

## CON ALMA HEALTH FOUNDATION

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### **White House Invites Con Alma Health Foundation to Present at Rural Health-Care Meeting Meeting Aims to Improve Rural Health Care**

(Santa Fe) – Con Alma Health Foundation’s executive director will be one of the presenters at a White House-sponsored forum on how to improve access and quality of health care to rural residents. White House Rural Council, in partnership with Grantmakers in Health and the National Rural Health Association, invited Dolores E. Roybal to attend and present at the philanthropic stakeholder meeting on Opportunities for Collaboration in Rural Health Care in Washington D.C. July 22 and 23.

Con Alma Health Foundation, New Mexico’s largest private foundation dedicated solely to health, is recognized nationally as a model foundation because of its ability to leverage resources and collaborate throughout the state and country to improve health in New Mexico. In all of Con Alma’s work, including its grants to nonprofits, special initiatives and outreach efforts, Con Alma’s goal is to help New Mexico achieve health equity, in which everyone has an equal chance at living a healthy life.

“We are honored and excited to be involved with national efforts that aim to enhance public-private collaboration to support rural communities nationwide,” said Roybal, a resident and native of rural Española valley. “This is especially important since New Mexico is largely a rural state.”

Con Alma has done extensive outreach and education work on federal health care reform, including bringing people together for educational, collaborative meetings across the state and publishing reports outlining changes for specific populations. Roybal will join Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky and Health Resources and Services Administration in the U.S. Health and Human Services Department to talk about coverage expansion and changes to rural health care markets under the Affordable Care Act.

The White House invited 60 individuals representing foundations and other stakeholders to attend the meeting. Other presentations include strengthening the health care safety net for vulnerable populations, opportunities to collaborate with the federal government, behavioral health care in rural areas and a showcase of foundation projects in rural health care.

Roybal is a board member of Grantmakers in Health, a national nonprofit that is co-sponsoring the White House Forum and dedicated to helping foundations and corporate giving programs improve the health of all people. Con Alma is the smallest foundation on the Grantmakers’ Board, and Roybal is the only representative from the Southwest.

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*Con Alma Health Foundation seeks to improve people’s health status and access to health care services, and advocates for health policies to address the unmet health needs of New Mexico’s culturally and demographically diverse population. Con Alma supports and partners with organizations to improve health in New Mexico. Visit [www.conalma.org](http://www.conalma.org).*