



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** November 6, 2017

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**NMECDP to Spend Day in Santa Fe Discussing the Importance of Expanding NM PreK**

*Statewide early learning policy organization will meet with providers, educators and policy makers to discuss the benefits and challenges of expansion efforts.*

**Who:** New Mexico Early Childhood Development Partnership (NMECDP) is a statewide policy initiative of United Way of Santa Fe County. NMECDP is dedicated to creating the public awareness and political will for investment in early learning in New Mexico.

**What:** NMECDP will highlight the importance of NM PreKindergarten and the positive impact high-quality early learning programs for working families.

**When:** Wednesday, November 15, 2017

**7:30-9:00 a.m.**

**Media Availability**

*NMECDP staff will be available for in studio interviews or to answer questions from the media.*

**9:30-10:30 a.m.**

**NM PreK Site Visit**

*A visit to a local NM PreK site to see firsthand the positive impact of early childhood education.*

**United Way of Santa Fe County Early Learning Center  
at Aspen Community Magnet School**

430 La Madera Street  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

**11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

**Lunch and Community Conversation**

*Join us for a lunch and conversation about expanding NM PreK. All are welcome.*

**Santa Fe Community College**

Jemez Room  
6401 Richards Avenue  
Santa Fe, NM 87508

**Santa Fe, NM** – NMECDP will spend the day highlighting the importance of the New Mexico Prekindergarten program (NM PreK) in Santa Fe on November 15. Press is invited to a ***NM PreK site visit at UWSFC’s Early Learning Center at Aspen Community Magnet School***, 430 La Madera Street, Santa Fe, NM 87501 and a ***Lunch and Community Conversation at the Santa Fe Community College in the Jemez Room, 6401 Richards Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87508.***

NMECDP is focusing on a multi-year initiative to expand NM PreK to every 3-and 4-year-old who wants it.

The event will also highlight the positive impact of high quality early childhood education and care programs for working families and how it can empower mothers to stay in the workforce and advance their education.

“We are excited to tour New Mexico to talk about expanding NM PreK,” said Claire Dudley Chavez, Executive VP for Policy and Stakeholder Engagement, NMECDP. “Our children are counting on us to figure out how to expand high-quality PreK programming that ensures they are ready for success the day they start kindergarten.”

Early childhood education and care is the sole mission of United Way of Santa Fe County, with a commitment to ensuring that every child receives an opportunity to succeed in school and in life. UWSFC is committed to engaging the entire community, bringing together people and resources to create opportunities for children and families to achieve their dreams and aspirations.

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