dignity of adults and persons living with disabilities, and their families, by offering services that support autonomy, health, safety, economic well-being, cultural diversity, community involvement and personal responsibility, thereby enabling them to live on their own terms in their own communities.*



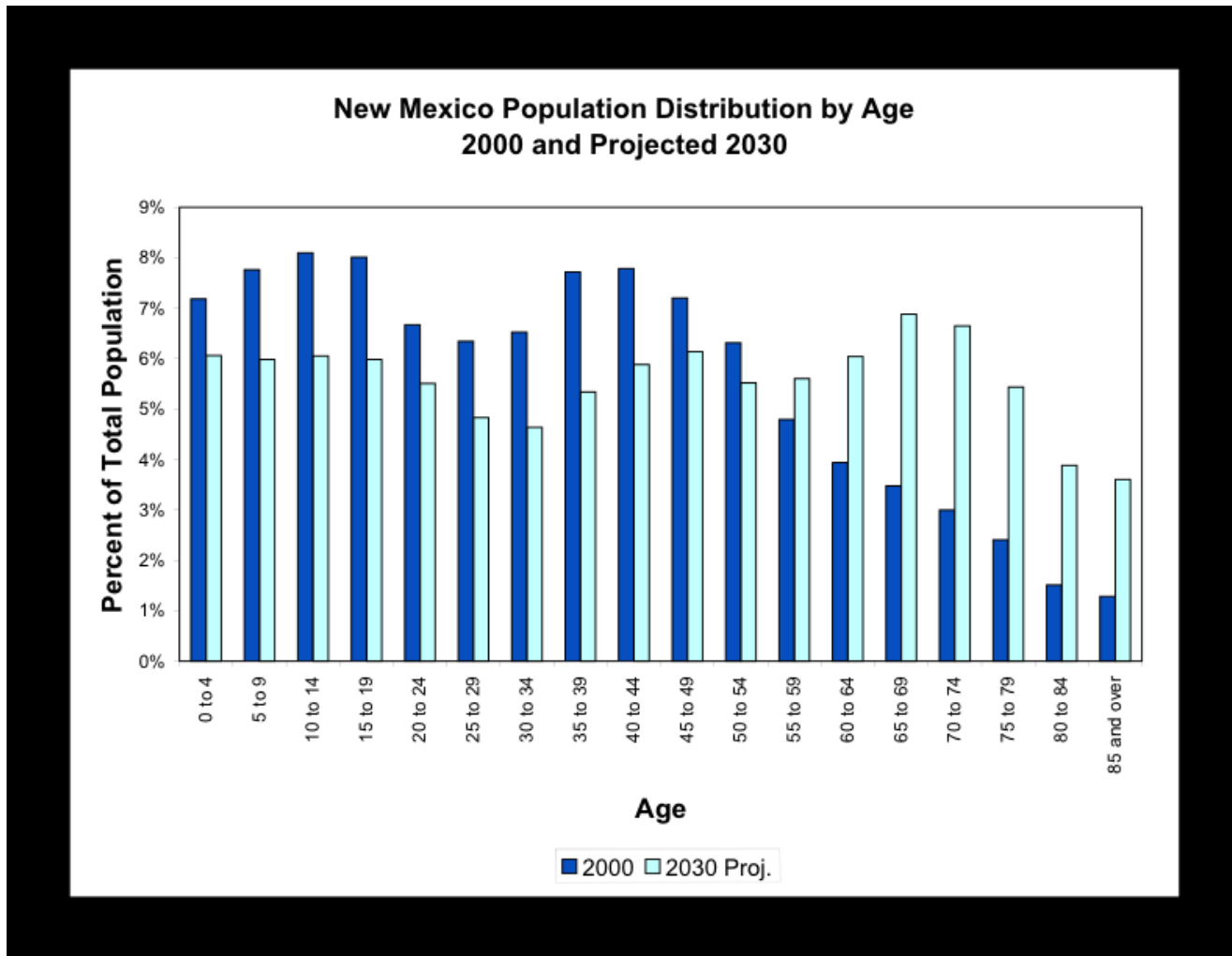
# *Aging in NM*

*New Mexico is projected to experience a rapid growth in the percent of its population over 65, moving it from a state with one of the lowest percentages of elders to having one of the highest by the year 2030 (2012 Census).*

# Aging in NM



*“What's happening in New Mexico's rural counties is reflected throughout the West and the Plains states — young people move out, leaving an aging population.”—Jack Baker, UNM Demographer*



## Our Elders Are Living On the Edge



- **1 in 8 older New Mexicans do not know where their next meal is coming from.**
- **Close to 1/3 of New Mexicans are living on social security income alone-averaging \$13,000/year.**
- **Of adults between the ages of 55 and 64, 13% reported frequent mental distress, 16% had diagnosed anxiety disorders, and 23% have a history of depression.**
- **It is projected that the need for substance misuse treatment for people over the age of 50 will double by the year 2020.**

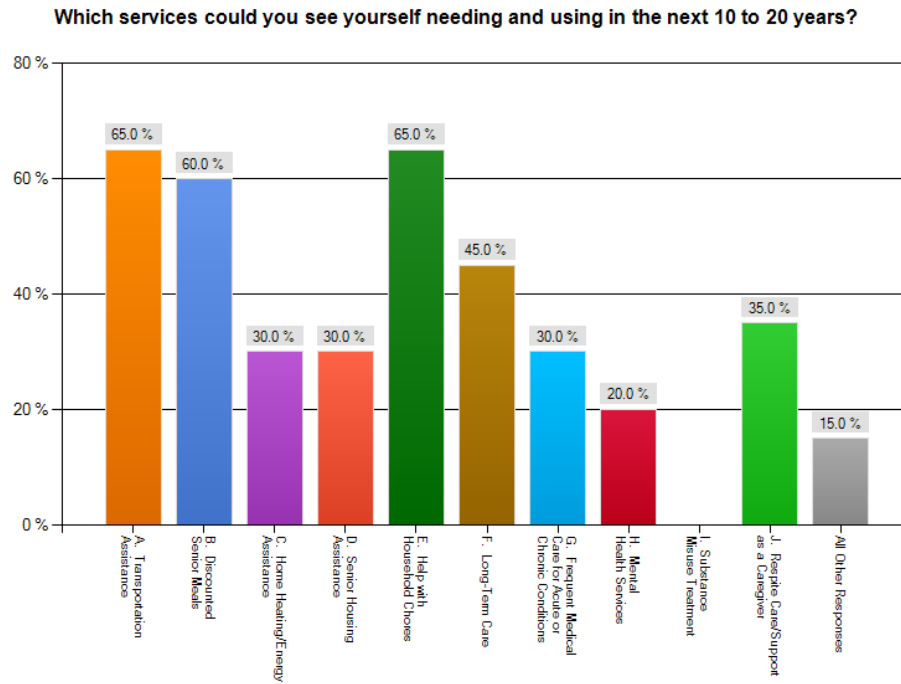


# Our Next Generation of Elders: What are their Needs & Preferences?





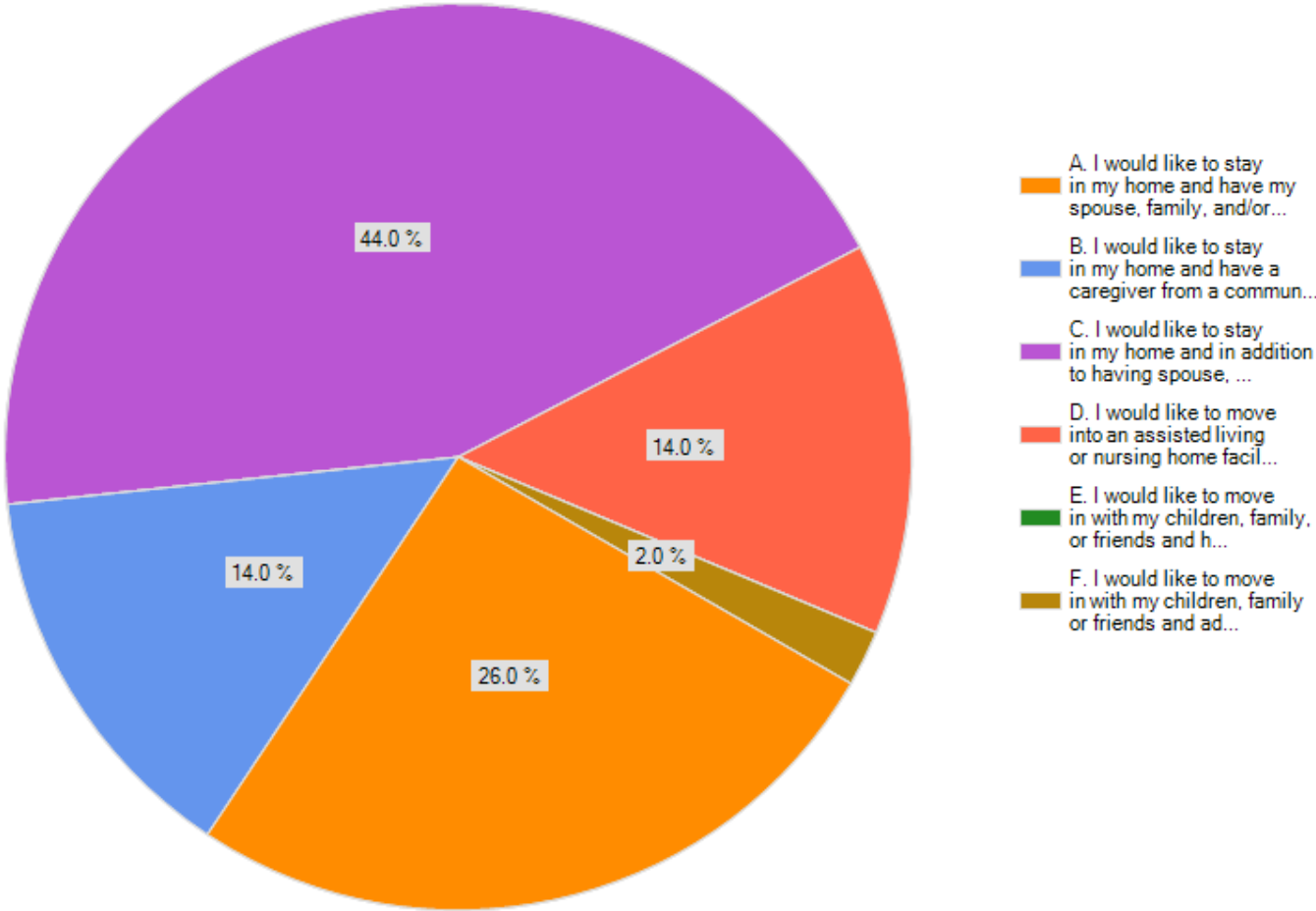
# What services could you see yourself needing in the next 10 -20 years?



Food  
Transportation  
Household Chores  
Home heating/energy assistance  
Respite  
Long-term care

# Long-term care options – Aging in Place

If a medical event occurred sometime in the next 10 to 20 years and made it unlikely that you would be able to take care of yourself fully again, which option would you prefer? (All Respondents)



## Gaps in Services



- Respite & support for caregivers
- Financial literacy
- Resource coordination, i.e. how to navigate and apply for services in the complex long-term care system
- Support and training for elder advocates
- Access to home and community-based services
- Reliable transportation options
- Consistent support from the local community & government

*52% of grandparents living with their grandkids also have primary responsibility for taking care of them (US Census Bureau).*



*“I have four grandkids I take care of...Two go to school, three get picked up, and this is how I call it, I drop two kids off, I pick up three. I pick up three, I pick up four. I drop 4, I pick up 1...[My kids] call me, 'Mom can you pick up [my granddaughter], she's not feeling well.' I'll go to the school to pick them up. I'm a grandma on call”. – Tewa Elder*



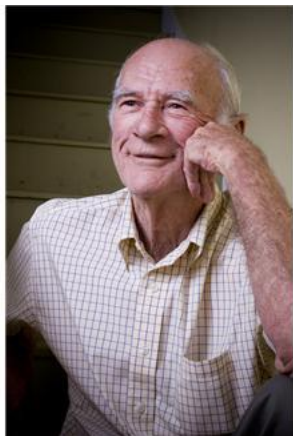


*“.....there are gaps in knowledge among youth and elders alike. We need education, workshops and mentoring opportunities where people can have the opportunity to learn planning, budgeting, saving, fiscal discipline and responsibility.”*



*“it must be hard for seniors in their 80s trying to figure out complicated automated phone lines for Social Security and Medicare.”*

*"If something goes wrong [health wise] then I can't pay it like I used to.”*

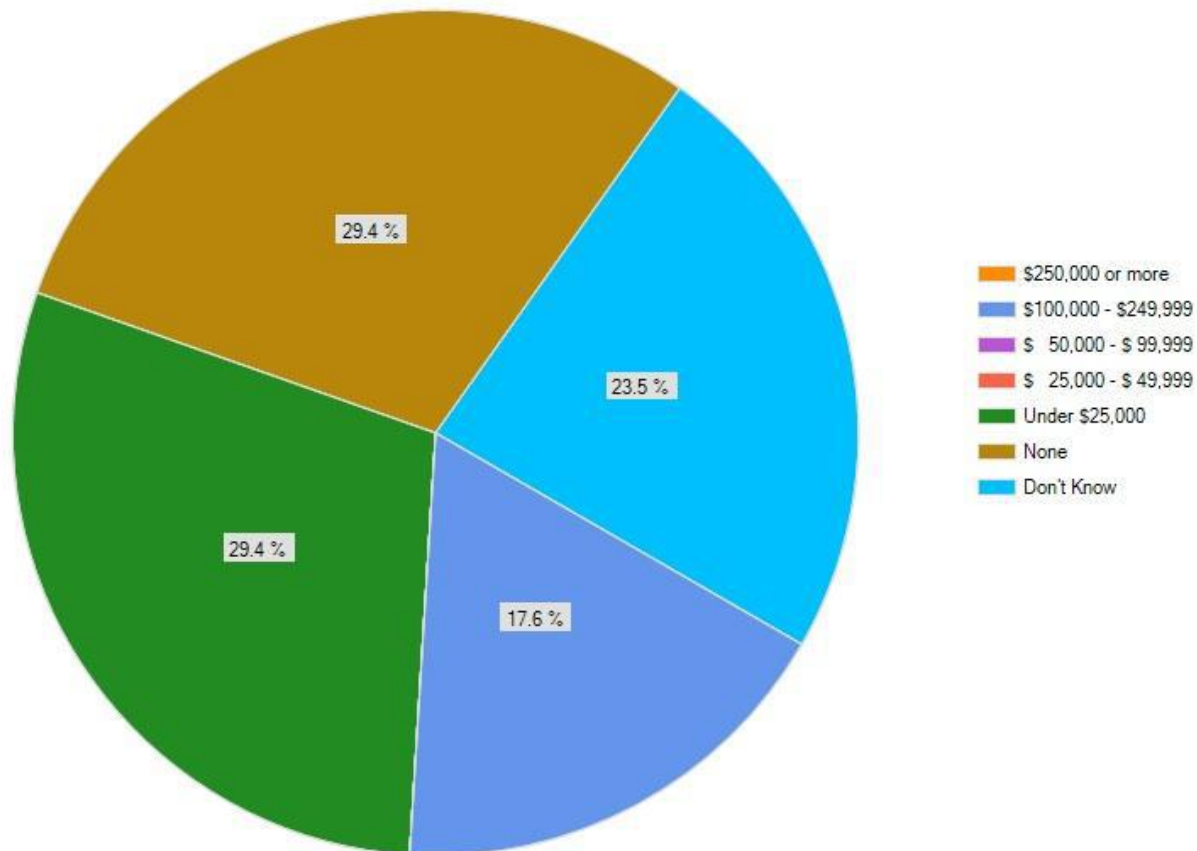


*“They live in a different world than we do,” a 71-year-old woman said. “I wish they could stick around long enough to see what the real world was like... they don't have a clue.”*

*“sometimes they get left behind if they can't leave their houses.”*

# NM Funder Survey

What is your organization's estimated grantmaking, SPECIFIC TO AGING PROGRAMS OR ISSUES, for 2011?



## Funder's Awareness and Priorities

- 63% of those surveyed indicated that they are interested in learning more about how aging issues are impacting their community
- 53% indicating they are interested in how aging issues could impact their current grantmaking priorities.
- Most all respondents indicated that information about aging issues would be helpful to their board of directors/trustees, staff, grantmaking committees, donors and or advisors.



## Recommendations – Partnerships to Develop Solutions

Build new public-private partnerships stewarded by the philanthropic sector - build a coalition of funders that would enhance the impact of grantmaking to better support New Mexico's aging population.



## Recommendations, cont.

- Develop a clearinghouse of aging related information;
- Build learning modules for funders on promising aging practices/successful programs, demographics/statistics, research, how aging is impacting Native American populations or communities of color, and regional and/or local implications;
- Convene funders to learn and have a common discussion;
- Conducting trainings for applicants on how to apply for aging related funding;
- Identify what community-based organizations are exceedingly interested in supporting elders, but lack the resources, training, and structure to do so effectively; and,
- Develop funding initiatives to encourage local and national funders to support aging in New Mexico.

*Together we can learn about the trends and needs of our elders, develop innovative solutions and strategies, expand a network of partnerships between the public and the private sector, and strengthen New Mexico communities of elders.*



# Values as Expressed by New Mexican Elders and Caregivers

**Independence**

**Dignity**

**Consistency**

**Certainty**

**Choice**

**Accountability**

**Connection**

**Family**

**Community**

**Communication**

**Civic Engagement**

**Education**

**Empowerment**

**Simplification**

**Wellness (mind, body, spirit)**

**Reliability**

**Privacy**

**“Regardless of your funding interests, older adults are increasingly relevant to your work as funders. The "graying" of America promises dramatic change in every aspect of American life and across the spectrum of your funding interests, whether it be the arts, environment, health, neighborhoods, social services, education, or children, youth and families.” – Grantmakers in Aging**



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