

STATE OF NEW MEXICO Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor

Jen Paul Schroer, Cabinet Secretary Designate Sarah Jacobs, Deputy Secretary Antoinette Vigil, Deputy Secretary

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45th Annual Conference on Aging: Celebrating Success and Shaping the Future





Pictured above from left to right: Attendees during day 1 general session; Sec. Designate Jen Paul Schroer & Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham at the social dance. Photos by Kandace Montoya

SANTA FE – The Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) hosted the $45^{\rm th}$ Annual Conference on Aging this November 13-14 at the National Hispanic Cultural Center. The event brought together advocates, experts, caregivers, and older adults to discuss crucial issues impacting seniors in New Mexico.

Over 700 attendees participated in this year's conference, social dance and watch parties across the state, including 8 tribes and pueblos, 71 exhibitors, and 21 presenters. Conference-goers had the opportunity to attend workshops from subject matter experts, listen to engaging keynote

speakers, and hear remarks from Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and Lt. Governor Howie Morales.

"I want to extend my sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of the 45th Annual Conference on Aging," said Cabinet Secretary Designate **Jen Paul Schroer**. "The dedication, passion and commitment of the ALTSD staff, community partners, and conference attendees helped create an incredible event for New Mexicans. I am also grateful for the Governor and Lt. Governor and the advocacy they continue to display for our state's older adults. We look forward to continuing the conversations and connections at next year's conference."

As this year's conference comes to a close, plans are already underway for the 46th Annual Conference on Aging, which will build on the momentum of this year's event.

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The New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) was established in 2004 to provide advocacy, support, and resources 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.