

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 | Edition #139

Guest Message from Áine McCarthy, Women's Resource Center Director



Dear UNM Community,

Happy Women's History Month from all of us at WRC! We warmly welcome people of all genders to our space, and we invite you to join us for our upcoming story circles this month, bringing together students and staff on campus with elders in community, to remember that many of the challenges we're facing now have been tackled before, and to center our efforts for liberation in the proud history of our lineage. We were founded, as one of the first college-campus-based women's centers in the country, because of gender marginalization and we continue to fight to protect all gender marginalized students. We are recording these story sharing circles for the UNM archives: your lived experience is the Women's History we uplift and honor this month. We are here for you and we're proud of you!

The WRC was founded in 1972, the same year we got Title IX, protecting students from gender based discrimination in accessing their education. No matter what further changes to Title IX or other laws may come, we remain devoted to protecting women, LGBTQIA+ folks, BIPOC, immigrant and undocumented students. The mission that gave rise to our founding remains critical: preventing gender-based violence and providing support and accompaniment to survivors.

As our friends at the New Mexico Coalition for Sexual Assault Programs said, "No leader, election, or policy will shake our commitment to accountability, bodily autonomy, dignity, healing, community care, solidarity, prevention, safety, each other, justice, and survivors." We have never been more committed to our shared vision to:

Prevent and mitigate the impact of gender-based violence and racialized trauma.

This looks like providing Confidential Advocacy on campus daily; training future mental health providers and offering free services through our Mental Health Collaborative, and collaborating across campus and community with the Coordinated Community Response Team on improving our response to sexual/dating violence and stalking and enhancing our prevention programs. For DV Awareness Month, in October, we created a workshop on Financial Abuse recovery. Our CCRT working groups are teaming up with a fraternity chapter on campus to create a conference focused on Engaging Men & Masculine Peoples in Violence Prevention in honor of the upcoming Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. Our survivors support group has also spawned a new student group this semester, S.P.A.C.E. Student Prevention & Advocacy for Consent Education.

Provide support and resources to student leaders working towards fostering a more equitable learning environment.

We have student leaders at WRC creating programming throughout the year for Women in STEM, Women in Health, Feminism in Action; we will be working closely with the LGBTQRC to host the second annual Dyke March this coming spring. We are proud to be one of five campuses nationally taking part in a pilot project through the National Organization of Victim Advocacy, the Youth Advocacy Corps. We have four UNM students placed in community agencies for fellowships introducing them to the work of victim services and survivor-centered advocacy. This year, we also joined with Children's Campus in being selected as part of the 2024 Cohort of FamilyU through Generation Hope: this demonstrates our formal commitment create a more family-inclusive campus and promote student parent success.

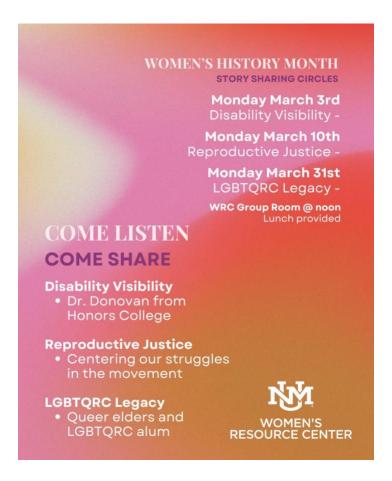
Create programming that fosters joyful community space.

Since the campus re-opened after the lockdown, we noticed the need for spaces of social connection that have a low barrier of entry. We created two drop-in style weekly programs: reviving the time-honored tradition of Manicure Mondays, enjoyed by people of all genders, and weekly Crafternoons. We have partnered with student leaders and crafty colleagues including those from ARC and HSC DEI to share a wide variety of arts and crafting skills. Let us know if you have a skill to share in 2025! Our IMPACT Mentorship & Leadership cohort has been going strong, pairing first-year students with more experienced students and learning together about financial literacy, boundaries, poetry, and supporting one another in accessing resources on campus.

We are so proud to serve our UNM community as part of the vibrant good work of the Division of Student Affairs and as part of the networking of hardworking advocates and victim services providers in Albuquerque and throughout New Mexico.

Áine McCarthy (she/her/hers)

WRC Women's History Month Events





ASUNM Special Events Hosts Dr. Cecilia Aragon

You're invited to a presentation by Dr. Cecilia Aragon, computer scientist, professor at University of Washington, and award winning author, tomorrow, March 6, at 2:30 p.m. in Woodward Hall.

The Pack's Got Your Back



In a time of significant stress, some members of the UNM community might not be feeling the sense of belonging on our campus that we strive for. To reiterate to our Lobos that we're in this together and here for each other, departments from across campus are uniting to launch a new *The Pack's Got Your Back* initiative.

Be on the lookout on the following dates for UNM community member volunteers handing out healthy snacks, buttons, coloring sheets, and positive affirmations as small reminders that as Lobos, we will face changes and challenges together with kindness, optimism, and the shared history to know that when we stand together, nothing can stop us. Flyers listing critical resource links for mental health and well-being will be included in the distribution.

Dates of Distribution

Friday, March 7

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
UNM Duck Pond Cactus Garden

Tuesday, March 11

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. SUB/Cornell Mall

Wednesday, March 12

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Yale Mall South Bus Stop



SNAP-A-PALOOZA

The social work interns from the UNM Dean of Students Office Well-being Team will be hosting a SNAP-A-PALOOZA event on March 12th from 12-2 PM outside of the SUB where students will be able to apply for SNAP, learn about other resources, and ask questions about eligibility. There will be free snacks and prizes for those that attend! For any additional questions, please email: socialwork@unm.edu

DSA Spring Branch Campus Visits



The DSA Professional Development Committee is seeking DSA professional staff interested in participating in their spring Branch Campus visits:

- Taos Campus, Tuesday, March 25, leaving at 7:15 a.m., back no later than 5 p.m.
- Gallup Campus, Friday, April 4, leaving at 7:15 a.m. back no later than 5 p.m.

This professional development opportunity is available for all division staff, and requires supervisory approval at the time of sign-up via the interest form. The visits will be a chance for participants to network and learn about the unique communities each branch serves and better understand the needs of students interested in transferring to UNM-Main Campus. The trips will include tours of the campus, information sharing, structured

collective brainstorming, and action-oriented planning for ongoing engagement.

The deadline to register is Friday, March 14 and supervisory approval is required.

Watch Lobo Basketball at the SUB

