When I started with the Foundation, we were on the eve of our 25th anniversary. This year we celebrate the 40th anniversary of Albuquerque Community Foundation.

Back then, I joined a team of two full-time and two part-time staffers. The Foundation managed a relatively small grant program, a handful of donor advised funds and a few scholarships. We funded about 20-25 percent of the applications accepted through our competitive grant program. The changes and growth in our work in the last 15 years have been significant. Today, our competitive grant program funds more than 80 percent of all accepted applications. This activity, made possible by the generosity of donors and the growth in our assets under management from $39 million to today’s $130 million, also required adding staff. We are now a dozen diverse and dedicated full-time employees strong.

Our contingent of Trustees also grew to accomplish the important work of the Foundation. From 13 board members in 2016 to the 25 we have today, our Trustees are dedicated volunteers who give generously and guide the organization as we continue to take on significant community leadership roles in programs to end hunger, increase economic opportunity and strengthen neighborhoods. We’ve also been able to lead statewide and national initiatives that ultimately impact Albuquerque for the better, thanks to their time, counsel and encouragement. In fact, many former Trustees continue to ensure important continuity for projects and donors through Foundation committee membership.

Today, diversity, equity and inclusion are the bedrock of our work, so that we can appropriately and sensitively serve all facets of the rich tapestry that is our community. In particular in this 40th year, we’re concentrating on assisting pandemic recovery. Our focus on providing emergency assistance includes bolstering the nonprofits we serve, the small businesses in our community and the individual lives impacted by the unforeseen and unpredictable year that was.

As we enter our next 40 years, we celebrate our many achievements and also take time to reflect on the lessons we’ve learned so that we are always able to be better partners with our community. Because community is our foundation.

Randy Royster
President & CEO
As this year marks the 40th Anniversary of the Foundation, I’m delighted to see us continue to grow and thrive. Last year was a fragile time. Like you, I watched the staff and leadership steady the course and rise to the great needs in our community. Many needs were met because of the unyielding commitment of the dedicated Foundation team. And many others contributed their time, talent and resources to the cause.

Today, there is a new sense of optimism that our lives will return to some level of normal in the months ahead. But we run the risk of forgetting the stark realities that the last year has laid bare—issues of systemic racism, poverty and of those without access to education and economic opportunity. It is easy to become complacent and rest on the reputation of our successes. We could settle for what comes next instead of asking ourselves how to move the needle even further. We even, I dare say, become numb to the real and urgent needs of the community.

And so, without forgetting the good work of the past year and the extraordinary circumstances we have addressed, I’ve challenged the Foundation to focus on the best and highest opportunities to benefit the community. It’s all too easy to nibble around the edges of issues and not take the courageous actions required to make a significant difference. Historian William Durant concluded that our history was not shaped by great women and men who took action. Necessity, not brilliance, moved humanity forward. I can’t think of a time when necessity has been greater. You may say, “Steve, it’s not like the building is on fire.” I disagree. The pandemic has uncovered how business as usual does not work. The building is, in fact, on fire, but no one has grabbed the fire hose. So, I’m calling all hands with urgency and alarm about the issues our community faces. Make no mistake, the situation is urgent.

For in times of extraordinary changes and demands comes opportunity. We have a chance to redefine ourselves, our direction and to ask the hard questions about our role in the community. The organization is taking a hard look at its own makeup to ensure it reflects the diversity of our community. We’ve brought on five new trustees and four new staff members, each of whom brings new energy and new perspective. Their added talents and unique experiences change the nature of the conversation and culture here—for the better.

I challenge all of us to ask how we can be of highest impact today and in the future. What does the change that is necessary to achieve that impact look like? What if we all acted with the urgency that the situation demands? What if?

Steve Maestas
Board of Trustees Chair
BUILDING ON OUR COMMON HERITAGE

The community gathered virtually in January to listen to one of the most powerful historical narratives in the fight for civil rights: the friendship and alliance between the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel. The event, presented by Burque Against Racism (BAR) and The Jewish Federation of New Mexico (JFNM), was streamed live on Zoom and YouTube. The daughters of two icons of the civil rights movement told the story of their fathers’ important alliance during the virtual event.

Dr. Bernice King, daughter of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., and Dr. Susannah Heschel, whose father, Rabbi Heschel was a scholar and civil rights advocate, discussed their fathers’ friendship and the crucial work the two did for civil rights in the 1960s. The conversation was moderated by Rabbi Capers Funnye, Jr., Chief Rabbi of the International Israelite Board of Rabbis, an organization of Black rabbis and the first Black rabbi to serve on the Chicago Board of Rabbis.

Albuquerque Community Foundation, as part of its work to address systemic racism in the community, co-sponsored the event.

“The experience of fighting a common enemy is what brought them together then and what brings us together today—the fight against oppression, hatred, violence, and discrimination,” said Dr. King, alluding to the highly publicized accounts of police killing unarmed Black Americans. “It made for a wonderful relationship because injustice threatens all of us. As my father said, ‘an injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere’.”

Dr. Heschel has hope for a new, younger generation that is moving forward with optimism and deep caring. “What can we do to set a good example? What can we teach them?” she asked. Her answer was to live in a way that was deserving of reverence and honor by younger generations.
AGAINST RACISM

The three panelists praised the ongoing relationship between the Black and Jewish communities. Although tested at times, each agreed that this relationship remains strong and all the more important today, when the awareness of and fight against systemic racism is top of mind.

Further discussion of how the country can move forward in combating systemic racism included the suggestion of a “truth and reconciliation” process such as the one that took place in South Africa at the end of apartheid. Said Rabbi Funnye, “There has never been a period in American history where we have heard the truth about Native American treatment, or the Black experience with slavery. There must be strength to lead, to call for a truth and reconciliation period. We cannot heal or reconcile without honest conversation.”

Dr. King recalled her father’s writings about organizing strength into compelling power, recalling that the “nettlesome task,” is in front of us still. She also challenged participants to stop thinking that change comes through the masses and to act individually. “What does it really mean to be a person of faith, and how do we translate that outside of the four walls [of a church, synagogue or mosque]? We are in a real, worldwide emergency. Another sermon won’t do it. Words must become flesh, and manifest in the culture and our times, to overcome with a vision of love. We must start creating it, for justice and equity in our world,” she said.

Learn more at TogetherAgainstRacismNM.org, featuring the film “Let My People Go,” about intertwined histories of Jews and African Americans.

Learn what the Foundation is doing to further the cause of racial equity, at abqcf.org.
Think about the ways momentous occasions were celebrated last year: large parties became Zoom affairs, oversized lawn signs marked special moments, drive-by parades celebrated birthdays, baby showers and graduations.

Like all of us, the Foundation had to get creative in planning our 40th anniversary in safe and accessible ways knowing that for all of us, our lives have been indelibly changed by the events of the last thirteen months.

To celebrate this special year, we are taking an “and” approach—taking time to celebrate and reflect. We are planning gatherings (COVID safe, of course!) and seeding long-term initiatives honoring the generous giving by our donors which support the critical services provided by nonprofits in our community. Here’s a peek at some of the initiatives we are developing to celebrate 40 years of Albuquerque Community Foundation.

HONORING AND REFLECTING ON 40 YEARS OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY AND TODAY

SEASONS OF TODAY: EMERGENT COVID NEEDS
These grants will engage with organizations serving communities with outstanding, emergent needs related to COVID-19.

DECADE 4: BLOOM
These grants will honor the Foundation’s goals and vision for the future by funding organizations addressing systemic equity issues.

DECADE 3: BRANCHING OUT
The Foundation’s third decade brought a remarkable increase of capacity, direction, and vision, stemming from the 25th Anniversary and the new Champion Building. These grants will honor that era by funding organizations experiencing visionary or transformative changes.

DECADE 2: GROWTH
These grants will honor the Foundation’s focus on children & youth in the 2nd decade by funding organizations that serve the community’s current and future generations.

DECADE 1: ROOTS
These grants will honor the Foundation’s original grantmaking focus by funding arts & education organizations.

SEEDS OF TOMORROW: EQUITY
These grants will establish the Upstream Fund, creating a formal committee of the Board to develop and oversee a fund focused on addressing systemic inequities and barriers.

PUBLIC SPACES: ART & LANDSCAPING
As a nod to the Foundation’s arts and culture roots and initial grantmaking in the 1980s, we are partnering with the City of Albuquerque, Albuquerque Public Arts and the Office of Equity and Inclusion to commission a public art piece at the new round-about near the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. The design of the art piece and selection of the artist(s) will be led by the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

40 Grantiversary
How can we celebrate and honor 40 years of grantmaking? Through a Grantiversary!

Forty grants will be made honoring each of the Foundation’s decades, as well as grants focusing on emergent needs of today and planting seeds for tomorrow. These grants will be in addition to our usual grantmaking with a strong lens of COVID-19 recovery and diversity, equity and inclusion principles. Donor advised fund holders and those interested in the 40 Grantiversary program, contact khia@abqcf.org or juaquin@abqcf.org.

Public Spaces: Art & Landscaping
As a nod to the Foundation’s arts and culture roots and initial grantmaking in the 1980s, we are partnering with the City of Albuquerque, Albuquerque Public Arts and the Office of Equity and Inclusion to commission a public art piece at the new round-about near the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. The design of the art piece and selection of the artist(s) will be led by the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

When we celebrated our 25th
over the span of two years, we will work closely with community members, donors and partners to develop and establish the Upstream Fund, which will focus on high impact, multi-year, unrestricted funding. Why? As a funder, we must delve into what matters most to the nonprofit community—funding with no-strings attached to create sustainable impact. Unrestricted funds are crucial for nonprofit organizations who want to create impact and fuel long-term movements for equity.

Be a part of this conversation, contact marisa@abqcf.org.

Julie Weaks Gutiérrez Opportunity Fund

In our 40th year, we are honoring one of Albuquerque’s most extraordinary women, Julie Weaks Gutiérrez. Julie joined the Foundation Board of Trustees in 2013. In 2018 she served as Chair of the Board, and established the Foundation’s task force of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion with then Chair-Elect Walter Stern. The task force became a formal committee of the Board in 2019.

In December of 2019, in Julie’s honor as she retired from the Foundation Board, the Board of Trustees established the Julie Weaks Gutiérrez Opportunity Fund to create opportunities for outstanding Board candidates who otherwise would be unable to join the Board due to financial barriers. Julie felt passionately that this was critical to the future of our Board to reflect the community which we serve.

To support the Opportunity Fund, contact juaquin@abqcf.org.

Great Grant Giveaway!

And, of course, we will continue our traditionally scheduled events including Great Grant Giveaway! Our annual event will look a little different as we continue to navigate COVID-19 restrictions. Stay tuned for more information!

As we celebrate our 40th anniversary, we’ve thought about the hallmarks of a good celebration. A good celebration brings together new and old friends to celebrate accomplishments and acknowledge struggles and lessons learned along the way. There are moments that make us tear up and moments that bring out deep belly-laughs. There is time to share our gratitude for the years gone by and dream of the hope for years to come.

Above all, a good celebration has plenty of love, great food, music and, of course, community.
**1 Social Giving Club Kick-off Event**
The Social Giving Club (SGC) is refreshing and rewinding in 2021! Last year, the club was unable to celebrate its 5th Anniversary due to Covid-19. So, SGC celebrated May 6 throwback-style!
We heard from past grantees: Cultivating Coders, Hopeworks, Future Focused Education and TenderLove. To join contact denise@abqcf.org.

**2 Family Friendly New Mexico**
The Foundation was recognized as a Family Friendly New Mexico Business by Family Friendly New Mexico (FFNM) this year! FFNM is a nonprofit initiative that recognizes New Mexico businesses with family friendly policies and serves as a resource for businesses to increase and improve the policies they offer their employees.

**3 All Aboard**
Join us for one of the most celebrated events at the Foundation—Trolley Tours! Our Trolley Tours are a great way to learn more about the Foundation’s grantmaking and the nonprofit community, while also enjoying a ride on the famous ABQ Trolley!
Although it would be exciting to meet in person for the upcoming Trolley Tour, our next event will be hosted virtually in June. We will have a great time speaking with several local nonprofits serving folks in Albuquerque. One of the joys of our tours is witnessing firsthand how lives are being transformed and uplifted by caring, professional and talented people in our city. Look for a save the date postcard. For more information, contact sandy@abqcf.org.

**4 Sandia Foundation**
Grant Application Opens: May 10, 2021
Application Deadline: June 10, 2021 5pm MT
The Sandia Foundation Request for Proposal (RFP) opens Monday, May 10. All grants will be general operating. Grantees may use the funds as needed throughout the grant period.
What You Need to Know:
• Organizations must directly serve Albuquerque residents.
• Grants range from $5,000 - $15,000
• Funding focus area: child well-being with an emphasis on basic needs and advancing their education through long-term, consistent intervention and support.
• Organizations with operating budgets of all sizes are eligible to apply; preference will be given to organizations with operating budgets of less than $1 million.
To apply visit abqcf.org on May 10, 2021. Questions? Contact khia@abqcf.org or 505-883-6240.

**5 Change Leaders in Philanthropy Fellowship Cohort**
Congratulations to Marisa Magallanez, Vice President of Strategy and Equity.
Marisa has been awarded a fellowship with Grantmakers for Effective Organizations (GEO). GEO is a community of funders committed to transforming philanthropic culture and practice by connecting members to the resources and relationships needed to support thriving nonprofits and communities.

6 Staff Around ABQ!
In honor of our 40th Anniversary, Foundation staff has participated in several speaking engagements for local organizations.

Kicking it off, Juaquin and Marisa joined past Foundation Trustee Brian Colón on his daily Facebook live show “Cafecito con Colón”.

Randy and Rodney Prunty, President and CEO of United Way of Central New Mexico, spoke at the Kiwanis of Albuquerque’s monthly luncheon about the DEI United Initiative.

Marisa, along with Emily Howard, VP Corporate Strategy, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center; Brenna Moore, PR and Communications Manager for Visit Albuquerque were panelists at the New Mexico Foundation’s Kick-off Event.

Additionally, Randy joined the Junior League of Albuquerque for a conversation on empowerment and leadership in the community.

7 Scholarships for Current College Students

College Scholarship Deadline: Thursday, June 3

The Foundation invites current or returning college students in New Mexico to apply for our scholarship programs. The general application for the 2021-2022 academic year is now live. Each award has its own deadline, including some that close at the beginning of June. Apply online at [abqcf.org](http://abqcf.org).

Sussman Miller Educational Assistance Fund Deadline: Monday, June 14 (for students currently attending college or returning to college)
FIVE NEW TRUSTEES TO THE FOUNDATION BOARD

Abinash Achrekar
MD MPH
Dr. Achrekar is Vice Chair of Medicine at University of New Mexico and was the former New Mexico Deputy Cabinet Secretary of Health. His practice focuses primarily on prevention and outpatient services. He also sits on advisory boards for telehealth, novel therapeutics and medical technology companies. Dr. Achrekar received his BA from UC Berkeley, an MPH from Yale University, and an MD from Michigan State University.

Emily Allen
Emily serves as Chief Financial Officer and Principal with Dekker/Perich/Sabatini (D/P/S) focused on firmwide strategy and operations. D/P/S is an award-winning firm employing more than 200 people in four offices located in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. As a licensed interior designer, Emily combines her design background and professional insight to continually advance the firm’s operational and financial performance.

Bob Bowman
Bob’s experience is in Corporate Communications. He was a partner in an Atlanta-based company that developed media, video, computer-based training materials and websites for Fortune 1000 corporations. Bowman’s task was to develop original content and incubate a number of web start-ups. Retired since 2000, Bob was a founding board member of Albuquerque Heading Home, board chair of Equality New Mexico and has been involved with several Albuquerque and Atlanta-based disability service organizations.

Michelle Dearholt
Michelle is Executive Vice President of Operations at Nusenda Credit Union. She oversees the credit union’s member experience channels, employee experience departments, support service departments and project management. She has more than 20 years of experience in organizational development and has been with Nusenda for 20 years.

C. Thomas Daulton
Tom is the Foundation’s first out-of-state trustee. A native of Albuquerque who maintains a second home in New Mexico, Tom has over 38 years of experience working with small and medium sized businesses, primarily in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex. This includes eight years as a lending officer for MBank Dallas and seven years as the CFO at a medium sized printing company. For the last 23 years he has been a private investor.
NEW FACES AT THE FOUNDATION

Vanessa Gonzalez
Community Impact Program Officer
Vanessa grew up in Taos, eating homemade Mexican food and playing in her parent's garden. Her upbringing has driven her fight for equity for black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC). Vanessa is a graduate of Pitzer College in California and is a longtime advocate for BIPOC equity. She has represented immigrants before United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) as a Department of Justice Accredited Representative, helped over 300 people naturalize and assisted the City of Albuquerque in increasing language access. Vanessa enjoys spending time with her husband, Mag Kim, and their two forever puppies, Jeong and Cariño. She enjoys budgeting and creating too many spreadsheets for everything!

Kate Leung
Governance & Philanthropic Advising Associate
Kate graduated from Princeton University in May of 2020, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Public & International Affairs. A longtime student of equity issues, Kate was able to learn more about systemic racial injustice through her college coursework, and it became one of the focused goals of her career. Before working at the Foundation, Kate enjoyed a stint at Rebel Donut, a local favorite, where she learned that her best art medium is frosting. She and her partner enjoy spending time with their newly adopted dog, Korra. They also love to explore the city and travel.

Juaquin Moya
Vice President of Philanthropic Advising
As the Vice President of Philanthropic Advising, Juaquin is leading inclusive and strategic advancement for the Foundation. His aim is to promote higher levels of giving and more strategic grantmaking. Juaquin joins the Foundation following his previous position as founding Executive Director of Horizons Albuquerque. Juaquin is a graduate of Wesleyan University in Connecticut. Recently, he was awarded the Albuquerque Business First Diversity Leader Award and selected as a 40 Under Forty honoree. He was also selected as a Líderes Fellow with Hispanics In Philanthropy and received the Horizons National Leader of the Year Award.

Tiffany Rawls
Senior Accountant
Tiffany joins the Foundation after spending 10 years at the University of New Mexico. During her time at UNM she worked for UNM’s Comprehensive Cancer Center, the University Press and UNM’s School of Law. Working in several different areas at UNM provided her with a wide array of accounting responsibilities; from business and fund accounting to grant accounting. Tiffany holds an MBA focusing in Accounting and Organizational Behavior from UNM’s Anderson School of Management.
MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF EQUITY AND COVID-19  
By Khia Griffis and Vanessa Gonzalez

The past year has taught us that adapting is the key to surviving and thriving. That’s what our community nonprofits have done, and that’s what the Foundation is doing to support them.

First, in an effort to ensure our nonprofit partners have as much flexibility as possible to respond to the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, all 2021 Competitive Grant Program awards are unrestricted, meaning organizations can use funds where needed most. Revised applications include questions about short-term and expected long-term effects of the pandemic and the resulting needs. Local organizations know how best to prioritize their work and general funding will allow them to do this.

Next, we’re reviewing the application process for grants and scholarships, continuing to improve access, reach new organizations and center equity principles throughout. This extra lens on equity is our responsibility to the community. We recognize the pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) led and serving nonprofits and their clients in the last year. In practice, this means that grant review panels will be learning more about what equity means for our community. Keeping equity top of mind, we can ensure our services are reflective of community needs.

Finally, we are planning for a series of special grants to honor the Foundation’s 40th anniversary. As we review grant applications, speak with community members, donors and others, we invite nonprofits to discuss their work. These grants will highlight the Foundation’s history, fund today’s emerging needs and plant seeds for the future, while focusing on equity and the impact of the pandemic.

We look forward to the changes this year brings to our grant and scholarship programs. If you have feedback or ideas, we’d enjoy hearing from you.

Khia Griffis, Senior Community Impact Program Officer, khia@abqcf.org
Vanessa Gonzalez, Community Impact Program Officer, vanessa@abqcf.org
2021 COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

The 2021 Competitive Grant Program is underway! We are proud to support the following nonprofits which are serving in Arts & Culture, Education and Environmental & Historic Preservation fields-of-interest. Below are Round 1 grantees including a snapshot of some who are having a significant impact in Albuquerque. Our second round of competitive grants in Economic & Workforce Development, Health and Human Services will be announced in June.

ARTS & CULTURE
• Albuquerque Artwalk
• Apprenticeship for Leaders in Mosaic Arts (ALMA)
• Assistance League
• Duke City Repertory Theatre
• Festival Ballet
• Keshet Dance Company
• OFFCenter Community Arts
• Working Classroom

Albuquerque Artwalk
Albuquerque Artwalk strives to elevate New Mexico’s emerging creative economy by providing a platform to support local artists, micro-businesses and local brick and mortar establishments by organizing cultural enrichment events, art place-making and an online platform for emerging artists.

EDUCATION
• Amy Biehl High School
• Mana de Albuquerque
• Sofia Center
• Southwest Creations Collaborative
• Together for Brothers

Mana de Albuquerque
Mana de Albuquerque empowers Latinas through education, leadership development, community service and advocacy. In the Hermanitas Youth Leadership Program, between 30 to 50 girls, ages 11-17 will receive one-on-one mentoring and personal, career and leadership training. The high school graduation rate and the rate of college attendance among Hermanitas graduates has remained at 100% since 2013.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
• Ancestral Lands/Conservation Legacy
• Hawks Aloft
• Homewise/B Ruppe
• La Cosecha CSA
• Mandy’s Farm
• Manzano Mountain Art Council
• Rocky Mountain Youth Corps

Ancestral Lands/Conservation Legacy
Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps (ALCC) focuses on collaborative conservation through the employment of youth, young adults and military veterans on public and tribal lands. ALCC has “in community” programs based in Acoma Pueblo, Albuquerque, the Hopi Nation, the Navajo Nation and the Zuni Pueblo, working to remove barriers to success for Indigenous young people. By offering a wide range of service programs that connect Indigenous youth and young adults to the land through paid conservation service opportunities, ALCC supports 100+ annual Native American participants.
In March, Future Fund hosted their first event of 2021, the Annual Grant Breakfast. Held virtually, members heard from their 2020 grantee, Together for Brothers (T4B). T4B is a nonprofit that enables young men of color to learn and practice leadership in their communities at all levels.

Children’s Grief Center, New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) is Child’s Play were invited to submit a 5-minute video to the group.

A $2,000 microgrant was awarded to STEM is Child’s Play, an organization that inspires the next generation of STEM leaders to develop a passion for STEM careers at a young age. They do this by exposing their students to career options and providing a pipeline to higher education.

This year, Future Fund plans to improve membership involvement with newly imagined virtual programming, a wider field of grant applications and by continuing to involve members in planning, outreach and leadership. They are also learning how they can follow diversity, equity and inclusion best practices while examining how to address the community’s evolving need for COVID-19 response.

Renew your annual $200 membership today!
Renew at go.abqcf.org/future-fund or scan the QR Code

STEM is Child’s Play
MEET THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE FUTURE FUND BOARD

Since 1997, the Future Fund has been introducing younger members of the community to responsive philanthropy, developing community awareness and nurturing future leadership.

Adam Alvarez
Adam, a native of Las Cruces, moved to Albuquerque from Washington, DC, in October 2018 to work for PNM. Adam is currently a Senior Project Manager in PNM’s Regulatory and Policy group. He graduated from New Mexico State with an accounting degree and a master's degree in economics. In his spare time, he enjoys playing golf and raising his two children with his wife, Kristin. Adam has been involved with Future Fund since 2019.

Anthony Ortiz
Anthony is the Chief Financial Officer, SVP at Southwest Capital Bank (SWCB). He grew up in Rowe, NM. After graduating from Pecos High School, Anthony attended New Mexico State University where he received two B.A. Degrees, one in mass communications and the other in Spanish. SWCB prides itself in giving back to the community and as a member of the Future Fund, Anthony enjoys participating in the grant approval process for nonprofits seeking money to further their causes, having a direct impact in the community.

Chauna King
Chauna was born and raised in Albuquerque and graduated from UNM with a bachelor's and MBA with a focus in accounting. After graduation, she worked at Moss Adams LLP as a tax accountant. Through her work, Chauna spent much of her career specializing in nonprofit taxes. During her time at Moss Adams, she was introduced to the Future Fund.

Currently, Chauna is a forensic accountant with a local niche accounting firm. Outside of work, Chauna spends time with her husband and two boys, with many hours spent on the family farm.

Nina Chavez
Nina is a passionate and tireless advocate for education equity, access to the arts and collective action for community development. A commitment to public service has defined her civic service and her professional career, practically making the two indistinguishable. She currently serves as Director of Development and Communications for Teach for America New Mexico. Nina is a graduate of Southern Methodist University and Carnegie Mellon University—Heinz College of Informational Systems and Public Policy.
In its second year, the New Mexico Estate Planning Conference occurred a bit later in the year, and focused on the many changes in federal administration.

Albuquerque Community Foundation Trustee and attorney Ken Leach has been the driving force behind the conference programming, bringing together a stellar mix of presenters and topics.

“Whether you are in the estate planning field or a nonprofit fundraising professional, this year’s programming is really important,” said Leach.

This year featured a hybrid event, combining small, in-person pods along with virtual options. Members of the New Mexico State Bar, the Office of the Superintendent of Insurance, the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, the New Mexico Public Accountancy Board, or the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors received Continuing Education credits for attending these sessions.

Interested in presenting next year? Contact kate@abqcf.org
CONFERENCE SPEAKERS AND TOPICS

Kenneth C. Leach, Attorney
Kenneth C. Leach & Associates
Charitable Planning: More Important Now than Ever!

William D. Slease
Program Director
Professional Practice for the
State Bar of New Mexico
Conflicts, Capacity, Coercion, Oh My!
Ethical Issues in Estate Planning

Nell Graham Sale, Of Counsel
Pregenzer, Baysinger, Wideman & Sale, PC
Taxation of Trusts in 2021

Gregory Mackenzie, Attorney
Hurley, Toevs, Styles, Hamblin & Panter, PA
Litigation of Estate Contests

Bridget Mullins, Associate
Pregenzer, Baysinger, Wideman & Sale, PC
The Messy Intersection Between Guardianship and Divorce

CONFERENCE PANEL

Beyond Health, Education, Maintenance and Support (HEMS)...
A Trust Officer’s Guide to Discretionary Distributions

This panel discussed the thought and administration process behind discretionary decisions.

Panel Facilitator:
Loral Welde,
Retired Trust Officer

Panelists:
John Attwood
Vice President and Trust Officer
First American Bank

Anna Grace
Vice President and Senior Wealth Advisor
New Mexico Bank & Trust

Skyler Wildenstein
President
Empire Trust
GET TO KNOW THE FOUNDATION STAFF
1) WHAT IS SOMETHING NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT YOU?
2) IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING THAT COULD CHANGE EVERYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Karen Schoepke
Director of First Impressions
1) Something no one might know about me is when my son was 17 years old he went to the College World Series in Omaha and had dinner with Warren Buffett. He was quite surprised that Warren’s bodyguard followed him to the restroom where he had gone to call me to tell me he was dining with Warren.
2) I think Albuquerque could benefit from a centralized website for community help and services.

Nick Williams
CFO
1) I am learning to dance.
2) Universal broadband access.

Sandy Mwei
Donor Relations & Systems Manager
1) One summer I worked as a Girl Scout camp counselor in Arizona.
2) Remember that we are all in progress and grace is powerful.

Kate Leung
Governance & Philanthropic Advising Associate
1) When I was a child, I was in a Girl Scouts Troop for homeschooled families in the Scottsdale AZ area. That’s why I know one of the stars of the 2013 TV show, Teen Exorcists.
2) Changing the value system with which we weigh and assign societal roles would change everything.

Tiffany Rawls
Senior Accountant
1) I placed 3rd at the State Fair for my jelly.
2) A more collaborative workforce, community and culture of people meeting and interacting to solve problems.

Juaiquin Moya
Vice President of Philanthropic Advising
1) I built my own adobe house in 2009 and in 2018, I was a silver medalist in the 200 butterfly at an International swim meet.
2) I would make a system change to be more equitable and increase access.

Jeff Carr
Accountant & HR Professional
1) I’ve made over 50,000 hamburger buns by hand over the last decade.
2) If I could change one thing, I would be more patient.

Denise Nava
Wyrick Senior Communications Manager
1) I’ve been dancing since I was three years old including tap, ballet and jazz, and I continue to dance with a collective named “Breaking Even.”
2) Free education, affordable housing and universal healthcare.

Kate Leung
Governance & Philanthropic Advising Associate
1) When I was a child, I was in a Girl Scouts Troop for homeschooled families in the Scottsdale AZ area. That’s why I know one of the stars of the 2013 TV show, Teen Exorcists.
2) Changing the value system with which we weigh and assign societal roles would change everything.

Vanessa Gonzalez
Community Impact Officer
1) When I was eight years old I tied for first place in the Northern NM spelling bee contest. We both continued to spell words wrong and the judges gave up. They decided there would be two first place winners.
2) I would remove borders and give people the freedom to live and travel without fear of enforcement.

Randy Royster
President & CEO
1) My dream job after ACF, would be a talk show host – preferably television, but I would accept radio.
2) To remove poverty from the economic landscape of America.

Khia Griffis
Senior Community Impact Program Officer
1) If I told you that, then I couldn’t say that no one knows!
2) I would like our society to place more value on a collaborative and supportive environment, and less on what we accomplish individually.
Thank you to our Corporate Partners for their continued support. We could not do this work without you!

We are looking forward to Great Grant Giveaway in late October, with a few special surprises to celebrate our 40th anniversary! Be on the lookout for more information.

One of many Corporate Partner benefits is participation in the Foundation’s Giving Circles: Social Giving Club or Future Fund. Giving Circles are a great way to engage employees in collective impact philanthropy, a group of people giving together to make a big impact!

To learn more about your employees joining a Giving Circle or becoming a Corporate Partner contact marisa@abqcf.org