

**Albuquerque Service-Learning Gathering
First Unitarian Church
April 17, 2008**

We Envision...

- Healthy people, healthy communities
- Improving access to healthcare
- Partnerships in community health and wellness
- Partnerships in health with rural communities
- A community that supports ALL members to be healthy
- Crime-free community

- Parent involvement at their children's schools; a give and take relationship
- Afterschool programs for youth in rural areas

- A sustainable economy
- Jobs to give youth a choice to live in their community and raise families

- Students learning by working in the community
- Students as leaders shaping all aspects of the future
- A community where there are numerous opportunities for youth leadership & partnership
- A chance for our kids to appreciate what they have – and help those in need
- Be passionate and use their skills and abilities to bring about their dreams & goals and also benefit others in the process
- Students understanding the issues in their community, taking responsibility to help change their community, and having the skills to create positive change
- Children feeling ownerships within their community
- Students making positive connections in the global community, sharing experiences in service-learning
- People helping people because it's the right thing to do (not for \$)

- An opportunity for kids to be active in helping the local environment
- Kids in the local area forming a long-term relationship with the land and a deeper understanding of what is happening in our ecosystem

- Teamwork, private-public partnerships
- Fairness and equality, equal opportunity
- Inclusion for people of all abilities
- Solidarity and a united voice

- Service-learning and community transformation are one project

We Have...

- Energetic and gifted students

- Children with interest and desire to be involved in their community
 - Some enthusiastic kids and interested parents
 - Great student/youth leadership
 - Parents, various community programs (e.g., ENLACE)
 - Committed, passionate, knowledgeable community members and organizations
 - Strong community leaders and organizations
 - Great progressive grassroots organizations!
 - Many organizations who need assistance in achieving their goals and many students who can help
 - Five community resource centers in rural areas. We have volunteers and staff that are over-extended with other programs. We also have community leaders who are supportive
 - Lots of people all ages who are interested in being a part
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- Diversity (Anglo/Native American/Hispanic)
 - People of different talents and abilities that can assist one another in creating change/improvement
 - Open-door policy at schools
 - Programs/camps for DD students
 - Community health initiatives
 - A beautiful, big piece of land for education, but nobody knows who we are!
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- High crime rate
 - A city that has clear, pressing challenges!
 - Our goal has an immediacy
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- Great projects waiting to happen

We Can ...

- Build partnerships/relationships/networks
 - Bring together people of all ages to be involved in service project that the group feel connect to/passionate about
 - Develop partnerships where youth are leaders
 - Provide opportunities to a diverse population to work together to serve and improve our community
 - Create a structure for teacher-school support and partnerships
 - Create partnerships to develop a strong economy
 - Develop strategic partnerships to change policy, create healthy environments, etc.
 - Find out what's happening already, partner and build
 - Share ideas and passions
 - Work together
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- Provide an opportunity and place for students to test their own ecology research questions and help them carry out their plans

- Reach out to families and children. Make them more aware of available resource and encourage involvement
- We can develop additional partnerships, recruit additional volunteers and identify additional funding options to improve facilities and increase staff
- Provide programs for students to develop into meaningful community contributions
- Community Court
- Develop economic cooperative
- Develop strong partnerships and sustainable projects for community health needs
- Create applied learning opportunities that benefit communities and students leading to more rural health providers
- Educate our youth

Service-Learning Opportunities in Albuquerque

General

- Student service-learning projects, grades 9-12: Amy Biehl HS; South Valley Academy
- Healthy development and ESL is missing adolescent and afterschool programs in Dona Ana County: Dona Ana County
- Social Action Component for K-12 faith-based programs, including intergenerational partnerships: 1st Unitarian Church

Environment

- Community gardening: El Centro de la Raza UNM, UNM Research Service-Learning Program; Roots and Shoots, City of Albuquerque,
- Course on community gardening: CNM
- Master gardeners: 4H - NMSU Extension
- Community gardens: Dragon Farm (South Valley Academy); Sanchez Farm (La Plazita)
- Agriculture: South Valley Economic Development Center
- Sandia Mountain ecosystem research and monitoring, educational projects: Sandia Natural History Center, Cedar Crest
- Rio Rancho (and other) Children's Water Festivals: See website: <http://www.waterfestnm.com/>
- Video Conferences among NM and Illinois school children re: rivers: NMSU Extension
- Global exchanges re: water and environment: Roots and Shoots Partnerships in Understanding

Health

- Holistic, healthy development: The Learning Group
- Community Mapping re: Health : Bernalillo County Health Council

History and Culture

- Service-learning for college students, with a focus on Latino/Chicano populations (immigrant rights, cultural, bilingual, mentoring, role modeling): El Centro de la Raza, UNM
- Community Story-books: APS - Kirtland ES

- Understanding historical trauma among Native Americans, reconnecting with history and culture: Isleta Pueblo

Organizational/Community Development

- Nonprofit grant-writing: UNM Professional Writing course, UNM Research Service-Learning Program
- Nonprofit public relations materials, manuals, web design: UNM Professional Writing course, UNM Research Service-Learning Program
- Public Awareness/Marketing Campaign re: Child Abuse and Neglect prevention: NM Children's Cabinet, NM Commission on Community Volunteerism

School-Parent-Community Partnerships

- Healthy development and ESL is missing adolescent and afterschool programs in Dona Ana County: Dona Ana County
- Parent-to-Parent education and empowerment to demystify schools for parents and increase parent involvement in schools: ENLACE
- Compañero Mentoring – ENLACE
- Family Involvement: APS Office of Community-School Partnerships; UNM Course for family/parent advocates
- Parent-initiated service-learning club: Bandelier ES

Youth Leadership Development

- Youth engagement and leadership: UNM Community Learning and Public Service; NM Civic Engagement Initiative