

LEGISLATIVE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

OCTOBER, 6 2025

PROJECT ECHO OVERVIEW

ECHO



1650



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Project ECHO Was Created to Address an Ongoing Challenge:

New Mexico is the
5th largest
state (in area) in the U.S.

30 out of 33
counties are designated as
medically underserved

Hepatitis C Clinic in 2003: Eight-month wait



Echo Session



How an Echo Session Works



Interactive



Peer-to-peer learning



Co-management of cases



Collaborative problem solving

A SEMINAL 2011 STUDY IN **THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE** DEMONSTRATED THAT **ECHO IMPROVED ACCESS TO CARE IN UNDER-RESOURCED COMMUNITIES**



The NEW ENGLAND
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

[SPECIALTIES](#) ▾ [TOPICS](#) ▾ [MULTIMEDIA](#) ▾ [CURRENT ISSUE](#) ▾ [LEARNING/CME](#) ▾ [AUTHOR CENTER](#) [PUBLICATIONS](#) ▾ |

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Outcomes of Treatment for Hepatitis C Virus Infection by Primary Care Providers

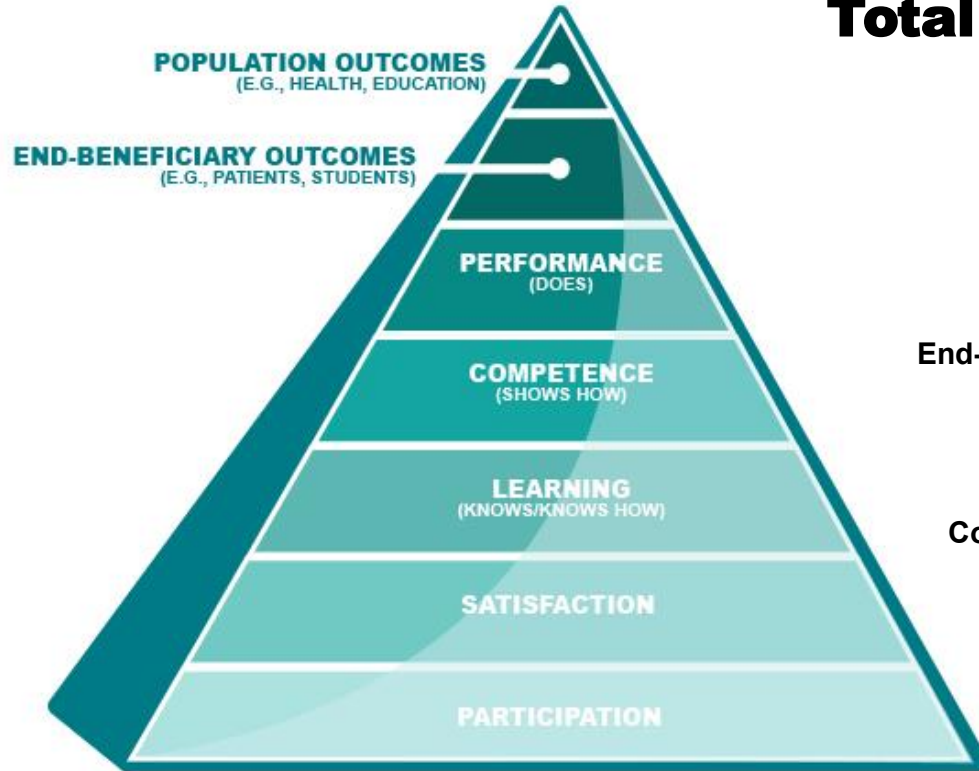
Authors: Sanjeev Arora, M.D., Karla Thornton, M.D., Glen Murata, M.D., Paulina Deming, Pharm.D., Summers Kalishman, Ph.D., Denise Dion, Ph.D., Brooke Parish, M.D., [+7](#), and Clifford Qualls, Ph.D. [Author Info & Affiliations](#)

Published June 9, 2011 | N Engl J Med 2011;364:2199-2207 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1009370 | [VOL. 364 NO. 23](#)



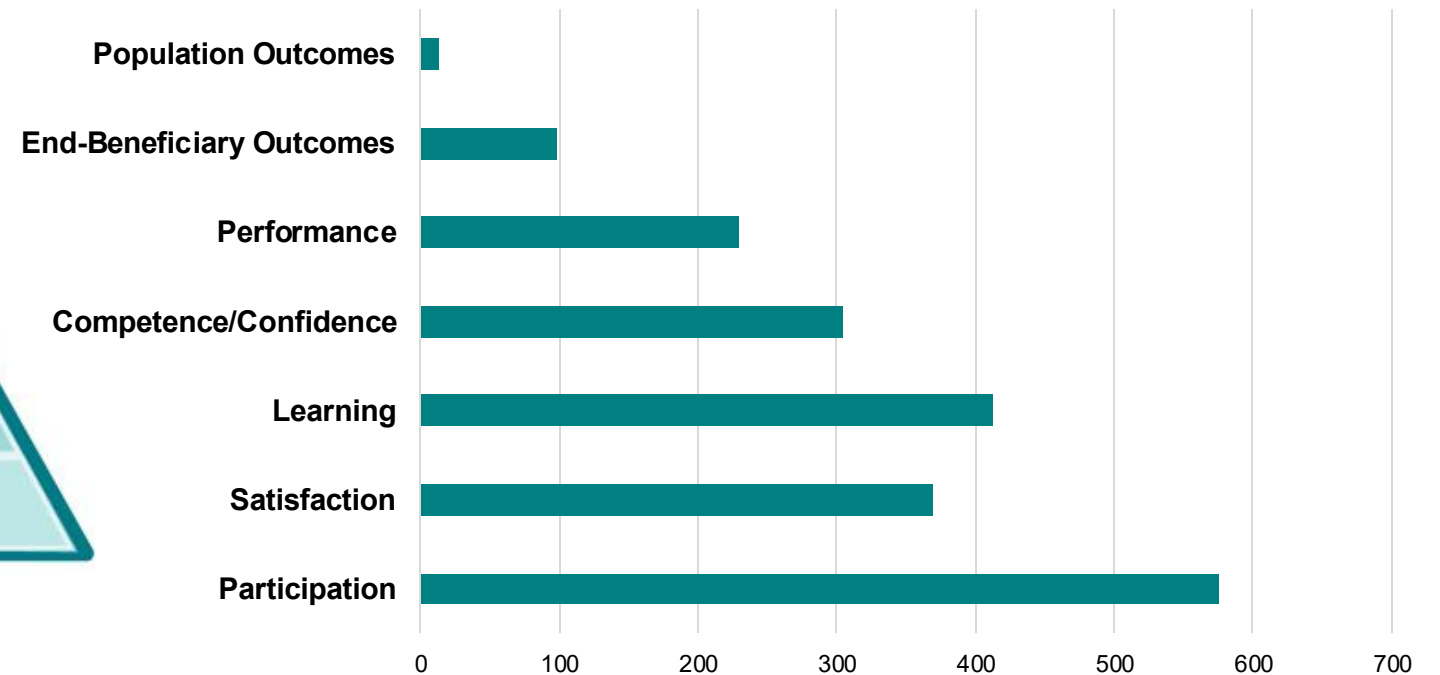
Robust Evidence Shows ECHO Model's Effectiveness

ECHO Publications by Outcome Levels



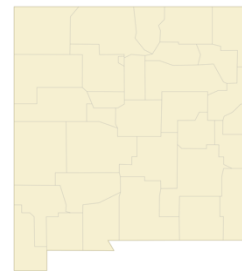
Total ECHO Publications = 805 (as of 09/30/2025)

Project ECHO Publication Outcomes by Moore's Levels



Evidence that Project ECHO is Cost Effective or Decreases Costs for US patients/systems

- **New Mexico**: ECHO Care mentored Outpatient intensivist teams (OITs) providing care to high-cost, high-need Medicaid (HCHN) patients; program served 770 patients in New Mexico Sep 2013-June 2016. Nearly all had a chronic mental illness, and over three-quarters had a chronic substance use disorder. Medicaid claims data was used to measure healthcare utilization before and after ECHO Care.
- **ECHO Care patients significantly reduced their use of ED visits** and inpatient admissions while increasing their use of outpatient care and dispensed prescriptions.



(Komaromy et al. 2020 J Gen Intern Med).

The All Teach / All Learn ECHO Model

The all teach/all learn ECHO Model **connects experts with frontline healthcare workers**, providing expert knowledge, mentoring and an ongoing community of practice to **underserved communities**



The ECHO Model **creates a ripple effect**. When one participant shares their expertise with peers, each can go on to improve hundreds of lives **in their communities**.

The ECHO Model is a tool to help upskill frontline workers

- Ongoing mentorship and guided practice
- Discussion driven by real needs and actual cases and problems of those working on the frontline
- Provides a supportive social network
- Efficient and effective way to get implementation of best practices to frontline workers
- Creating a safe space for dialog, learning, and development

Communities of Practice Create Joy of Work

Participants in ECHO programs:

- feel more connected
- experience decreased professional isolation
- report increased professional satisfaction
- exhibit increased resilience





PROJECT ECHO IN NEW MEXICO

Our Impact in New Mexico

334,000

Number of Attendances in ECHO Sessions Since 2006

100%

Of New Mexico Counties Have ECHO Participants

314,000

New Mexicans Benefitted from ECHO's Health Programs in 2024

1,427

Number of ECHO Programs Attended Since 2006



**ACTIVE
HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS
SERVING NEW MEXICO**

New Mexico has a severe shortage of health care providers, with an average of five providers per 10,000 people.

ECHO's health care programs span a multitude of focuses, including:

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

ADDICTION TREATMENT

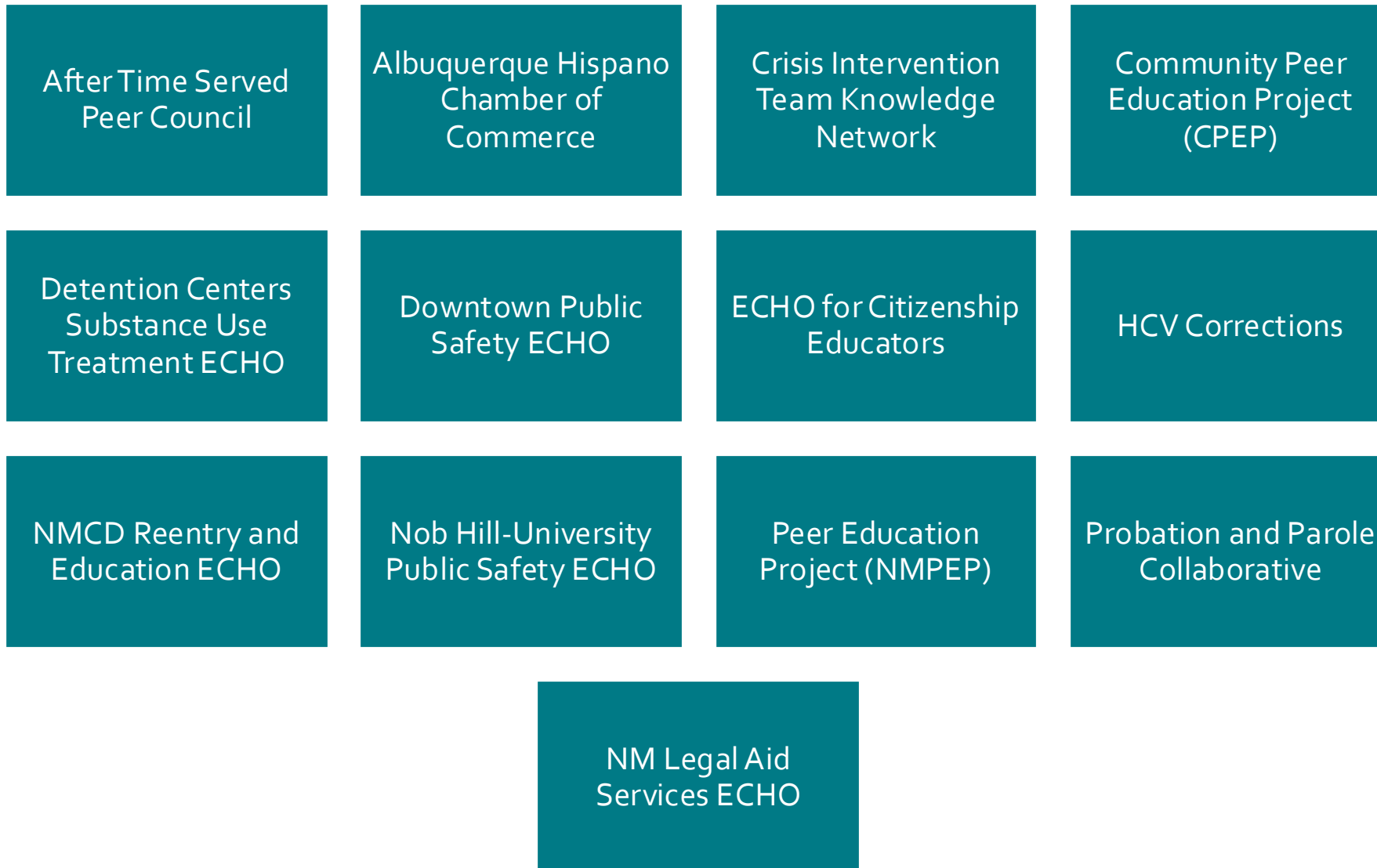


New Mexico ECHO Institute Supported Health Programs

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ACEs ECHO: Putting Faces to the ACEs | Alcohol Use and Mental Health | Artificial Intelligence in Medicine | Bone Health | Cancer Survivorship for Primary Care | Care of the older Patient | Child and Adolscent Mental Health | Community Health Worker Diabetes |
| Community Health Worker/Peer Support Worker Opioid | Community Opioid Response Education (CORE) | Dermatology | Diabetes Self-Mnagement Education and Support (DSMES) | Ear, Nose, and Throat | Endocrinogy (Diabetes focus) | General Pediatric | HCV Provider Training |
| Hepatobiliary (HPB) Cancers Consultation | HHS/ASPR Project ECHO Clinical Rounds: Patient Care, Clinical Operations, Workforce Training | HIV and HI Prevention (UNM-AETC) | HRSA TTELP Clinical Communication | HRSA TTELP Infections Disease Consult | HRSA TTELP Infections Disease Office Hours | HRSA TTELP Post-COVID Primary Care | Improving Perinatal Health |
| Indian Health Services (HIS) HIV | Liver Health | Long Term Care | Maternal Child Health for CHWs | Miners' Wellness | Neurology | Opioid Crisis and Pain Management | Palliative Care |
| Palliative Care Champions | Reproductive Health | Rheumatology | SafeCare New Mexico | School Health | Social Drivers of Health (SDOH) Support Integration | Street Medicine | Substance Use Disorder in Pregnancy |
| Suicide Prevention ECHO | Syphilis Syndemic | Violence Prevention | Viral Hepatitis Community | Weight Management | Youth Suicide Prevention | Youth Vaping Prevention | |



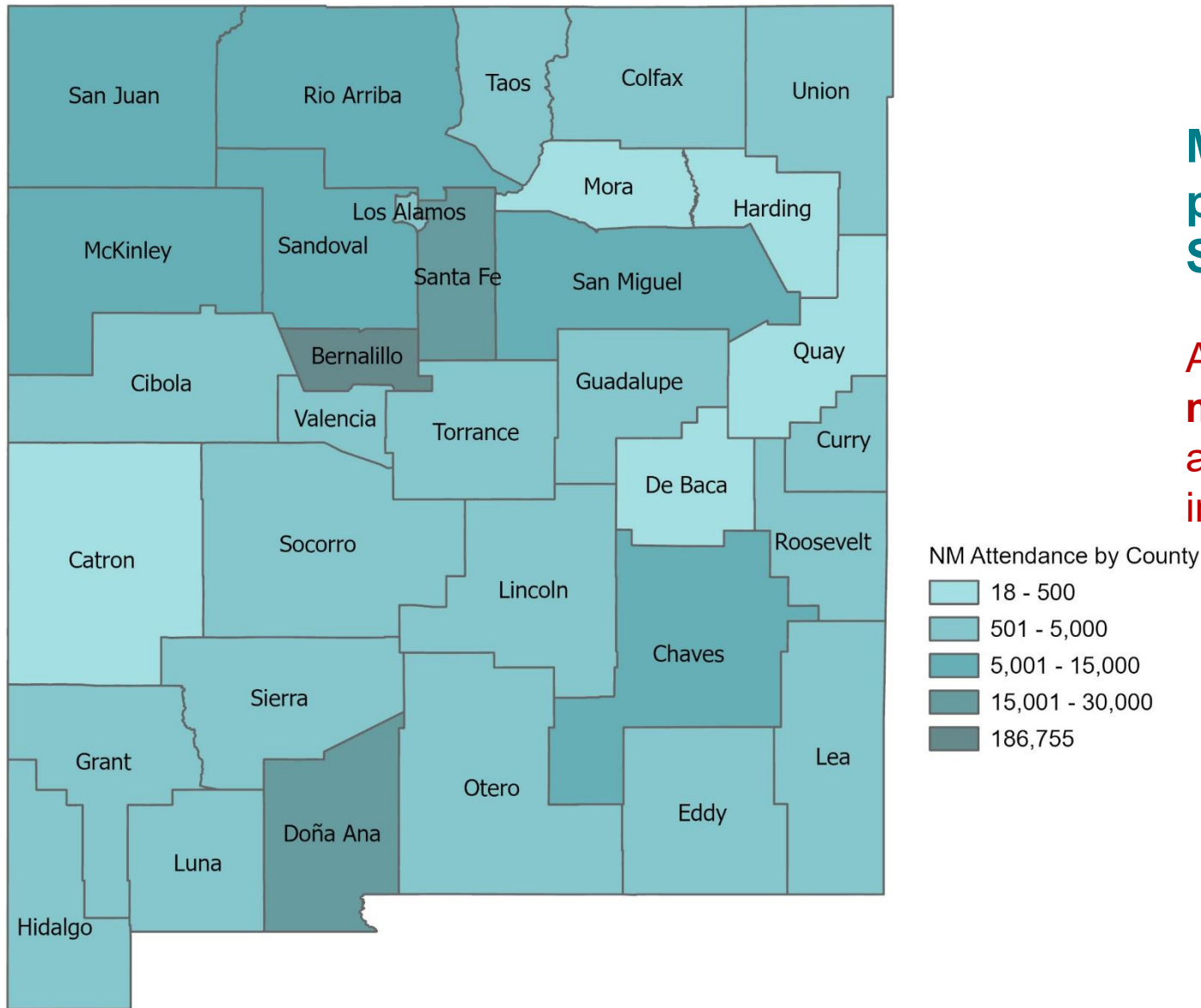
New Mexico ECHO Institute Supported Civics & Justice Programs



September 2025

Map of Attendance by first line professionals in ECHO Sessions Across the State

As of 9/30/2025, there have been **more than 335,000** cumulative attendances by at least **26,000** individuals.



September 2025

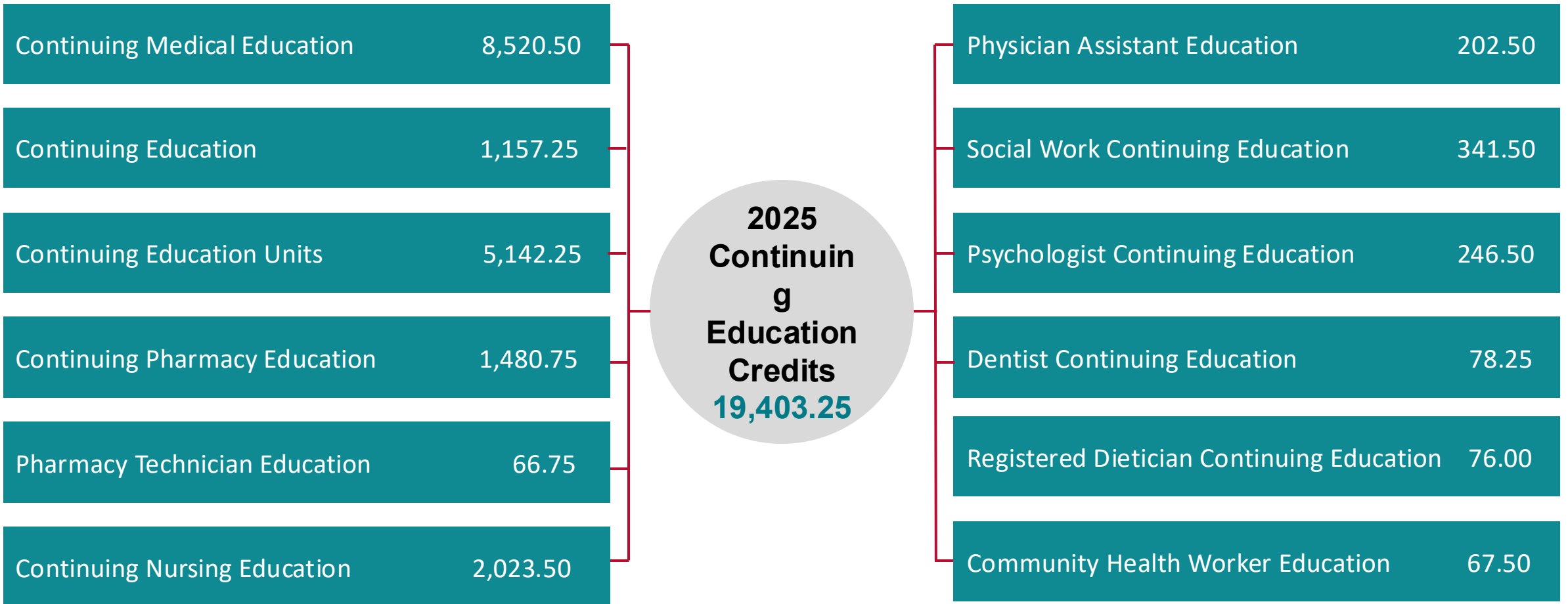
New Mexico County Attendance by first line professionals in ECHO Sessions Across the State

As of 9/30/2025, there have been **more than 335,000** cumulative attendances by at least **26,000** individuals.

| NM County | Total Attendance | Unique Attendees |
|------------|------------------|------------------|
| Bernalillo | 186,755 | 13,815 |
| Catron | 131 | 13 |
| Chaves | 5,222 | 518 |
| Cibola | 4,381 | 473 |
| Colfax | 1,417 | 191 |
| Curry | 1,526 | 208 |
| De Baca | 113 | 21 |
| Dona Ana | 19,456 | 1,599 |
| Eddy | 2,969 | 255 |
| Grant | 4,105 | 335 |
| Guadalupe | 1,160 | 87 |
| Harding | 18 | 4 |
| Hidalgo | 719 | 38 |
| Lea | 2,866 | 294 |
| Lincoln | 928 | 122 |
| Los Alamos | 668 | 91 |
| Luna | 730 | 140 |
| McKinley | 9,892 | 971 |
| Mora | 324 | 26 |
| Otero | 2,827 | 327 |
| Quay | 275 | 63 |
| Rio Arriba | 8,784 | 594 |
| Roosevelt | 2,328 | 122 |
| San Juan | 6,464 | 773 |
| San Miguel | 7,185 | 375 |
| Sandoval | 8,939 | 942 |
| Santa Fe | 28,864 | 1,838 |
| Sierra | 600 | 100 |
| Socorro | 1,300 | 223 |
| Taos | 3,539 | 428 |
| Torrance | 1,442 | 93 |
| Union | 507 | 58 |
| Valencia | 4,837 | 468 |

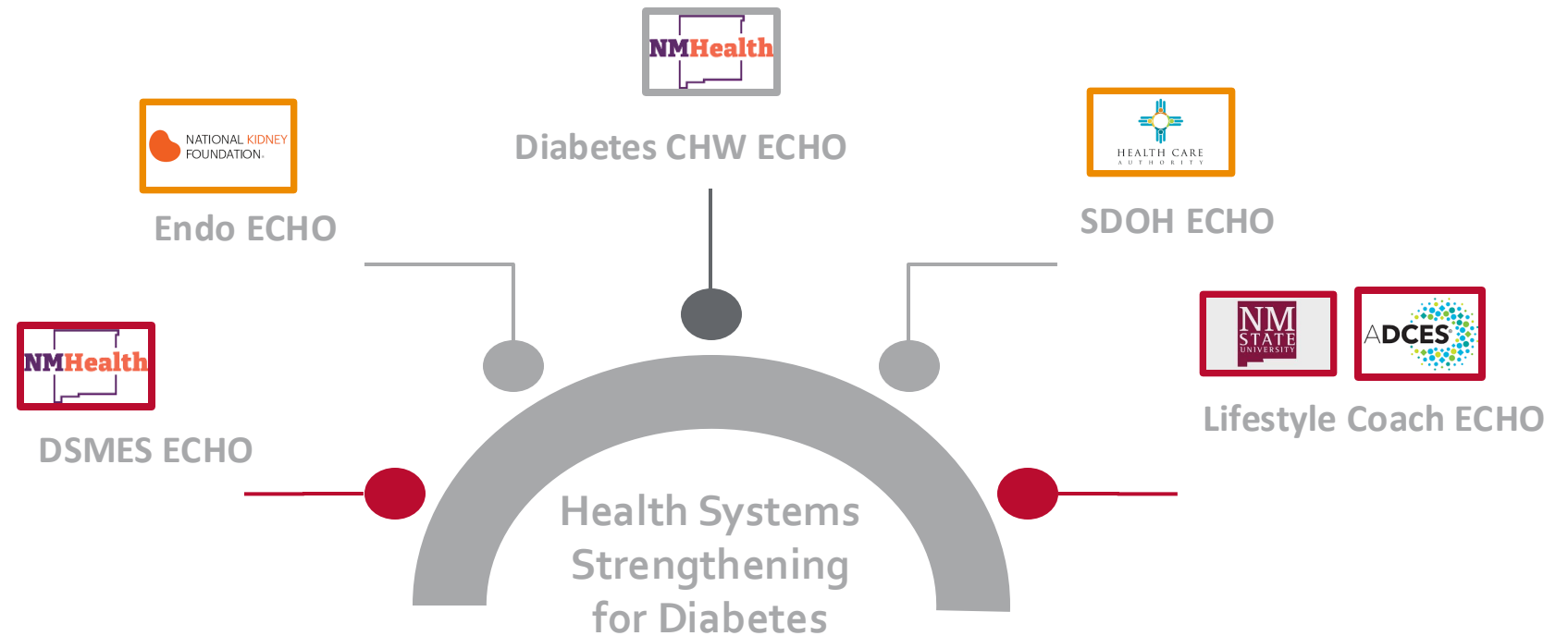


CME Credits for NM ECHO Programs Being Run Through the ECHO Institute



New Mexico Diabetes Programs

- Advancing the role of CHWs as a key strategy to address disparities in diabetes outcomes
- Specialized programs for systems-level strengthening



Partnering with the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program



DSMES ECHO

Supports organizations to develop accredited Diabetes Self Management Education and Support (DSMES) programs which are eligible for reimbursement

Lifestyle Coach ECHO

Mentors trained Lifestyle Coaches to troubleshoot barriers to starting National Diabetes Prevention Programs (NDPP)



Partnering with the NM Healthcare Authority



HEALTH CARE
AUTHORITY

SDOH (Social Determinants of Health) ECHO

- Advancing the implementation of a statewide closed loop referral system
- Improves coordination between healthcare providers, community organizations and state agencies for patients with complex health and social needs



Partnering with the Office of Community Health Workers



Diabetes CHW ECHO

Training CHWs to become certified diabetes specialists



42 community health workers from southern NM graduated from our most recent 12-week diabetes training on May 29, 2025. The Department of Health was on site in Las Cruces to certify these individuals as diabetes specialist CHWs.



ECHO for Medical Assistants

- Adapts CHW training for Medical Assistants (MAs) in rural New Mexico.
- 10-week program introduces the basics of diabetes self-management and core communication techniques to support healthy behavior change



Diabetes MA ECHO Program

We invite you to join a specialized program designed for Medical Assistants (MAs) to enhance their support for patients with diabetes. This will be the second Cohort and the last chance to join these specialized sessions for MAs.



Free CME*
for MAs

Project ECHO supporting Behavioral Health Reform

- Recent Senate Bills 1 and 3 passed in 2025 legislative session.
- ECHO working with UNM on the Technical Assistance Center (TAC) to support phase one of Senate Bill 3 (SB3)
- Overall Goal is to build on the New Mexico Enhanced Sequential Intercept Model (E-SIM)

SB1 establishes the funding mechanism so that behavioral health services have reliable, long-term money behind them.

SB3 provides the structural, governance, regional planning, oversight, and policy reforms needed to guide how behavioral health services should be delivered and evaluated.

HB2 redirection of ECHO Funds to facilitate training for behavioral health providers and provide behavioral health services to patients in accordance with the Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act



ECHO's Behavioral Health Initiatives

Training and Services Provided by ECHO

Support **Training on E-SIM Model** (Sequential Intercept Model)

Setup **Behavioral Health Regional Planning Collaborative** to help the regions with planning and implementation of regional health plans

Introduce **E-SIMs Model into existing ECHO Behavioral Health Programs** to upskill workforce.

Programs included:

- Adverse Childhood experiences
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health
- Alcohol Use and Mental health for Adults
- CHW and Certified Peer Support workers in opioid best practices.

Suicide Prevention Education Series

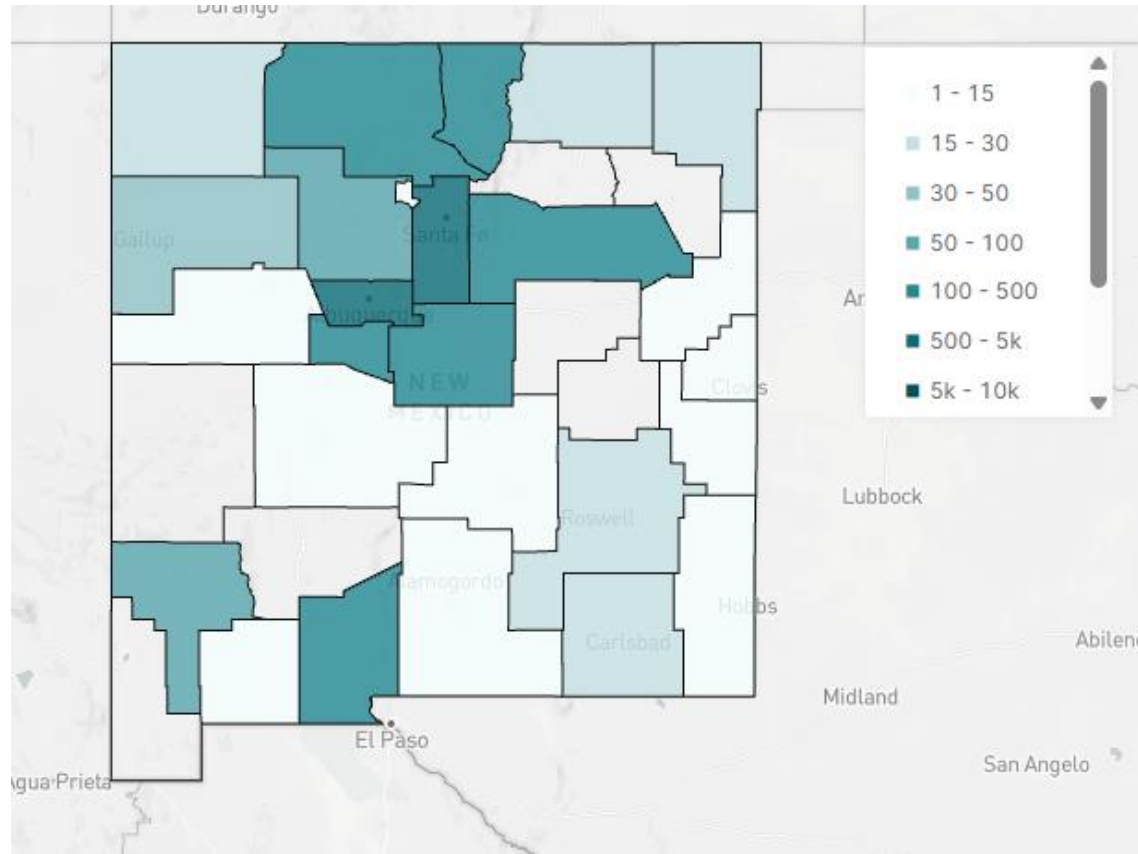
- Create suicide prevention curriculum and implement in ECHO programs
- Disseminate best practices for suicide screening and intervention to all current NM ECHO programs

Launch a **statewide learning collaborative for peers** employed through judicial system

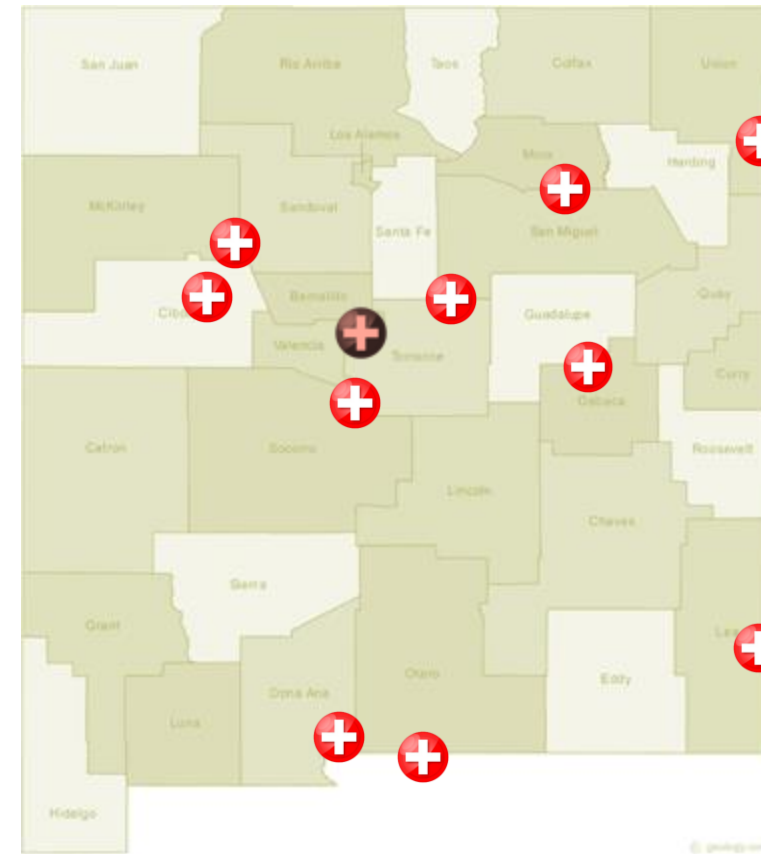
Host a **statewide Leadership Summit** in 2026 including leaders in behavioral health, Office of Peer Recovery and Engagement (OPRE), peers in corrections and community health workers



HCV Community and Corrections Programs

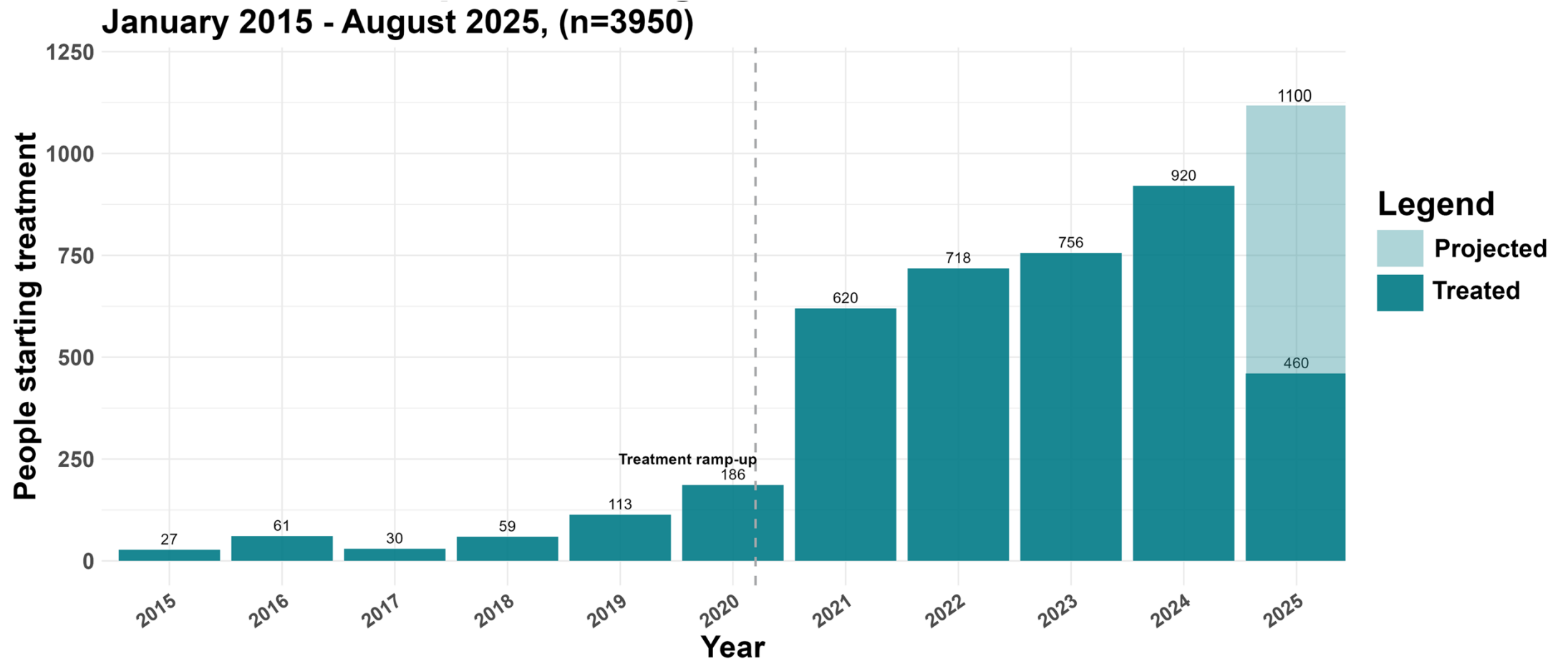


- Weekly session since 2004
- 1995 Unique NM Attendees



- Weekly session since 2005
- HCV Treatment Ramp-up started 2021

Number of People Starting HCV Treatment in NMCD

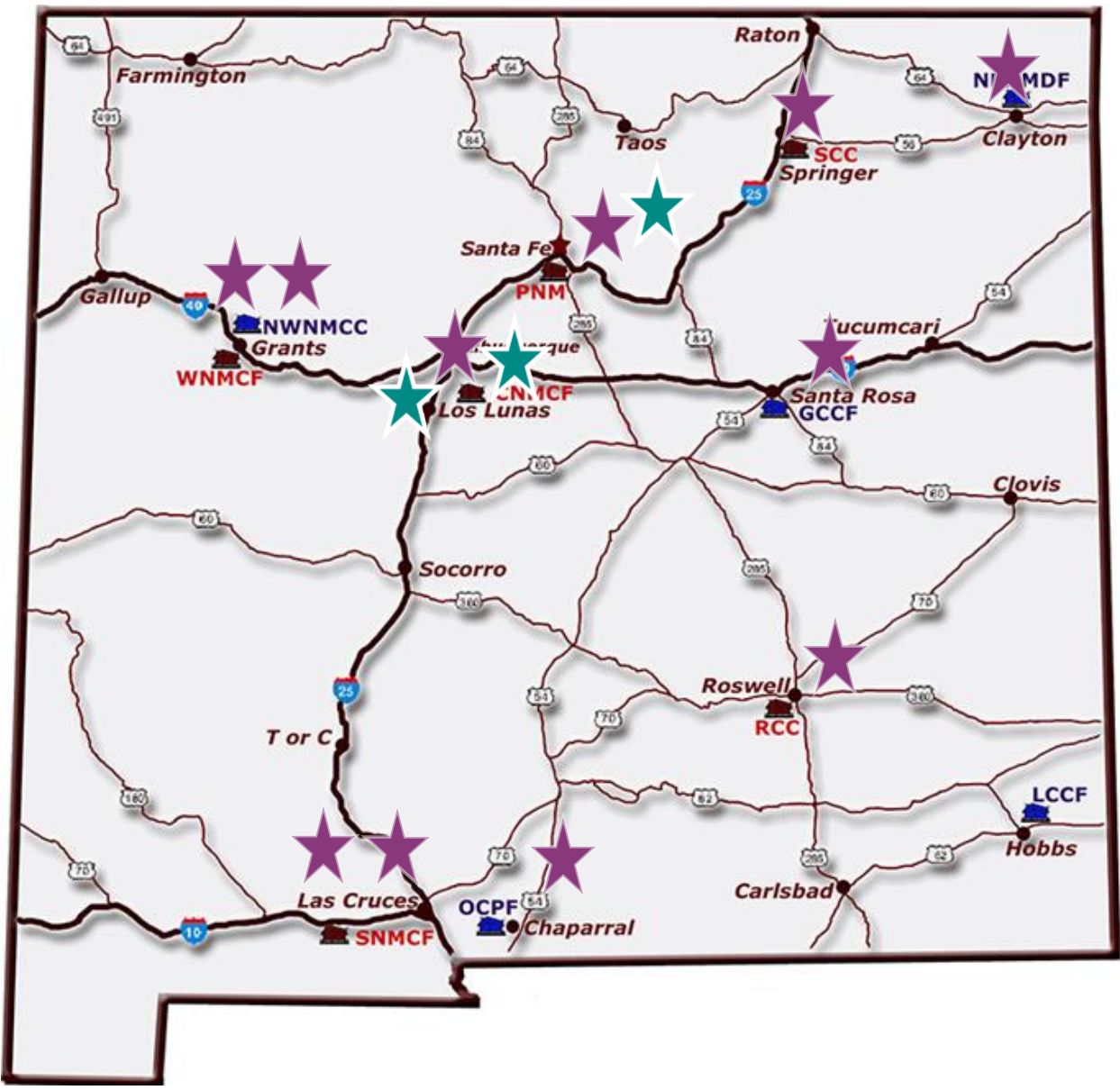
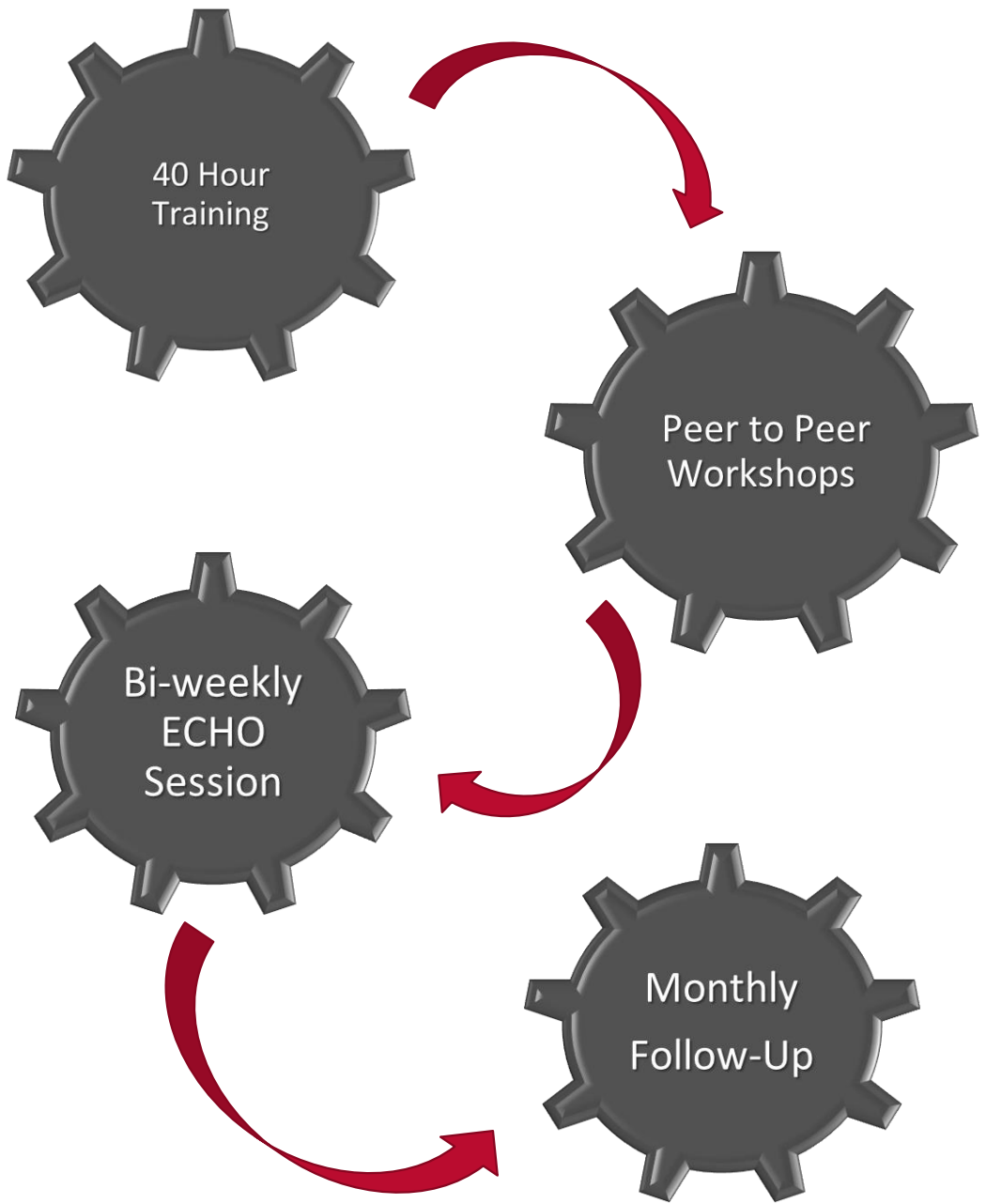


New Mexico Peer Education Project



The New Mexico Peer Education Project:
Incarcerated Health is Community Health





37,903

EDUCATED

6
Replications

1,118
PEER
EDUCATORS

8
NM PRISONS
14 Peer
Educator Groups

89
40-HOUR
Train The
Trainers

6,375
COMPLETED
1.5-HOUR
RDC Peer-Led
Workshops

9,652
COMPLETED
10-HOUR
Peer-Led
Workshops

4,631
COMPLETED
PEER-TO-PEER
ENGAGEMENTS

4,140
COMPLETED
HCV FOCUSED
Workshops

13,105
COMPLETED
SPECIAL TOPIC
Workshops



New Mexico Community Peer Education Project

Supporting Returning Citizens in New Mexico

Support Services:

- Education: GED, Higher Ed., or Vocational
- Employment
- Financial
- Housing
- Life Skills
- Material Support (Food, Clothing, Hygiene)
- Medical/Dental/HCV
- Substance Use Support
- Transportation
- Workshops (Community Service)
- Vital Documents

Peer-to-Peer Engagement

4,600

Referrals Received

- 36% Rural NM
- 73% Male
- 41% on Parole

8,090

Services Provided

- Employment – 1,534
- Housing – 1,201
- Medical/HCV - 804

Workshops

6,588

Learners

- Overdose Prevention
- HCV Tx and Access
- Health and Wellness

4,841

Community Service
Credits Issued

- (1) hour per workshop

Data from FY21 – FY25



New Mexico Detention Centers Substance Use Treatment ECHO

- Partnership with the New Mexico Association of Counties
 - Train/support detention medical providers and allied detention staff to competently initiate and continue MOUD for incarcerated patients
 - Sessions focus on key topics in addiction medicine and anonymized case presentations
 - Topic examples:
 - Buprenorphine Initiation
 - Screening for OUD
 - Neurobiology of Addiction
 - Diversion and Security
- Since starting in July 2024, 26 sessions have been conducted on the ECHO virtual platform
- Participants from 24 of 33 counties in New Mexico have attended



New Mexico Syphilis Syndemic ECHO Program

- 6 Sessions in 2025
- 133 Unique NM Attendees
- Attendees from 18 NM Counties
- Case presentations in all sessions

- **Case-Based Learning:** Every session has cases, either presented by hub team members or participants.
- **Syndemic Approach to Syphilis:** Sessions address the socio-economic, mental health, and substance use conditions that have led to the resurgence of syphilis in New Mexico communities.
- **Focus on Congenital Syphilis:** Our hub team includes an OBGYN to provide expert knowledge on congenital syphilis related issues.
- **90-100%** of post session survey respondents report that **they would recommend sessions to colleagues.**

"I am a STI nurse managing an STI program within an organization that works out of multiple primary care clinics. These educational sessions have greatly improved my understanding of syphilis. The providers at our clinics often use me as a resource when screening, diagnosing and treating syphilis. These sessions have undoubtedly helped me become a better resource to the providers. These sessions have also improved my nursing assessments of patients with suspected syphilis."

"I really appreciate the case presentation format, I learn the most from these."

New Mexico SUD/Opioid ECHO Program

- Avg. of 29 attendees/session
- Total Attendance 4,127
- Unique attendees: 1,023

Inspired by how clinicians learn from medical rounds during residencies, the ECHO Model® has evolved into a learning framework that applies across disciplines for sustainable and profound change. This model has been useful in the sharing of knowledge and best practices in addressing substance use disorders (SUDs) in the healthcare and mental health fields as well as in the incarcerated, unhoused, and general communities.

There are several ECHO programs directly addressing SUD in New Mexico:

- NM Detention Centers Substance Use Treatment ECHO (monthly)
- Opioid Crisis and Pain Management (bimonthly)
- Substance Use Disorder in Pregnancy (weekly)
- Community Health Worker/Peer Support Worker Opioid ECHO Program (weekly)
- Community Overdose Response Education (CORE) (monthly)

“In this year’s upcoming ECHO curriculum, our sessions are laser-focused on the exact gaps providers still experience, whether it’s funding, transportation for patients, or case studies with social work complications. We know the gap still exists, and that’s what we are working hard to change with ECHO,”

TESTIMONIALS

Favian, Community Health Worker: [Provider Testimonial](#)

Daniel Duhigg, DO, MBA: [Provider Testimonial](#)

QUESTIONS

Contact Information



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