

An update from New Mexico Counties Executive Director Steve Kopelman

We were honored to host an hour phone meeting this week with Governor Lujan Grisham regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. NMC President Eddy County Sheriff Mark Cage served as the moderator and asked the Governor a set of questions sent in by county managers and members of the NMC Board of Directors. The Governor discussed a slow phased opening of regions of the State, maintaining appropriate safeguards to prevent community spread of the virus. She talked about a broad spectrum of issues, emphasizing how the effectiveness in controlling the pandemic depends on the residents of NM staying home and maintaining social distancing, and acknowledging the importance of maintaining public health concerns while doing everything within reason to protect our economy. She is working closely with the Economic Recovery Task Force and others in formulating a plan for reopening parts of the State. We would like to give a shout out and express our appreciation to all senior center employees in our counties who are on the front lines in preparing and distributing food and supplies to seniors and those in need throughout the State.

RESOURCES FOR COUNTIES

[FEMA accepting applications for \\$100 million in COVID-19 supplemental assistance for local fire departments](#)

FEMA is offering \$100 million in grant funding for fire and rescue services to purchase personal protective equipment.

Fri. May 1 Webinar [How Counties Can Access and Utilize Funds from FEMA's Public Assistance Program for COVID-19 Response and Recovery](#) 1 p.m.-2 p.m. MDT

Mon. May 4 Webinar [Accessing the \\$2 Trillion Recovery Fund for COVID-19: How to Prepare Your County for FEMA Declaration Reimbursement](#) Noon-1 p.m. MDT

Mon. May 18 Webinar [2020 Census and Ensuring Access for Your Community](#) Noon-1 p.m. MDT

Wed. May 20 Webinar [Upcoming FCC's Rural Opportunity Fund Auction 904](#) Broadband Noon-1:30 p.m. MDT

[Link to Annual Calendar](#)

All NMC non-essential in-person meetings have been canceled through April 30. All other meetings will be addressed as calls or webinars as the situation unfolds.

NMC Loss Prevention Trainings [Link to RSVP](#)
Thurs. Apr. 30 LP Leadership During Crisis: Warning Signs That Your Employees Are Suffering **Webinar** 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Fri. May 1 NMC Board of Directors meeting **10:00 a.m. Webinar call**

Tues. May 5 LP PTSD and Triggers from COVID-19 **Webinar** 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Wed. May 6 NMCIA Board meeting **10:30 a.m. Teleconference call**

Thurs. May 7 LP Webinar Creating a Resilient Mindset 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Mon. May 18-21 NM EDGE Classes online

Thurs. June 25 NMC Board of Directors meeting 4:30 p.m. **Doña Ana County-TBD**

Fri. July 17-20 NACo Annual Conference Orange County, FL

Fri. Aug. 7 NMC Board of Directors meeting 8:30 a.m. **Otero County**

Wed. Aug. 19 NMCIA Board meeting 8:30 a.m. **NMC Santa**



NACo's [We Are Counties](#) campaign aims to put faces on the many frontline services counties provide,

and NACo needs your help. [We Are Counties](#) campaign is putting faces on frontline services counties provide—including 328,000 hospital workers, 330,000 law enforcement officers, 93,000 first responders, and more. Submit a short (30 sec.) video to NACo, and help demonstrate our talented public servants!

[Video tips here](#) [Upload your clip here](#)

<https://www.naco.org/wearecounties>

Fri. May 1 Webinar [Roundtable Discussion w/ Congressman Ben Ray Lujan, Agriculture Secretary Jeff Witte, Economic Development Dept. Secretary Alicia J. Keyes](#) 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. MDT

[New Mexico Environmental Review Tool](#)

An interactive tool for conservation planning and review of important resources for wildlife and habitats. Helps with getting an immediate response for projects that will not adversely affect wildlife or other important habitats.

ENROLL NOW

NM EDGE Advanced Purchasing Classes LIVE ONLINE May 18-21, 2020

One in 5 New Mexican has not yet received census form

While the COVID-19 pandemic may have delayed some residents in filling out the census form, state demographer Robert Rhatigan said it's best to wait for a hand-delivered packet with the 12-digit ID, which enumerators tie to the exact coordinates of the residence. Nearly 18% of our households haven't been invited because the Census Bureau doesn't deliver to PO boxes and therefore invitations are hand-delivered to these residences. New Mexico will rise to the challenge as Complete Count Committees continue to work with the State to make sure everyone counts! Kudos to the counties for making this happen!

Census 2020 [Self Response Map by County](#)

Post your county happenings on our FB page! www.facebook.com/pg/nmcounties33/posts
Follow us on Twitter [@nmcounties33](#)

Search County Employment Opportunities or enter new job posts [here](#) for up to 30 days.

New Employee? Submit [here](#) add/delete/replace to directory.

Did someone forward you this email? [Sign up.](#)

TrueConnect Loan Benefit Program

How to Provide for Employees During Tough Financial Times

In the last few years, offering more desirable benefits has been a top priority for HR departments across the nation to attract and retain talent. Many employees aren't fully aware of the benefits they have available to them. Use this as an opportunity to remind them of the benefits they can access and how they can help during this time.

Now is not the time to tap into retirement savings! Retirement savings will eventually bounce back, so tapping into retirement early does not help anyone, especially your employees. Instead, now is the time to keep retirement tucked away without so much as glancing at it.

While your employees remain paid workers, their spouses or partners may not be as fortunate. A financial wellness voluntary benefit can be the solution your employees are looking for.

For more information about TrueConnect, a financial wellness voluntary benefit, please contact Susan Mayes, smayes@nmcounties.org.