

February 2026



February is a month filled with heart—heart for one another, for our community, and for the causes that bring us together.

As we celebrate Valentine's Day and all the ways love shows up in our lives, we want to take a moment to say how grateful we are for you.

Volunteering is one of the purest expressions of love, and through the RSVP AmeriCorps Seniors program, our 55+ volunteers continue to show Albuquerque what caring in action looks like. Whether you're supporting local nonprofits, mentoring, delivering meals, or lending a helping hand behind the scenes, your time and talents make our community stronger, kinder, and more connected.

Here in Albuquerque, we know the power of neighbors helping neighbors. From our beautiful high desert skies to the warmth of our diverse communities, this city thrives because people like you choose to give back. Your dedication reflects the true spirit of service that makes our city such a special place to call home.

As February reminds us to lead with compassion and generosity, we hope this newsletter leaves you feeling appreciated, inspired, and proud of the difference you make every day. Thank you for sharing your hearts, your wisdom, and your service with our community.

With heartfelt appreciation and best wishes for a love-filled February,

RSVP Staff

AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP promotes the engagement of older persons as community resources in planning for community improvement and in delivery of volunteer services.

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DSA Administration



Anna Sanchez, Director

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Community Volunteer
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RSVP Staff

VACANT
RSVP Supervisor

Isaiah Valenzuela
RSVP Volunteer Coordinator

Mailiya Williams
RSVP Office Assistant

RSVP Office

714 7th Street SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102
505-767-5225

Office Hours

Monday -Friday 8:00
a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Updates & Reminders

Important Dates

02/02: Groundhog Day
02/08: Super Bowl Sunday
02/13: Senior Day @ the Roundhouse
02/14: Valentine's Day
02/16: CLOSED - Presidents' Day
02/17: Lunar New Year
02/17: Mardi Gras
02/18: Ash Wednesday



ARE YOU TECH SAVVY?



The RSVP Advisory Council is looking for someone able to create a website to showcase their group and share volunteer resources with all of our RSVP volunteers.

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 outer most layer of clothing above the waist at all times while volunteering.

Mileage Reimbursement

We've received a few questions regarding the mileage reimbursement policy. The mileage reimbursement policy is one round trip per day from your residence to your volunteer station returning home with a maximum of \$25.00 per month.

New Volunteer Orientation

If you are new to the program or need a refresher on how to enter your hours into the Web Assistant, training sessions are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Barelas Senior Center – RSVP office. To register contact the RSVP office at (505) 767-5225.

Advisory Council Members

President

Sonyia Hartwell

Vice President

Dorothy Garcia

Secretary

Andrea Garcia-Lansford

Treasurer

Bob Martinez

Judy Spear

Millie Martinez

Tomas Lujan

Amy Fisher

Marie Morra

Nick Manole

Michele Watkins

Julie McCullough

Marlene Sena

Misti Melendez

Greg Hallstrom

Spotlight



**AmeriCorps
Seniors**

RSVP ADVISORY COUNCIL Notice of Grant Funding DEADLINE: February 28, 2026

Applicants may request up to \$500

Grants are for RSVP volunteer groups at senior centers and volunteer stations to assist with specific types of projects that provide services, support or products for their group.

- **Groups must have at least one registered RSVP volunteer**
- **Projects must be a part of an RSVP volunteer site**

Applications are available online at
www.cabq.gov/rsvp

Complete and mail applications to:
**RSVP Grant Committee
714 Seventh Street SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102**

Or drop off at: Barelas Senior Center

Email **RSVPAC@outlook.com** for more information

Celebrations

February Birthdays

1st Jerri Lafer
George Medina

2nd David Novak
Christine Smith
Alex Trujillo

5th Nick Manole
Isabel Padilla

7th Amy Berger

11th Colleen Wyss

12th Shirley Fleming

13th Sandra Roney

14th Valerie Trujillo

15th Rick Forster

16th Marie Pacheco

19th Randall Hood

20th Helen Garcia
John McKenzie
Marie Morra

21st Laura Ann Jennings
Jeannine Steidl

22nd Richard Silva
Madaline Yazell

23rd John Lewis

Leslie Brault
24th Marianna Breton
Lynn Ann Keller

25th Rafaelita Alderete

26th Irene Newlon
Rick Watson

29th Mary Jo Daniel

Happy BIRTHDAY

Dorothy Otto

Dottie Otto unfortunately passed away in December of last year and we wanted to take the time to write a thank you and to let our other volunteers know of the impact that she had on the community.

Dottie had first started volunteering in 1985 for the RSVP & received a 40 year of service pin last year. She had over 8,000 volunteer hours.

Born in Queens New York she was a telephone operator and enjoyed an active lifestyle and became an awarded ice dancer and moved to Albuquerque in 1983.

Thank you to Dottie and all of her accomplishments and her shining personality she will be missed.



Opportunities

Volunteer Stations

Albuquerque Bio Park Education	DSA Nutrition	NM Aging & Long-Term Services
Albuquerque Little Theater	DSA Satellite Meal Sites	NM Commision for the Blind
Albuquerque Museum	DSA Sports & Fitness	NM Long-Term Care Ombudsman
Albuquerque Police Department	DSA Transportation	North Domingo Baca M.C.
Albuquerque Reads	DSA Volunteers in Action	North Valley Senior Center
Anderson/Abruzzo International	Explora Science Center	Palo Duro Senior Center
Balloon Museum	Friends of Valle de Oro	Popejoy Hall
Animal Welfare Department	Highland Senior Center	Presbyterian Healthcare Services
ARC Thrift Store	Hospice De La Luz	Presbyterian Northside
Aviation Department	Indian Pueblo Cultural Center	ProMedica Hospice
Barelas Senior Center	Los Volcanes Senior Center	Read to Me Albuquerque Network
Bear Canyon Senior Center	Lovelace Women's Hospital	Roadrunner Food Bank
BernCo Senior & Social Services	Manzano Mesa Multigenerational	Ronald McDonald House Charities
Department	Center	RSVP
Catholic Charities	Maxwell Mus. of Anthropology	RSVP Advisory Council
City of Albuquerque Greenhouse	Meals on Wheels	Santa Barbara Martineztown M.C.
City of Albuquerque Open Space	Musical Theatre Southwest	Storehouse
Compassus	Nat. Hispanic Cultural Center	University Hospital
DSA Advisory Council	New Mexico Kids Matter	VA Center for Development and
DSA Case Management	New Mexico Veterans Memorial	Civic Engagement
DSA Home Services	NM Museum of Nat. Hist. and	Visit Albuquerque
DSA Information & Assistance	Science	

Special Projects

Satellite Meal Sites

We are looking for caring & dependable volunteers to support our daily meal programs in providing nutritious lunches to older adults in our community.

DSA Senior Centers

Barelas and North Valley Senior Center's are in need of some kitchen support for various tasks throughout the week.

Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center

Join our Senior Affairs team in making a direct impact on the lives of individuals and families in need. As a Food Pantry Volunteer, you'll help ensure our community members have access to nutritious food in a welcoming and respectful environment.

February 20th
1:30PM - 4:00PM

****To sign up for RSVP volunteer opportunities call the RSVP office at 505-767-5225.**

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.

I tried something
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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Beef Tips over Bowtie Pasta Gravy Zucchini & Squash Dinner Roll Margarine Pears 1% Milk	3 Green Chile Chicken Enchiladas Spanish Rice Pinto Beans Yogurt 1% Milk	4 Sliced Ham Pineapple Sauce Cauliflower Spinach Cornbread Banana 1% Milk	5 Pasta Primavera Steamed Broccoli Dinner Roll Margarine Mandarin Oranges 1% Milk	6 Pork Chop Mashed Potatoes Brussel Sprouts Jell-O 1% Milk
				
9 Chicken Tamales Green Chile Black Beans Normandy Blend Dinner Roll Margarine Applesauce 1% Milk	10 Mac & Cheese w/ Ham Steamed Broccoli Spinach Yogurt 1% Milk	11 Lemon Baked Cod Tartar Sauce Brown Rice Brussel Sprouts Jell-O 1% Milk	12 Red Chile Cheese Enchilada Spanish Rice Calabacitas Pears 1% Milk	13 BBQ Baked Chicken Thigh Stewed Tomatoes Ranch Beans Normandy Blend Dinner Roll Valentine Cookie 1% Milk
				
CLOSED 	16 Carne Adovada Calabacitas Pinto Beans Flour Tortilla Apple slices 1% Milk	17 Baked Cod Salsa Brown Rice Spinach & Onions Jell-O 1% Milk	18 Baked Ziti Brussel Sprouts Breadstick Banana 1% Milk	19 Breaded Pollock Tartar Sauce Carrots Green Beans w/ Mushrooms Mandarin Oranges 1% Milk
				
23 Salisbury Steak Mushrooms & Gravy Mashed Potatoes Carrots Brownie 1% Milk	24 Green Chile Chicken Posole Steamed Cauliflower Red Peppers Applesauce Saltine Crackers 1% Milk	25 Meatloaf w/ Tomato Sauce Garlic Potatoes Succotash Dinner Roll Margarine Banana 1% Milk	26 Veggie Green Chile Cheeseburger Sweet Potato Mash Baked Beans Yogurt 1% Milk	Black Bean Chile Green Beans Brussel Sprouts Jell-O 1% Milk
				

