



# **Senior Companion Program**

Newsletter

#### December 2024

Hello December!

As 2024 draws to a close, I am delighted to reflect on a remarkable year full of progress for the Department of Senior Affairs, as well as to share some of the exciting plans we have in store for 2025. This year, we were thrilled to host the Barelas Senior Center Fiestas for the first time of since the COVID-19 pandemic, marking the return of the beloved tradition to the Barelas neighborhood. We also celebrated the 50th anniversary Palo Duro Senior Center, representing five decades of service to our older adult community.

Another highlight was the grand opening of the Santa Barbra Martineztown Multigenerational Center, a vibrant space designed to bring generations together. Looking ahead, the new Northwest Multigenerational Center, which broke ground in May 2024, is scheduled to open late next year, further expanding our commitment to serving families across the city.

Coming up in 2025, we're excited to offer even more ways for folks to stay active and engaged as they age. From expanded health and fitness offerings to unlimited learning and opportunities to connect, there is so much to look forward to. Over the next few months, we will also be reevaluating our menus to ensure they continue to meet the highest standards while serving the diverse and growing needs of our community. Your feedback and ideas will be crucial to this process, as we work to upgrade our meals to promote health and wellbeing!

As you celebrate the holidays with family and friends, I hope you take pride in being part of a community that's committed to growing stronger together. Your participation and support make everything we do possible, and we can't wait continue this journey with you.

Wishing you a joyous holiday season and a New Year filled with health and happiness.

Sincerely, Anna M. Sanchez, Director





Monday-Friday: 8am-5pm Saturday & Sunday: Closed

# **Senior Companion Program Staff**

Viridiana Rodriguez-Flores, **Program Supervisor** Jenna Stanton, Case Management Coordinator Vacant, Office Assistant

#### **Contact Information**

714 Seventh St SW Albuquerque, NM, 87102 (505) 764-1007

#### Special Dates & Announcements

12/05: SCP Winter Recognition

**12/12:** Timesheets & Mileage Logs Due

12/12: Holiday Donation Drive Pick-up 12/25: Christmas Holiday: CLOSED,

No Clients

**12/26:** Timesheets & Mileage Logs Due

1/01: New Year's Holiday: CLOSED,

No Clients

#### **In-Service Training**

There will be

#### no in-service training

for December.

More details for the

January in-service training

coming soon.



#### **SCP Winter Recognition**



## El Pinto Restaurant 11:00am-1:00pm Thursday, December 5, 2024

The Senior Companion Program will be having a Winter Recognition to celebrate our wonderful volunteers. Invitations have been sent out in the mail.

#### **Holiday Donation Drive Pick-up**

The Department of Senior Affairs has been collecting new items for their Annual Senior Holiday Donation Drive to share with homebound seniors this holiday season!

SCP Volunteers please pick up a package for your client(s) on Thursday, December 12, 2024 from 10:00am-12:00pm.



# Timesheets & Mileage Logs

Friendly reminder to submit timesheets and mileage logs on time to get processed in a timely manner.

Thursday, December 12, 2024 Thursday, December 26, 2024

It is very important that your timesheet is signed by you and the station supervisor

		(11 app	licabi	le).	EV	
	Tuesday				MAM	
Second Week	Wednesday				XAM	7
vveek	Thursday			SEND IN TIMES	SEND IN TIMESHEET	
	Friday					1
	eer Signature ********			upervisor Signature	*****	_
Comme		Regular		7		
	mis.	t		Other	1	1
						¬
	Home to Client					
	Errands					
	Client to Home					
l hereby certify th	at the above recorded	mileage is true and co	orrect.	Total	Mileage	
Volunteer Signature	Date	Station Superv	risor Signature	Date		



The Senior Companion Program will be closed on Wednesday, December 25, 2024 in observance of the Christmas Holiday.



Please remind your clients that there is no service during the holiday.



# Care Companion Program (CCP)

The Senior Companion Program and the NM Aging and Long-Term Services Department are working together to help isolated senior citizens living in long-term care facilities and nursing homes in Bernalillo County. This new pilot program will allow volunteers to visit clients at the partnered facilities and still qualify for program benefits.

Volunteers will receive a stipend, meal and mileage reimbursements.









If you are interested in the new Care Companion Program or need more information please contact the SCP Office.

# FGP/SCP Advisory Council Meeting

Our next advisory council meeting will be on

Wednesday, January 15, 2024 at the Bear Canyon Senior Center from 10:00am - 12:00pm.

> 4645 Pitt St NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111



# **December Word Puzzle**





Candy Cane
Carols
Christmas
December
Elves
Gingerbread
Presents

Jingle
Holly
Lights
Merry
North Pole
Ornaments
Reindeer

Santa Sleigh Stocking Tree Winter Wreath

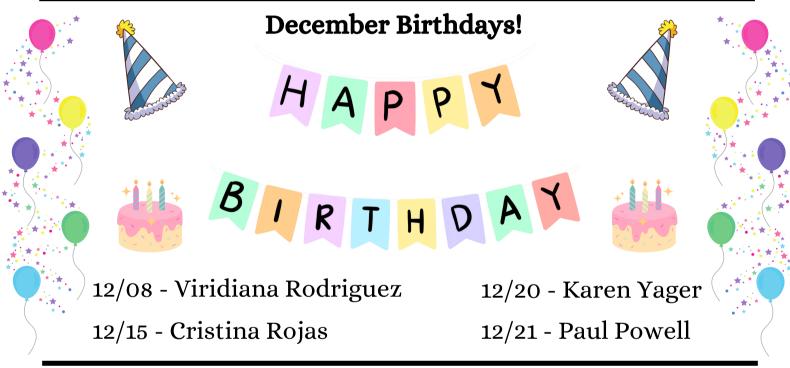
# **Extra Opportunity: Care Van Event**

The Department of Senior Affairs and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico are continuing their Care Van Events. The event will host medical screenings and a Medicare 101 presentation.

# Wednesday, December 4, 2024 9:00am-12:00pm Palo Duro Senior Center

This is a free event! Please notify the SCP office if you will attend the event to receive program benefits.





# **Inclement Weather Policy**

Winter is here! Please stay safe and warm.

The Senior Companion Program follows the Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) policy for snow day delays and closures. During these occurrences, please check the television, internet, or radio for official closures or delays. Volunteers serving in the Pueblos are advised to use their judgement and follow the instructions provided by assigned volunteer stations.

For more information refer to page 31 in your SCP Handbook.

Please call the office if you have any questions or concerns.



# DECEMBER 2024

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



incorporates locally sourced fruits, vegetables, beans, or chile into the menu.								
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY				
2	3	4	5	6				
<ul> <li>Salisbury Steak w/ Green Chile Gravy</li> <li>Corn</li> <li>Mashed Potatoes</li> <li>Dinner Roll/Margarine</li> <li>Yogurt</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Turkey Tetrazzini</li> <li>Brussel Sprouts</li> <li>Peach Cobbler</li> <li>Breadstick</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Baked Tilapia w/Tarter Sauce</li> <li>Rice Pilaf</li> <li>Green Beans</li> <li>Vanilla Pudding</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Spaghetti / Mushrooms</li> <li>Seasonal Vegetable</li> <li>Breadstick</li> <li>Mixed Fruit Cup</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Diced Pork w/ Gravy</li> <li>Brown Rice</li> <li>Oriental Blend</li> <li>Dinner Roll/Margarine</li> <li>Jell-O</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>				
• Beef Stir-Fry • Butter Noodles • Fortune Cookies • Seasonal Fruit • 1% milk	<ul> <li>Lemon Baked Salmon</li> <li>White Rice</li> <li>Seasonal Vegetable</li> <li>Dinner Roll/ Margarine</li> <li>Orange</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Pork Tamale/Red Chile</li> <li>Pinto Beans</li> <li>Seasonal Vegetable/ Calabacitas</li> <li>Chocolate Pudding</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>	Cheese Omelet / Onions & Peppers     Stewed Tomatoes     Spinach     Apple Sauce     1% milk	<ul> <li>Chicken Posole</li> <li>Succotash</li> <li>Tortilla</li> <li>Diced Pears</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>				
16	17	<b>7</b> 7	19	20				
• Carne Adovada/ Red Chile • Spanish Rice • Corn w/ Red Peppers • Vanilla Pudding • 1% milk	<ul> <li>◆ Turkey &amp; Brown Rice w/ Gravy</li> <li>◆ Green Beans</li> <li>◆ Cauliflower w/ Red Peppers</li> <li>◆ Apple Sauce</li> <li>◆ 1% milk</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Baked Chicken</li> <li>Mashed Potatoes</li> <li>Diced Beets</li> <li>Mixed Fruits</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Macaroni &amp; Broccoli</li> <li>Spinach</li> <li>Cherry Cobbler</li> <li>Dinner Roll/Margarine</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>◆ Ground Beef/Potatoes</li> <li>◆ Stewed Tomatoes</li> <li>◆ Combread</li> <li>◆ Peaches</li> <li>◆ 1% milk</li> </ul>				
The state of the s		***************************************	V	***				
23	24	25	26	27				
• Baked Cod Fish/ Tartar Sauce • Rice Pilaf • Carrots • Jell-O • 1% milk	<ul> <li>Ham/Pineapple Glaze</li> <li>Mashed Sweet Potatoes</li> <li>Mixed Vegetables</li> <li>Holiday Cookie</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>	CLOSED Fappy Holidays	<ul> <li>Veggie Cheeseburger</li> <li>Diced Beets</li> <li>Normandy Blend</li> <li>Chocolate Pudding</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Green Chile     Chicken Tamale</li> <li>Pinto Beans</li> <li>Calabacitas</li> <li>Yogurt</li> <li>1% milk</li> </ul>				
• Texas Chili • Cornbread/Margarine • Succotash • Diced Pears • 1% milk	• Asian Diced Pork/Peppers • Rice Pilaf • Oriental Blend • Fortune Cookie • 1% milk	CLOSED  HAPPY  YEAR	• Omelet w/ Red Chile & Peppers • Sweet Potatoes • Blackeye Peas • Dinner Roll/Margarine • Pudding • 1% milk	◆ Breaded Cod/ Tartar Sauce ◆ Crinkle Cut Fries ◆ Peas & Carrots ◆ Brownies ◆ 1% milk				