

State celebrates impact of older adult volunteers

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SANTA FE — During the month of April, the New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department celebrates the contributions of senior volunteers across the state.

Based on the national value of each volunteer hour in New Mexico, the financial impact of senior volunteers across the state is estimated at over \$13 million. Over this last year, the almost 1,400 senior volunteers serving with initiatives that include Foster Grandparents, Senior Companion and the Retired Senior Volunteer Programs provided over 498,000 hours of service.

"We are tremendously grateful for all of the senior volunteers who serve across our state," ALTSD Cabinet Secretary Jen Paul Schroer said. "Their dedication, time, and commitment reflect the spirit of compassion and service that exemplifies New Mexico. Whether you are a seasoned volunteer or looking to make a difference for the first time, there are countless opportunities to get involved and make a meaningful impact in your community."

In addition to the Foster Grandparents, Senior Companion and Retired Senior Volunteer Programs, ALTSD also offers opportunities for service through the Ombudsman Program and the Aging & Disability Resource Center. The Department encourages any New Mexicans who are interested in volunteering to contact them at 800-432-2080 or visit aging.nm.gov to learn more about opportunities to be of service.

