



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
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State celebrates Older Americans Month, "Powered by Connection"

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Aging & Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) is proud to join the rest of the nation in celebrating Older Americans Month (OAM). During May, and throughout the year, we honor the enduring contributions, resilience and vitality that seniors bring to our communities across New Mexico.

Established in 1963 by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), OAM is celebrated as a time to recognize older Americans' contributions, highlight aging trends, and reaffirm commitments to serving the older adults in our communities. This year's theme, 'Powered by Connection,' emphasizes the importance of belonging and togetherness.

"Being connected is about so much more than having someone to talk to," said Aging Network Operations Director **Denise King**. "It's about having a supportive and inclusive environment where our older adults feel valued and empowered to live their best lives. We invite New Mexicans of all ages to join us in showing their appreciation for all the seniors who continue to make a positive impact on our lives and across our state."

"During Older Americans Month, we honor the resilience and wisdom of our seniors," said Bernalillo County Manager **Julie Morgas Baca**. "Our dedicated BernCo staff, alongside our valued partners with the State of New Mexico and the City of Albuquerque, work tirelessly to ensure our senior centers thrive as hubs of connection and support, enriching the lives of older adults across the county."

Throughout the month, senior centers will be hosting events that celebrate the state's incredible older adult population. Some of these upcoming events include:

Older Americans Month Community Event

- **Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024
- **Time:** 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- **Location:** Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center in Albuquerque

- **Details:** The event will feature food, music, activities, and prizes. Continental breakfast & lunch will be served. Space is limited – call the senior center directly to reserve a seat: 505-288-2507.

Older Americans Month Dinner & Dance

- **Date:** Saturday, May 25, 2024
- **Time:** 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.
- **Location:** Bonnie Dallas Senior Center in Farmington

Elder Appreciation Day

- **Date:** Thursday, May 30, 2024
- **Time:** 9 a.m.
- **Location:** Mescalero Elderly Center in Mescalero, NM
- **Details:** Hosted by the Mescalero Elderly Program & all Mescalero Apache Tribal Members welcome!

These events and more can be found on the ALTSD website. For more information about Older Americans Month events throughout New Mexico, please connect with your local senior center. To find the senior center closest to you, or to find your local senior center, you can visit our new [Senior Center mapping tool](#) on the department website.

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The New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) was established in 2004 to provide resources, connection and advocacy for seniors and adults with disabilities. The department oversees the state's Area Agencies on Aging to elevate the quality of care at senior centers, offers advocacy through the Long-Term Care Ombudsman volunteer program, and provides intervention through the agency's national award-winning Adult Protective Services. Additionally, ALTSD houses the state's Aging and Disability Resource Center, which offers options counseling, education, and connection to resources. For more information about ALTSD, visit aging.nm.gov or follow us on [Facebook](#), [X \(Twitter\)](#), and [Instagram](#) @NewMexicoAging.