## Legislative Health and Human Services Committee

**Food Initiative Updates** 

Las Cruces, New Mexico October 5-7 2022









The Food Initiative is an expression of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's commitment to build a robust food system that feeds New Mexicans and creates food access for those dealing with food insecurity.

**Since 2019** 



**Meals for New Mexicans** 

2,062,446,647

Pounds of food

### **Focus Areas**



### **Community Food Programs**

Integrate and innovate NM's hunger relief and nutrition security efforts so resources can be optimized for health, equity, and efficiency

### **New Mexico Grown**

Invest in NM producers through the intentional and values-based expansion of NM's locally sourced food security programs



### Supply Chain

Inventory and measurably improve food supply chain infrastructure to eliminate gaps, address weak linkages, and mitigate regulatory roadblocks

### Sustainability

Work with the Legislature and other partners to create a sustainable financial model to support the Food Initiative's vision.



# **Multi-Agency Commitment**

The Food Initiative is a multi-agency commitment that brings together fifteen agencies representing every aspect of New Mexico's food system.









# \$24.7M 9 944 44

New Investment

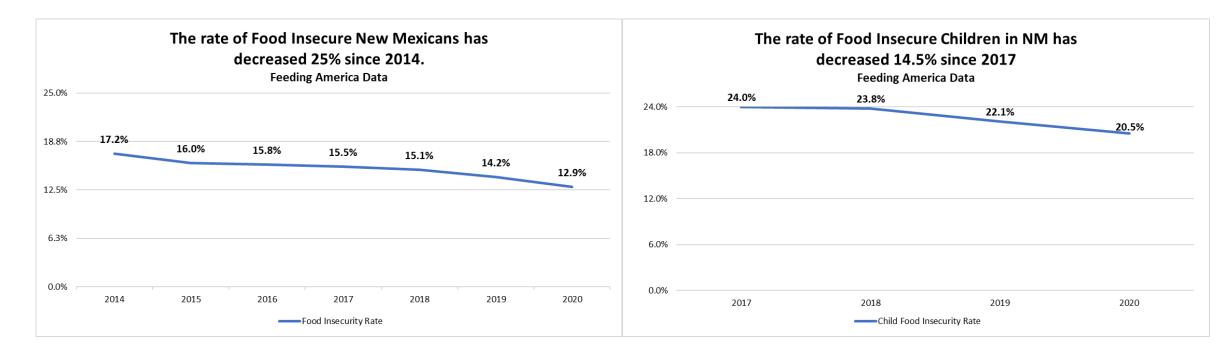
State Agencies Farm & Ranch Partners Food Security Grant Awardees

Investing for tomorrow, delivering today

# **Food Insecurity Rates**



Our commitment is working as food insecurity rates continue to decline in New Mexico. According to USDA metrics, New Mexico is the most improved state in the nation.



# Food Bank & Food Pantry Support

In FY23, over **\$9.5 million** in funding will be provided to New Mexico's food banks and food pantries through the Food Initiative.

- NM Food Security Grant
- Farm to Food Bank \*Federal funding
- Community Food Assistance Program
- Rural-In House Pantries for Seniors

*"Food insecurity in a state the geographic size of New Mexico is not easy to address. These initiatives have certainly made a positive impact on assisting us in our fight against hunger. The focus areas that the initiative has identified will definitely help us develop a sustainable food system beneficial to all New Mexicans." – Lorenzo Alba, Jr. – Executive Director at Casa de Peregrinos in Doña Ana County* 



**Roadrunner Food Bank** 



## **Investments in Action**



### **Investments in Action**



Investing for tomorrow, delivering today

Data Spotlight: Casa De Peregrinos



# 22,0005.1M6.1MIndividualsMealsLbs. ofImpactedServedFood



## **FY24** Priorities

The state has had significant success in FY23 in addressing hunger and improving our food system. However, New Mexico will need to increase its investment to further the commitment of getting food to those in need.

Increase base budget by \$14.3 million

### Prioritize investments that strengthen:

- Senior and child food security
- Food is Medicine interventions
- Meal quality improvements
- Young and beginning farmers and ranchers
- Food security infrastructure



Bernalillo County: Hubble House

# **Thank You**

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