Heading into 2022
Pandemic Impacts on Well-Being

- 21% of NM parents unsure they can pay rent/mortgage
- 38% of NM parents had difficulty paying for basic household expenses
- 31% of NM households with children were not eating enough
- 40% of NM parents with children under 5 had child care disruptions in the past month because of COVID-19
The health and economic impacts of COVID-19 have been highly inequitable across lines of income, race, and gender.
Session Goals

- Ensure all families can meet their basic needs
- Build a strong budget that helps children thrive
- Protect revenues
- Prioritize equity in policies and partnerships

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Strategies for the 2022 Legislative Session
Political Context

- Significant federal dollars going to New Mexico
- Significant and record state revenue
- Roundhouse logistics
- Governor cautious in an election year
Strategies and Tactics

- Outreach to lawmakers before and during the session
- Strong pre-session contact with key players
- Heavy social media presence
- Partner collaboration
- 5 T’s:
  - Teamwork
  - Testify
  - Text
  - Talk
  - Thank

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Policy Outcomes
Tax Policy

Tax credits to provide relief & improve equity

● Created refundable state Child Tax Credit (HB 163)
  ○ Returns $75 million to all families with children
  ○ Income-based, and up to $175/child

● One-time rebate relief (HB 163)
  ○ For low- to upper-middle income residents
  ○ $250/single, $500/married couples
Tax Policy
Revenue to support critical programs

● **DID NOT PASS:**
  ○ New or increased revenue measures

● **Successfully defended:**
  ○ Significant revenue defended
  ○ Safeguards put in place in other areas to protect revenue

“Like a Saint Bernard with its keg of brandy coming to the aid of a lost traveler, New Mexico has provided a shot of hope to advocates of tax equity.”

-Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy

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Family Economic Security

- **Predatory Lending**
  - 36% cap on small loans (HB 132)

- **Paid Family Medical Leave**
  - Task force to study and provide recommendations for a paid leave policy (SM 1)
Early Care and Education

- **Increased Funding for the Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD)**
  - $15.3 million in new funding
  - $10.6 million for Pre-K
  - $2 million for home visiting
  - $1.4 million for Tribal ECE programs
  - $1 million for provider scholarships and wage supplements

- **Protecting Early Childhood Funding**
  - Defeated an attempt to use the new Early Childhood Trust Fund for purposes other than early care and education (SB 118)

- **Expanding the role and authority of the ECECD (SB 38)**

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K-12 and Higher Education

- **Support for Educators**
  - Increasing Salaries for Licensed Teachers (SB 1)
  - Teacher Residency Changes (HB 13)

- **Support for Students**
  - Outdoor Learning Program, Extended Learning, & Community Schools (HB 2)

- **Free Tuition for All**
  - Opportunity Scholarship (SB 140)
  - Full funding for Lottery Scholarship (HB 2)

- **DID NOT PASS**
  - Plan for school leaders, more school nurses, school-based health clinics (HM 21, SB 58, SB 67)

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Yazzie/Martinez Response

- **Funding for Hispanic Education Act**
  - $500,000 (HB 2)

- **Funding for Tribal Remedy Framework**
  - $35 million for other Tribal Remedy Framework initiatives (HB 2)
  - Native American Language Certificate Salaries (HB 60)

- **DID NOT PASS**
  - Requirements for a comprehensive plan, ECECD and tribal government joint powers agreement (HM 12, SM 12, HB 61, HB 185)
Native American Family Well-being

- Protections for Native children and families in the child welfare system
  - Indian Family Protection Act (IFPA) (HB 135)

- Support for New Mexicans who have missing relatives
  - Attorney General Office for Missing Indigenous Persons (SB 12)
  - Missing in New Mexico Event (SB 13)

- DID NOT PASS
  - Indigenous Wisdom Curriculum Project (SB 97)
Health Care

● **Increased funding for Medicaid**
  ○ $242 million in new funding for Medicaid
    ■ Extend postpartum coverage
    ■ Eliminate the Developmental Disabilities waiver waiting list

● **Increased access to Medicaid and the Marketplace**
  ○ Easy Enrollment in Healthcare Coverage (HB 96)
Behavioral Health Care

• Major expansions
  ○ $20 million to HSD
  ○ $50 million special appropriation to HED
  ○ $4 million to implement the new 988 phone system for behavioral health assistance
Public Health

● Food, Farm, & Hunger Initiative
  ○ $24 million invested through agency budgets
  ○ First large, coordinated effort to address food systems and food insecurity

● School of Public Health
  ○ $15 million to UNM and NMSU
Housing

● Increased and Sustained Funding for Affordable Housing
  ○ NM Housing Trust Fund (SB 134)
  ○ $25 million in recurring funding

● DID NOT PASS
  ○ Housing Modernization Changes (HB 65)
Environment

● Improved energy efficiency of homes in underserved communities
  ○ Community Energy Efficiency Development (CEED) Block Grant (HB 37)

● DID NOT PASS
  ○ Clean Fuel Standards (SB 14)
  ○ Clean Futures Act (HB 6)
  ○ Full funding for the state agencies that regulate oil and gas producers (HB 2)

● Successfully OPPOSED Hydrogen Hub legislation (HB 4, HB 227, HB 228, SB 194)

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Criminal Justice Reform

● Crime Package
  ○ “Tough on crime” bill (HB 68)

● Harm Reduction Act (HB 52)

● DID NOT PASS
  ○ Fines and fees reform (HB 81)
  ○ The “second chance” bill (SB 43)
Equity and Civil Rights

- Language access to government services and programs (HB 22)
- $10 million in support for those left out of federal relief
- **DID NOT PASS**
  - New Mexico Voting Rights Act (SB 8)
    - Defeated by a Republican filibuster in the closing minutes
  - Affirmative Consent Policy In Schools (HB 44)
    - Amendments to the Human Rights Act to confirm that it applies to government agencies
Looking Forward
Policy Opportunities on the Horizon

- Policy progress still needed in many areas
- Grow relationships with and help develop new lawmakers
- Prioritize racial and gender equity
- Bigger, bolder, better policies for families
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