

Invest in Children, See the Results



2004 - 2005 Annual Report



Dear Friends,

We believe: children do better when their families do better. When families do better, communities prosper and when communities prosper, the state thrives. Not only economically, but also morally. At the heart of why we are child advocates is our belief that children are the future, and that we are at a critical moment in history.

Many of us who are now baby-boomers grew up in families where hard work really did result in a real increase in the standard of living. We enjoy lives that are materially better than that of our parents'. We were instilled with the belief that education and hard work were the keys to greater economic success, and it's been true. But the idea of economic success in America was built on the value of opportunity for all.

If the children growing up now do not see those same truisms still at work for them, they will have no stake in the future of this state, or the country. The battle for the children of today is the battle for the future of America.

*This cannot be a great country if citizens are not invested – personally – in what it means to be an American. A great part of what it has always meant to be American is to have the opportunity to share in the wealth. That doesn't translate into *being* wealthy, but *sharing* in the wealth. When we leave so many families and children behind, when the gulf between the haves and have-nots grows into a canyon, when people of color populate our prisons, our child welfare systems and our poor communities, we've undermined one of the fundamental moral reasons America is a great country: the promise of opportunity for all.*

The support that you as individuals, businesses and foundations have given to New Mexico Voices for Children gives life to the core value of opportunity for all. That means fair taxes, access to healthcare, the opportunity to work at jobs that sustain a family, and good public education among other things.

We've spent your money wisely. As I write this letter, Albuquerque voters are deciding if jobs in Albuquerque will pay better wages. Better wages will help close the gap between the haves and have-nots and shore up the fading belief that America stands for equal opportunity. New Mexico Voices for Children is proud to have been a partner in the fight for better wages. We have lent our support – through our research and our staff time – to this campaign. We were able to do it because of the unrestricted money that many of you gave us, believing that we would be good stewards of your trust. Win or lose in this battle, we will continue to fight until there is a victory - on fair wages and so many other issues - for families and children living in poverty.

Thank you for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Lee".

Chairperson, New Mexico Voices for Children Board of Directors

2004-2005 *Year In Review*

The work at New Mexico Voices for Children is guided by four core values: Racial and Ethnic Equality, Healthy Communities, Economic Justice and Citizen Participation. These **values reflect our fundamental belief in expanding opportunity for all**. We know that children do better when their families do better. When families prosper, communities flourish. Community health, in turn, produces children who grow up to be active, connected and caring citizens.

Every year we examine our progress and refine our work. Realizing that **institutional racism** continues today in practices and policies, we have decided to make race and cultural inclusion more prominent in our work. Throughout the year, we were more deliberate in **examining policies through a racial lens**. We published separate reports on **African American and Native American children** in New Mexico, and participated in the dissemination of a report produced by the Annie E. Casey Foundation on **Hispanic children** living along the border between Mexico and the United States. A new project funded by the Kellogg Foundation, 4 Youth, centers on healthcare access through school-based health centers for **Native American children**. Working with Native American legislators, our advocacy efforts resulted in capital outlay for a new school based health center in To'hajiilee.

Realizing that there are **things that we must do together** because they cannot be done alone, much of our organizational energy is spent in **development, repair and oversight of the state's infrastructure** that provides critical supports as families move from poverty toward economic self-sufficiency. **Safeguarding the public structures** that provide health care for children and childcare assistance for working families is central to our work. The **Fiscal Policy Project** released critical reports on the state's social infrastructure, the state of working New Mexico, and the failure of tax cuts in New Mexico to stimulate the economy and create jobs.

Communications continued to play a central role in our organization. We learned more about developing **a clear and concise message** that conveys our commitment to a shared outcome for all of us. There can be **opportunity for all**, and when anyone is left out of this frame, we are all diminished. The result of our efforts was that **24 newspapers** (from Farmington to El Paso, from Portales to Gallup) printed **98 articles and 16 op-eds and letters to the editor from New Mexico Voices for Children**. Our op-eds, letters to the editor and newsletters conveyed these central themes of inclusion and posed solutions to poverty. We also joined a number of non-profits in bringing a **progressive news service** to New Mexico so that more stories about social justice and environmental issues are heard on the radio.

And, we recognize **the strength of working with other organizations** toward our common goals. We have engaged ally organizations in a coalition, **New Mexicans for Fair Taxes**, to advocate for progressive reforms of New Mexico tax policies and an accountable state budget. The success of this coalition was captured in a headline in the Albuquerque *Tribune* on March 10 "**Guv Pulls Back on Tax Cut**." We participated as a lead organization in the **Medicaid coalition** developing data, educating policymakers and implementing a communications strategy. The coalition prevented further Medicaid budget cuts in 2005 legislative session. We have been active partners on the **Albuquerque Fair Wage campaign**. Bare Bones Budget research and data were used in that wage campaign, and to protect the Santa Fe Living Wage during the 2005 legislative session.

Please join us in expanding opportunity for all children and families in New Mexico. Use the enclosed envelope to become a supporter today. Visit our website for updates on our work, reports on children in New Mexico, policy papers, data and press materials at www.nmvoices.org.

Financial Report

June 30, 2005

Assets	6/30/2005
Cash	\$ 413,410
Accounts Receivable	\$ 278,852
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 11,455
Equipment (Net)	\$ 92,333
Total Assets	\$ 796,050

Liabilities and Fund Balance

Accounts Payable	\$ 277,249
Deferred Revenue	\$ 317,050
Fund Balance	\$ 201,751
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$ 796,050

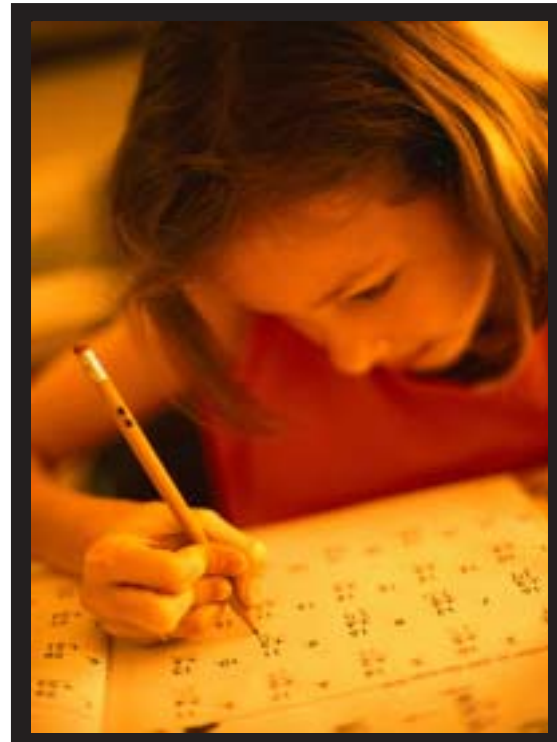
Revenue

Grants & Contracts	\$2,623,032
Memberships & Donations	\$ 211,306
Other	\$ 4,568
Total Revenue	\$2,838,906

Expenses

Program Services	\$2,348,796
Management & General	\$ 329,138
Fundraising	\$ 125,682
Total Expenses	\$2,813,616

Net Profit (Loss)	\$ 25,290
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New Mexico Voices for Children Endowment Fund Statement

July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005



Beginning Fund Balance (7/01/04)	\$43,468
Additions to the Fund:	
Contributions	\$ 0
Interest & Dividend Income	\$ 735
Realized Gains (Losses)	\$ 718
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	\$ 2,027
Total Additions to the Fund	\$ 3,480
Withdrawals from the Fund:	
Grants & Distributions	\$ 0
Administrative Fee	\$ 446
Other Expenses	\$ 0
Total Withdrawals from the Fund	\$ 446
Ending Fund Balance (6/30/05)	\$46,502

To make a contribution to the New Mexico Voices for Children Endowment at the Albuquerque Community Foundation, please contact the Development Department.

Thank you to our 2004-2005 supporters....

Voice \$0 - \$249

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