

LA SEMILLA FOOD CENTER

THE NEW MEXICO HEALTHY FOOD FINANCING INITIATIVE

Cultivating New Mexico's nutritional & economic health



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CONTACT US



(575) 882-2593



Facebook.com/LaSemillaFoodCenter



info@lasemillafoodcenter.org



LaSemillaFoodCenter.org



@lasemillafoodcenter



@LaSemillaFC

Agriculture in New Mexico has incredible potential. Our agriculture is valued at over **\$2 billion**, and over **25,000 farms** in the state produce a variety of fruits, vegetables, nuts, grains, and dairy.



We need to strengthen infrastructure that connects New Mexicans living in **low-income areas with low food access to nutritious food** grown in our state. We can do this with a program that also develops the economy in those areas...



At the same time, **324,000 New Mexicans** do not have access to enough food for a healthy, active life. That includes **118,030—nearly 1 in 4—children**. According to the most recent estimate by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, almost **30% of New Mexicans** live in low-income census tracts with low access to food retail.

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The New Mexico Healthy Food Financing Initiative is a statewide financing program created to finance healthy food production, aggregation, distribution, processing, marketing & retail projects that benefit underserved communities across the state. The program aims to **improve the health** of New Mexicans by increasing access to nutritious food. It also seeks to **strengthen New Mexico's economy** by creating jobs.



New Mexicans living in low-income areas with low access to nutritious foods also struggle with diabetes, obesity, heart disease & other diet-related conditions. In 2017, **220,000 New Mexico** adults had diabetes and **over 28%** suffered from obesity. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the state.



Financing

The program makes low-interest and forgivable loans available to food and farm businesses like farmers, food hubs & grocery stores to improve food access in our communities.

Join us in improving New Mexico's nutritional & economic health!

