

FISCAL YEAR 2021 | ANNUAL REPORT





Dear Friends,

“You have cancer.” Few words have the power to change a life in the blink of an eye like those three small words.

When you add the surprise and fear of hearing those words to the barriers faced by many of the Northern New Mexicans we serve, you can imagine that some patients consider giving up before they begin.

When a tank of gas to get to Santa Fe, a place to spend the night, or the simple dignity of feeding one’s family becomes one more seemingly insurmountable task, the resulting indecision can be paralyzing and frequently devastating.

Recently, a head and neck cancer patient faced what the rest of us can hardly imagine. Living in Guadalupita, he had no one in his family who could afford to buy gas to drive him to and from treatment. The Cancer Foundation stepped in and began providing mileage reimbursements so that his nephew would be able to drive this cherished uncle to Santa Fe to access treatment.

Your help continues to provide life-critical patient services to people like this man. For over eighteen years, the Foundation has been helping other patients in similar situations, in many instances saving lives, and all due to generous donors like you!

In the past twelve months, the Cancer Foundation supported nearly 30,000 patient visits, 900 nights of lodging, and more than 300 support group participants. With your help, we reimbursed more than 395,000 miles for treatment. The ripple effect of your support has, over the years, impacted tens of thousands of patients, family members, and friends – sometimes even entire communities.

You may never meet any of these folks or hear their names. But please know that every one of them is aware that someone out there cares for them. Most importantly, they know that they aren’t in this fight for their life alone. You are there with them through the Cancer Foundation for New Mexico.

Thank you for the ways you help support our patients and our mission. We humbly ask that you continue that support by making a life-changing and life-saving contribution to our 2021 Annual Care Campaign. Every dollar given stays in New Mexico to make enormous differences for the people we serve, people like the uncle in Guadalupita and his extended family.

Please help us help those who have heard the words “You have cancer,” the folks who need us by their side right now. It’s that urgent and that important.
With gratitude always,

Bunny Terry
Board Chair

Vincent Baca
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

To help save lives by providing the needed support to enable every Northern New Mexican with cancer to access treatment in Santa Fe.

OUR STORY

Twenty years ago, a group of Santa Fe oncologists grew concerned that so many of their patients were unable to complete their treatments. In response, they founded the Cancer Foundation for New Mexico (CFFNM), a local, independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. CFFNM provides assistance with transportation, lodging, and nutrition, as well as emotional support groups and other services, in an effort to ensure that every patient can fight their disease with dignity. With your support, we can work to offer every patient equal access to treatment and therefore, equal access to the best potential outcome.



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Without a doubt, the last year presented significant challenges to everyone in our community. Despite the global pandemic however, CFFNM is proud to have provided uninterrupted support services to every qualifying patient and their family. Though some of our services had to adapt — support groups met online, volunteers were no longer allowed in treatment rooms, and the Supper Club and Sweetheart Auction were reinvented as virtual events — the commitment of our donors, Board of Directors, and staff ensured that patient support was unaffected.

Cancer continues to be a leading cause of death in our community. Low-income New Mexican cancer patients have always struggled disproportionately to complete their prescribed treatment; the havoc wreaked by COVID-19 has only widened this disparity. Thanks to the generous support of donors like you, low-income Northern New Mexicans living with cancer were still able to receive treatment: CFFNM supported nearly 30,000 patient visits at the Santa Fe treatment center this past year. Every donation, no matter how small, has a tangible positive impact for a cancer patient and their family.

A CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP

After years of tireless service, Bud Hamilton stepped down as Chair of the Board of Directors last August. At the 7th Annual Supper Club, Bud and his wife and long-time chemo room volunteer, Valerie, were honored for their years of commitment. Executive Director, Vince Baca, presented the first ever Hamilton Visionary Award to the Hamiltons for their extraordinary service to cancer patients in New Mexico.

We're pleased to welcome Bunny Terry, former Vice-Chair and a cancer survivor herself, as our new Chair. In addition advocating fiercely for cancer patients, Bunny also runs a successful marketing and coaching business, sells property as a broker at Keller Williams Santa Fe, and recently published her first book.

In speaking about her new position as Board Chair, Bunny said, "As a Stage IV cancer survivor, helping cancer patients get to their life saving treatment is my passion. Seven years ago when Bud invited me to serve on the CFFNM board, I knew I'd finally found a place where I could serve in the most effective way. Stepping into the Board Chair role is not only an honor; it gives me a place where I can most effectively further that passion while continuing Bud's and the Board's legacy of saving lives."

Upon the passing of the gavel, Bud said, "It's been an honor and a privilege to chair the board these past 13 years. While stepping down from the board chair role, I'm not stepping away from the organization, as I will remain on the board and be very involved. I'm delighted to know the Foundation will now be in the capable hands of Bunny Terry. She has my total confidence."



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, VINCE BACA



BOARD CHAIR, BUNNY TERRY



BUD AND VALERIE HAMILTON

CFFNM WELCOMES NEW STAFF

We are pleased to welcome Vince Baca as our new Executive Director. A native New Mexican, Vince has over twenty-five years' of highly successful leadership experience with a number of large, multifaceted not-for-profit organizations and government entities in Washington, D.C., Massachusetts and New Mexico. In speaking about his new position, Vince said, "I am truly humbled and quite honored to have been selected to serve in the role as Executive Director for the Cancer Foundation for New Mexico. The opportunity to work with such an outstanding staff and exceptional board of directors, for a cause which impacts nearly every New Mexican at one time or another, is gratifying and exciting."

Our new Development and Event Assistant, Camille Sammeth, grew up in Santa Fe and recently graduated from Harvard College.

We are excited to welcome these new members of our staff!

10/10 VISIONARY FUND

We remain committed to our promise that we will never refuse any cancer patient eligible for our services. To aid us in keeping this promise, we launched the 10/10 Visionary Fund Campaign in 2015. This campaign aims to raise \$10 million in ten years for a permanently restricted endowment fund that will generate ongoing income to cover all operating costs.

We're thrilled to have raised more than \$6.5 million in cash gifts and pledges so far, but we're not there yet! We hope you'll consider helping us keep the momentum going by making your own cash and/or Legacy Gift of any amount. Learn more about donating to the 10/10 Visionary Fund or by reaching out to our Development Director, Bob Ansheles. With your help, we can help every patient face their disease with dignity.

WE ARE VERY APPRECIATIVE
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
10/10 VISIONARY SOCIETY,
WHO HAVE PLEDGED TO
GIVE \$100,000 OR MORE.

TOBY ANDERSON & BUNNY TERRY
ANONYMOUS
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JANET & STOCKTON COLT
ZELLA KAY COX
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LARRI SHORT & STEVE REILLY
DON SHINA & KEVIN WAIDMANN
SUZANNE M. TIMBLE

EVERY MILE, MEAL, AND
NIGHT OF LODGING
MATTERS; EVERY DONATION
WE RECEIVE HELPS TO
EASE THE BURDEN OF A
NORTHERN NEW MEXICAN
FIGHTING CANCER.

**OUR IMPACT: HOW YOUR
SUPPORT SAVES LIVES**



PATIENT VISITS
SUPPORTED:

29,922



TRAVEL MILES
REIMBURSED:

395,088



GROCERY
CARDS
DISTRIBUTED:

1,532



LODGING
NIGHTS
PROVIDED:

872

SUPPORT GROUPS PARTICIPANTS: **302**

“The Cancer Foundation helps with basic things that you can’t even wrap your head around when you’re that sick - groceries, gas, support - things that a lot of other people take for granted. I could not have made it through this without the Cancer Foundation, I really could not have.” – Heather

MEET A PATIENT:

JOCK SOTO

Jock Soto was born in Gallup, New Mexico to a Navajo Indian mother and a Puerto Rican father. Inspired by a television special featuring Edward Villella, he began studying ballet when he was five-years-old and eventually moved to New York to study at the School of American Ballet. At age 20, Jock was promoted, becoming the youngest principal dancer with the New York City Ballet. Towards the end of his career, Jock's mother passed away from cancer. When his father was diagnosed with colon cancer, Jock and his husband, Luis, moved back to New Mexico to care for him. Not long after, Jock received his own devastating cancer diagnosis.



Though Jock could no longer work, CFFNM ensured he was provided the resources to receive treatment. The Foundation provided lodging, food assistance, and emotional support, allowing Jock to receive weeks of aggressive radiation in Santa Fe and eventually beat his disease. In 2019, Jock was the featured speaker at the Supper Club, and this year, Jock joined CFFNM's Board of Directors, driven to support other cancer patients and help them receive the same assistances he so appreciated. Today, Jock continues to live in New Mexico and teaches for various prestigious dance programs.

"I admire what the Foundation is doing...by helping the Foundation, it gives me hope that I can help someone else be a cancer survivor." - Jock



THOUGH PUBLIC HEALTH PRECAUTIONS PREVENTED OUR ANNUAL EVENTS FROM PROCEEDING AS PLANNED, WE WERE ABLE TO PIVOT AND PRODUCE TWO SUCCESSFUL VIRTUAL EVENTS. IMPROVISE, ADAPT AND OVERCOME BECAME THE RALLYING CRY OF THE CFFNM STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

The Supper Club, typically held at The Compound Restaurant, became The Supper Club: At Home. The online event featured performances by three Grammy Award-Winning vocalists, a discussion with artist Rebecca Tobey, excerpts from a film portraying retired New York City Ballet Principal Dancer Jock Soto, and compelling stories from patients, providers and volunteers. We're grateful to Chef Mark Kiffin of The Compound, who offered gift cards to those who donated, and Corrine Collins, to whom the event was dedicated, in honor of her service as CFFNM's long-time Executive Director.

The 16th Annual Sweetheart Auction was held virtually, and was expanded to include an entire week of festivities. The gala program featured stories from patients and providers, celebrity appearances, performances, honorary and memorial tributes, and a paddle raiser. Steven Ovitsky, CFFNM patron and avocational mixologist, designed a signature cocktail for attendees to create and enjoy at home; Hue-Chan Karels of Open Kitchen developed a special "Heart Healthy Feast" menu available for delivery to attendees.

THESE TWO ANNUAL EVENTS ACCOUNT FOR OVER 75% OF CFFNM'S ANNUAL REVENUE. THOUGH THE VIRTUAL EVENTS WERE EXTRAORDINARY SUCCESSES GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THEY DID NOT MEET THE REVENUE GOALS OF OUR LIVE EVENTS FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR.



LEND A HAND: HOW YOU CAN HELP

The future of CFFNM begins with you. If you or a loved one has been affected by cancer, you understand the emotional, physical, and financial devastation of the disease. We hope you'll consider getting involved to help members of our community fight their disease with dignity.

DONATE

We appreciate every financial contribution – every gift makes a difference. Donations may be made securely online or by mailing a check made payable to the Cancer Foundation for New Mexico. Gifts may be made “In Honor of” or “In Memory of” a loved one.

MAKE A LEGACY GIFT

A Legacy Gift allows you to have a direct and lasting impact on our community. For many donors, legacy giving offers an opportunity to make a more substantial gift than would otherwise be possible. We encourage you to contact Bob Ansheles, our Development Director, at bob@cffnm.org or (505) 955-7931 x. 4 to discuss your Legacy Gift options.

ATTEND THE 17TH ANNUAL SWEETHEART AUCTION

Join us on Saturday, February 5, 2022 for a great party that supports a great cause. Enjoy dinner, drinks, silent and live actions, community, and more. Learn more about the Sweetheart Auction and get your tickets today!

SPONSOR THE 17TH ANNUAL SWEETHEART AUCTION

Help make New Mexico's largest single-night fundraising event successful and enjoy sponsor benefits, such as event admissions tickets, a reserved table, well-deserved recognition, and participation in the poignant Honor Wall. There is sponsorship level to fit every budget. Become a sponsor today or contact Bob Ansheles, our Development Director, at bob@cffnm.org or (505) 955-7931 x. 4 for more information.

ATTEND THE 8TH ANNUAL SUPPER CLUB

Join us in September for an exclusive, intimate dinner at one of Santa Fe's premier restaurants. Incredible food, great conversation, and the opportunity to help save lives make the Supper Club an evening not to be missed. Look for updates on our website in 2022 to attend!

JOIN THE 10/10 VISIONARY SOCIETY

Make a lasting contribution to support Northern New Mexicans with cancer for years to come. A gift of \$100,000 or more to our permanently restricted endowment offers special recognition and the chance to advocate for a future in which everyone has equal access to treatment. Members of the 10/10 Visionary Society are making a real difference; to learn more about joining them contact Bob Ansheles, our Development Director, at bob@cffnm.org or (505) 955-7931 x. 4.

VOLUNTEER

We always need more volunteers! Whether you'd like to brighten the day of a patient with a kind word and a blanket in the treatment room, organize Sweetheart Auction displays, or something else entirely, we'd love to hear from you. There are roles of all shapes and sizes to fit every volunteer talent and schedule. Please reach out to our Volunteer Coordinator, Caroline Owen, at caroline@cffnm.org or (505) 955-7931 x. 3 to get involved.

STAY IN TOUCH

Sign up for our newsletter keep up-to-date with our events, patients, and fundraising, and to learn more about the work we do.

To learn more about any of the above opportunities, or if you or a loved one could benefit from our services, please don't hesitate to contact our office at (505) 955-7931 or info@cffnm.org.

INDIVIDUAL AND SWEETHEART SPONSORS

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Reflects Foundation support over
\$1,000 from July 1, 2020 to June 30,
2021

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PO Box 5038, Santa Fe, NM 87502
3005 S. St. Francis Drive, Suite 3B, Santa Fe, NM 87505
(505) 955-7931 | www.cffnm.org | info@cffnm.org