

AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Program Newsletter

Sept 2026

A Heartfelt Message from Marie & Joni

Dear Foster Grandparents,

As we prepare to begin a new chapter with the State of New Mexico, we wanted to take a moment to say thank you and goodbye.

Working alongside each of you has been one of the most meaningful parts of our careers. We have had the privilege of seeing firsthand the love, patience, wisdom, and dedication you bring to the children and communities you serve. The difference you make may not always be measured in numbers, but it is felt in the lives of the children, families, teachers, and staff you touch every day.

We are incredibly proud of everything you have accomplished and grateful for the memories, laughter, challenges, celebrations, and friendships we have shared along the way. Please know that your commitment to being a Foster Grandparent has made a lasting difference, and we hope you continue to remember just how valuable you are.

Although we are leaving our positions with the City, we are not leaving without carrying the wonderful memories and experiences we have shared with you. We will always be cheering you on and wishing the Foster Grandparent Program and each of you continued success.

Thank you for allowing us to be part of your journey. Keep doing what you do best, sharing your hearts, your wisdom, and your time with the next generation.

With heartfelt appreciation and warmest wishes,

Marie & Joni

With gratitude for every Foster Grandparent who makes a difference.

DSA Administration



Anna Sanchez
Director

Marina Salazar
Deputy Director

Nikki Peone
Associate Director

Vacant
Community Volunteer
Engagement Manager

Foster Grandparent Staff

Vacant
FGP Supervisor

Vacant
Volunteer Coordinator

Estelle Chavez
Office Assistant

FGP Office

714 Seventh Street Sw
Albuquerque, NM 87102
505-764-6412
Email: fgp@cabq.gov

I am an AmeriCorps Senior Volunteer serving with
the City of Albuquerque to help students succeed in school.



Volunteer Badge Policy

It is standard operating procedure of the Department of Senior Affairs that all volunteers shall wear a DSA-approved identification badge while on City of Albuquerque Property. ID badges must be worn on the outermost layer of clothing above the waist at all times while volunteering.

SAVE THE DATE ~ ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR

September 04, 2026 - Timesheets Due

September 7 - LABOR DAY - Office Closed

Sept 15, 2026 - Recognition - Barelvas Senior Center @ 12:00 PM

Sept 18, 2026 - Mandatory In-Service - Barelvas Senior Center @ 10:00 AM

September 16, 2026 - Advisory Council Meeting Barelvas SC @ 10:30 AM

September 18, 2026 - Timesheets Due

Happy Birthday

*Patricia Lakes
September 5th*

*Barbie Garcia
September 7th*

DSA Membership Card

Please have your senior center membership card ready anytime you come into a city facility. They are required scan the card each time you come into the facility. This will include when coming to Barelas Senior Center for a meeting, In-Service, Etc. Please stop at the front desk & scan in before coming back to the training room or offices.

MANDATORY IN-SERVICE FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026

10:00 AM - 1:30 PM



BARELAS SENIOR CENTER

714 SEVENTH STREET, ALBUQUERQUE, NM

AM TRAINING: ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS

PRESENTED BY: EXPLORA!

ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS PRESENTED BY EXPLORA. ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS ARE TRAITS OR BEHAVIORS THAT HELP SPECIES SURVIVE, REPRODUCE AND THRIVE IN THEIR SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTS.

PM TRAINING: BLOOD BOURNE PATHAGENS

PRESENTED BY: OSHA INSTRUCTOR

WHAT IS BBP? HOW CAN THIS AFFECT OUR EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES. HOW IT CAN OCCURE AND WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND THOSE YOU SERVE.

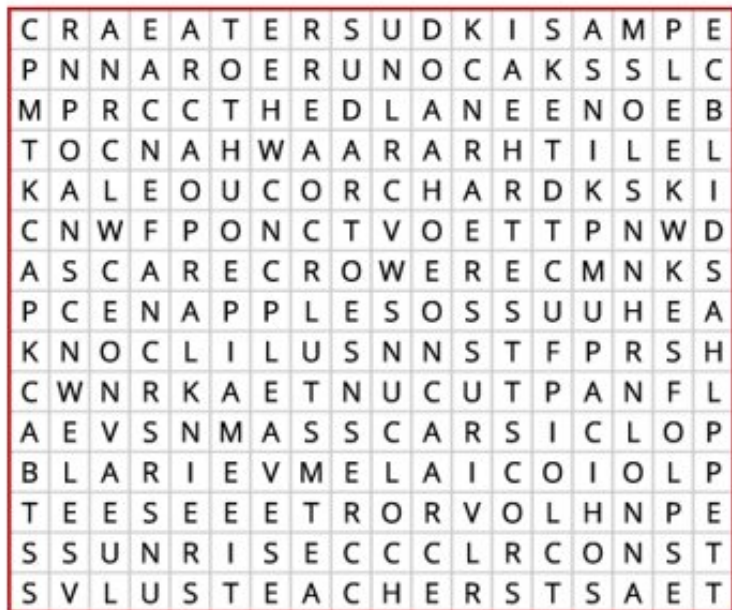
PLEASE RSVP FOR MEETING & LUNCH

BY FRIDAY, SEPT 11, 2026

TRANSPORTATION PICK-UP BEGINS AT 9:00 AM

QUESTIONS & RSVP: CALL 505.764.6421

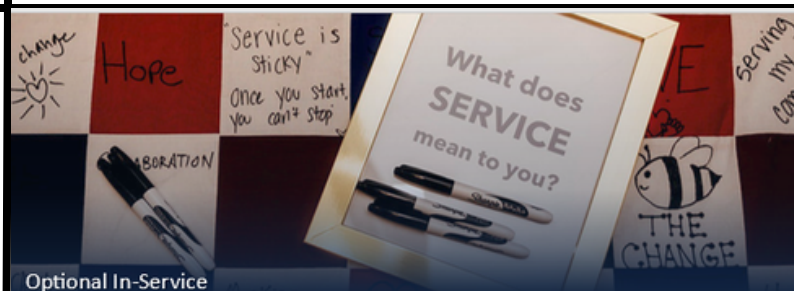
September Word Search



ACORN
BACKPACK
CRISP
LEAVES
SCARECROW
SUNSET

APPLES
COOL
FALL
ORCHARD
SCHOOL
SWEATER

AUTUMN
CORN
HARVEST
PUMPKINS
SUNRISE
TEACHER



Optional In-Service

2026 AmeriCorps Seniors Nationwide Celebration

Save the Date!

You're invited to join us for a special celebration honoring the spirit of service that strengthens our community. As part of this year's national focus on A Nation of Service, we'll come together to reflect, connect, and celebrate the impact volunteers make every day.

Date

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Time

12:00 pm - 1:30 PM

We'll join the national broadcast together!

Location

Barelas Senior Center, Tingley Room

Hosted by

Foster Grandparent Program

What's Planned

- Connect with fellow volunteers and staff from our project
- Join volunteers and projects from across the country through the national broadcast
- Enjoy time together as a community



We hope you will join us!

RSVP or For more information, contact:
Joni VanMeir 505764-6421



AmeriCorps Seniors



Date: September 05 & 6, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Cost: Free

Location: Raspberry Ranch NM-442 & NM-518, Mora NM 87732

Unplug, Reconnect & Explore!

Announcing the 4th Annual Valley of the Mills Tour!

Looking for something meaningful (and FREE!) to do this Labor Day Weekend? Join us for the 4th Annual Valley of the Mills Tour—a two-day, family-friendly celebration of heritage, culture, and community in the stunning Mora Valley.

Family Fun, Live Music, Activities & More!
Put away the screens and come connect with your people, your roots, and the timeless spirit of Northern New Mexico



September 26-27, 2026

**Historic Albuquerque Rail Yards
1300 2nd Street SW, ABQ, 87102**

Free

More Information: www.2926.us

FREE Groceries

For low income seniors



One box per household.

Participants can attend 2 food pantries per month.

Food pantries end when the food runs out.

Doors open 30 minutes prior start of pantry.

All veterans welcome with proof of Veteran status.

In partnership with Silver Horizons.

Raymond G. Sanchez Senior Center - 9800 Fourth St. NW

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Held the 1st Tuesday of every month.

County Extension Building - 1510 Menaul Blvd. NW, 87107

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Held the 2nd Wednesday of every month.

South Valley Multi-purpose Senior Center - 2008 Larrazolo Rd. SW, 87105

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Held the 2nd Friday of every month.

Tijeras Senior Center - 10 Tijeras Ave, Tijeras, NM 87059

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Held the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Paradise Hills Senior Center - 6001 Paradise Blvd. NW

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Held the 3rd Saturday of every month.

Rio Bravo Senior Center - 3910 Isleta Blvd. SW, 87105

12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Held the 4th Wednesday of every month.

For questions please call (505)314-0425



Return to Dreamland

September 4, 2026

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Location: The Gallery ABQ

Cost: FREE

The Gallery ABQ presents "Return to Dreamland" on September 4, 2026, from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. This show features George Haue Hayes III and Leo Gonzales, and promises to be out of this world. The gallery Featured Artist will be Gwenda McLamb. See the gallery website at www.thegalleryabq.com or Facebook@TheGalleryAbq. 505-292-9333. The Gallery ABQ in Hoffmantown is open Tuesday-Saturday, from 11:00 am- 4:00 pm

SEPTEMBER



As part of the New Mexico Grown state initiative, every Thursday, the Department of Senior Affairs will feature a vegetarian meal that incorporates locally sourced fruits, vegetables, beans, or chile into the menu.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
31 Pork Fajitas 4oz Steamed Broccoli 4oz Calabacitas 4oz Tortilla 2ea Orange 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	1 Chicken Parmesan 5oz Brussel Sprouts 4oz Steamed Carrots 4oz Brownie 1ea 1% Milk 8oz	2 Red Chile Beef Enchiladas 4oz Pinto Beans 4oz Spanish Rice 4oz Yogurt 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	3 Elbow Mac & Cheese w/ Broccoli 4oz Spinach/Mushrooms 4oz Wheat Breadstick 1ea Cupped Peaches 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	4 Meatloaf 4oz Green Beans 4oz Cauliflower 4oz Dinner Roll 1ea Margarine 1pc Pear 4oz 1% Milk 8oz
CLOSED 7 	8 Roasted Pork Loin 3oz Brown Gravy 1oz Scalloped Potatoes 4oz Brussel Sprouts 4oz Dinner Roll 1ea Margarine 1pc Pears 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	9 Teriyaki Chicken 3oz Stir Fry Vegetables 4oz Soy Sauce 1pc Green Beans w/ Mushrooms 4oz Brown Rice 4oz Fortune Cookie 2ea 1% Milk 8oz	10 Pasta Primavera w/ Broccoli & Carrots 4oz Spinach & Chick Peas 4oz Diced Beets 4oz Mandarin Oranges 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	11 Chile Bowl /Beef 3oz Pinto Beans 4oz Red Chile 1oz Calabacitas 4oz Corn Bread 1ea Mixed Berries 4oz 1% Milk 8oz
14 Meatloaf w/ Gravy 3oz Mashed Potatoes 1oz Sliced Carrots 4oz Dinner Roll 1ea Margarine 1pc Yogurt 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	15 Rotisserie Chicken 3oz Brown Rice 4oz Diced Beets 4oz Green Beans w/ Mushrooms 4oz Dinner Roll 1ea Margarine 1pc Grapes 1ea 1% Milk 8oz	16 Lemon Pepper Pollock 3oz Buttered Noodles 4oz Spinach 4oz Pinto Beans 4oz Dinner Roll 1ea Margarine 1pc Banana 1ea 1% Milk 8oz	17 Southwest Omelet 3oz Peppers w/ Onions 4oz Green Chile 1oz Stewed Tomatoes 4oz Black & Pinto Beans 4oz Peaches 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	18 Herb Pork Loin 3oz Gravy 1oz Sautéed Zucchini 4oz Diced Potatoes 4oz Dinner Roll 1ea Margarine 1pc Applesauce 4oz 1% Milk 8oz
21 BBQ Chicken 3oz Corn & Red Peppers 4oz Baked Beans 4oz Cornbread 1ea Yogurt 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	22 Salisbury Steak 3oz Brown Gravy 1oz Mashed Potatoes 4oz Succotash 4oz Mandarin Oranges 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	23 Sweet & Sour Pork 3oz Stir Fry Vegetables 4oz Brussel Sprouts 4oz Brown Rice 4oz Dinner Roll 1ea Margarine 1pc Warm Sliced Apples 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	24 Anti-Inflammatory Enchiladas (Green Chile, Squash, Cheese & Corn Tortillas) 2ea Pinto Beans 4oz Spanish Rice 4oz Pudding 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	25 Tuna Noodle Casserole 4oz Normandy Blend 4oz Breadstick 1ea Diced Pears 4oz 1% Milk 8oz
28 Green Chile Chicken 3oz Pozole/Pinto Beans 4oz Peppers & Onions 4oz Calabacitas 4oz Tortilla 2ea Mandarin Oranges 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	29 Beef Tips 3oz Brown Rice 4oz Normandy Blend 4oz Dinner Roll 1ea Margarine 1pc Warm Apple Slices 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	30 Carne Adovada 3oz Red Chile 2oz Pinto Beans 4oz Spanish Rice 4oz Tortilla 2ea Vanilla Pudding 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	1 Baked Ziti 4oz Succotash 4oz Garlic Breadstick 1ea Applesauce 4oz 1% Milk 8oz	2 Green Chile Cheeseburger 1ea Diced Potatoes 4oz Steamed Broccoli 4oz Jell-O 4oz 1% Milk 8oz