

STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, education, literacy, and numeracy open doors for New Mexicans and their families to access better jobs, improved wages, better health, and a higher quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the need for a highly-literate citizenry increases as New Mexico moves toward a skill-based 21st Century economy; and

WHEREAS, 39 percent of New Mexico's adults have low literacy or educational attainment levels that severely impact their ability to earn livable wages and fully contribute to their communities; and

WHEREAS, over 14 percent of New Mexico adults have not attained a high school diploma or equivalency credential; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's community colleges, universities, and community-based organizations provided basic skill, workplace preparation, and literacy services to 11,456 adults during the 2022-2023 program year; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico Adult Education Programs served 1,490 low-income students, 978 single parents or guardians, 8,373 Hispanic, 1,054 Native American, 277 Black or African American Students, and 598 students over the age of 55; and

WHEREAS, during the 2022-2023 program year, 2,730 adult students achieved measurable skills gain, 1,239 adult students received their High School Equivalency credential, 256 enrolled in postsecondary education or training, and 1,607 were employed during Quarter 2 after exiting program; and

WHEREAS, empowering New Mexico parents and guardians through adult education and literacy services is directly linked to improved educational outcomes for their children; and

WHEREAS, sustaining funding for New Mexico's adult education and family literacy programs is essential to uplift New Mexico's families, communities, and economy; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Higher Education Department, the New Mexico Adult Education Association, New Mexico Adult Education programs, and New Mexico's community-based and nonprofit literacy organizations are jointly committed to eradicating illiteracy in our state.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim September 17 through September 23, 2023 as:

“Adult Education and Family Literacy Week”

throughout the state of New Mexico.

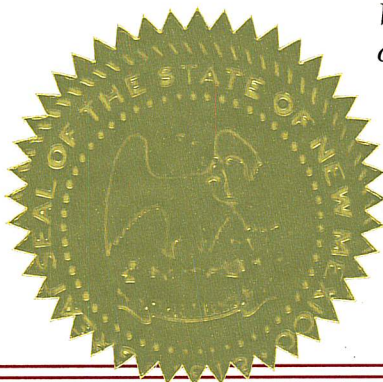
Attest:

Handwritten signature of Maggie Toulouse Oliver in black ink.

Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this
14th day of September 2023.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal
of the State of New Mexico.

Handwritten signature of Michelle Lujan Grisham in black ink.

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor