

# Dawn A. Blue Sky-Hill

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## Summary of Qualifications

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- Nearly three decades, of experience and dedication to the promotion of social justice by uplifting students of color and traditionally underserved students, guiding them to access college, and empowering them to stay in school and graduate college.
- Specifically at the higher education institution level, experienced director with a demonstrated history of practice with unique populations of first-generation, low-income students and students with documented disabilities at the flagship, Research 1, Hispanic Serving Institution and First-Generation Forward, University of New Mexico.
- Dedicated to student success by strategically leading the SSS TRIO team to implement integrated initiatives by establishing collaborations and partnerships across campus.
- Implementing student-centered research-informed programming thereby successfully meeting all federal TRIO grant requirements.
- Background in student development, supervising personnel, recruiting & engagement, training personnel, human resources, program budget, program evaluation, scholarship program, advising/coaching/mentoring.

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## Professional Skills

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- Federal Grant Management, G6-Federal Grant Management System, Strategic Planning, MS Office Suite-Forms, Microsoft-Teams, Google Suite, Zoom, Student Access Database Management, UNM MyReports-Finance Reports, and Student Reports, UNM HR Reports, UNM Jobs, UNM Financial Aid packages, ChromeRiver-Expense management, WildApricot organization management software, Adobe-Spark & Post, DocuSign, UNM Contracts and Grants, UNM Purchasing Card, LoboWeb, LoboTrax, LoboAchieve, LoboMart, Time Approver, and Workflow.

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## Education

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<b>Master of Public Administration, School of Public Administration</b> The University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM	2013
<b>Bachelor of Arts, Sociology and Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences</b> The University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM	1995

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## Professional Experience

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*Program Manager, Student Support Services-TRIO* August 2001 to Present  
Hours/week: 40  
The University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

- Oversee the day-to-day operations of the Student Support Services-TRIO Program, a U.S. Department of Education grant-funded initiative. Manage the establishment of the SSS Program, coordinate grant management, plan and execute program activities, and supervise staff. Responsible for successfully navigating, multiple 5-year grant cycles and more than \$1.2 million per grant cycle.

- Administer, plan, and direct the SSS Program. Implement the U.S. Dept. of Education Federal TRIO grant at the University of New Mexico Main Campus, ensuring the successful execution of program services and activities aligned with approved federal grant objectives.
- Manage and monitor the budget/fund in compliance with legislation, the Code of Federal Regulations, applicable OMB circulars, university policies and procedures of the Office of Sponsored Projects and Contracts and Grants Office, and departmental policies. Monitor the grant budget health through the UNM financial system and G6.gov, U.S. Dept. of Education.
- Supervise and direct 2-3 professional staff and 8+ student staff in executing activities to meet grant goals and objectives. Coordinate activities with inter-departmental personnel, external collaborators, vendors, departmental director, department accountant, and Contracts & Grants office.
- Provide innovative strategies for program improvement and quality assurance based on formative and summative evaluations.
- Advocate for participants and TRIO programs at the institutional, local, and federal congressional levels. Foster communication and collaboration with other TRIO programs locally and nationally, as well as other University units and the broader community.
- Prepare reports and complete the program Annual Performance Report, U.S. Department of Education Federal TRIO. Communicate effectively through various audiovisual platforms to inform and disseminate information. Monitor documentation of services and maintain the database to track participant progression.
- Identify, recruit, and maintain eligible program participants at a Hispanic Serving Institution.
- Responsible for personnel management, supervision, and ongoing training.
- Serve on university, state, and regional federal TRIO committees. Manage program inventory and provide mentorship to new directors.

***Significant Accomplishments:***

- Establish UNM Student Support Services-TRIO Program at The University of New Mexico based on the 2001 grant proposal
- President-Elect, President, and Past-President, TRIO NM & Southwest Association of Student Assistance Program Board Member
- Establish UNM SSS Grant Aid Scholarship Program, 2001 to present
- 5-Part Webinar Series, *What now? Coping, Navigating & Access to Higher Education Amid COVID-19*, Statewide/TRIO New Mexico, May-June 2020
- Co-established inaugural, now Annual First-Generation Celebration at The University of New Mexico as part of a national movement, 2017
- On-Site Coordinator, SWASAP Annual Regional Conference – Hybrid In-person & Online, Albuquerque, 2021

*Youth Leadership Development Manager*

July 2000 to August 2001

Hours/week: 40

Futures for Children, Albuquerque, NM

- Serving Indigenous communities. Supervise the daily operations of the Youth Leadership Program and its activities at both in-state and out-of-state. The sites included NM Pueblos, NM – AZ Navajo/Diné communities and AZ Hopi villages. Duties included personnel management, curriculum development, interactions with tribal leaders, school administrators and community members. Facilitating training and oversight of youth leadership program sites.

Duties include strategically establishing new program sites on and off reservations serving Indigenous students and families in their communities. Further duties include implementing planning and monitoring formative and summative evaluations to improve youth leadership programming, delivering professional customer service to maintain effective relationships with tribal administration, school administration, and community members. Additionally duties were coordinating special events and presentations, generating reports, monitoring program budget, and contributing to the on-site IT Team by managing databases, providing system backups, troubleshooting and acting a tech liaison for the sub-team.

*Unique Programs Manager*

June 1998 to June 2000

Hours/week: 40

Futures for Children, Albuquerque, NM

- Serving Indigenous communities. In charge of managing, developing, and monitoring the Post-Secondary and Off-Reservation Programs of mentorship and support for Indigenous college students in New Mexico and Arizona. Evaluate and create materials tailored to the audience to train staff and improve programming.

Duties include maintaining supervisory contact with off-site program staff, conducting participant interviews for updates, monitoring program budget, analyzing college transcripts, tracking student academic progress, confirming college student enrollment, and generating reports. Collaborate with agency team members on projects, utilize collected data for program expansion in southwest states, and unit liaison to agency IT Team. Additionally, monitor and evaluate sites for development and expansion.

*Interim Program Coordinator/Case Manager*

March 1995 to May 1998

Hours/week: 40

Youth Development, Inc. Albuquerque, NM

- Effectively manage and coordinate the STARS Program and the Senior Track Program in large Albuquerque Public Schools, and the Los Lunas School District with a focus on enhancing student awareness of opportunities at the college level.

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## Leadership

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Annual Conference Chair, TRIO New Mexico State Association	2022 – 2024
NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, Annual Conference Sub Committee Member Featured Speakers	May 2023 to March 2024
NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, Center for First-Generation Forward Student Success group, UNM Main Campus	2023 to present
Internal Audit Chair, Inaugural Audit Team, SWASAP May-Dec., 2023	2023
Fraternity Chapter Counselor, UNM Beta Theta Pi Colony	2018 to 2022
Past-President, TRIO New Mexico	2018-2019, 2021
First Generation Celebration Committee Lead	2017 to 2022, 2024
President, TRIO New Mexico	2017-2018
UNM Wellness Ambassador	2016 to present
President-Elect, TRIO New Mexico	2016-2017
Chaired TRIO NM State Conference, Gov't Advocacy & Leadership Event	
Board Member, Southwest Assoc. of Student Assist. Programs	2002-2003, 2015-2019, 2021
Chair, Committee – By-Laws, Communications, Alumni, Student Leadership Conference, Regional Conference Onsite Coordinator, SWASAP	2016-2023
Secretary, TRIO New Mexico	2015-2016, 2002-2003
Senator, Associated Students of the University of New Mexico	1994-1995

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## Honors

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SWASAP Legacy Award Recipient, Regional Conference 2023, TRIO	2023
UNM Outstanding Supervisor Award Nomination, Staff Council	2019
2017 Miss Indian UNM Pageant Judge, April Competition	2017
UNM Faculty of Color Award, Project for NM Graduates of Color	2016
Albuquerque Women Inspiring Leadership Nomination, Community Leadership Foundation-ENLACE	2015
UNM Outstanding Staff Award, UNM Provost's Committee for Staff	2014
Honorary Member Phi Eta Sigma	2005
Youth Development Inc. Spirit Award-Outstanding Staff Award	1996

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## Instruction

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Instructor, Living and Learning Community Seminar, UNM, fall semester.	2009
Instructor, "Rising Scholars, Speak Out," Fall 2008, Freshmen Interest Group Courses, UNM, fall semester.	2008
Instructor, In's and Outs of College, Freshman Interest Group Seminar, UNM, fall semester.	2004 and 2005

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## Public Relations

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UNM Daily Lobo interview for article on helping marginalized college students, Oct.	2021
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## Presentations, Trainings, Workshops

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“Red or Green?” - First Generation Forward Institution, Co-Presenter, UNM Fall Advisor Institute, September 26, 2023	2023
“Understanding the Higher Education Act and TRIO Programs”, 2023 TRIO New Mexico Annual Conference, April.	2023
“SWASAP Newcomers 2022”, Co-presenter, 2022 SWASAP Conference, Nov.	2022
“What does being a First-Generation Student Mean?”, 2022 Diversity Summit: Building Systems for Greater Justice, Equity, Accessibility, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEADI). Co-Presenter B. Booky, NMSU.	2022
“UNM First Generation Forward”, Co-presenter Brandi Stone, Jose Villar, Advisor Institute, UNM, September 2022	2022
Enhance Impacts & Outcomes with Peer Mentoring, Council for Opportunity in Education. Co-Presenter C. Westin, Univ of Nevada-Reno. February, 2022	2022
5-Part Webinar Series, <i>What now? Coping, Navigating &amp; Access to Higher Education Amid COVID-19</i> , Statewide/TRIO New Mexico, May-June 2020	2020
“Student Service Model: Structured First Year Experience”, 2016 Shared Knowledge Conference, University of New Mexico, April 2016	2016
“Opportunities: Student Support Services-TRIO Program”, UNM Advisor Institute, May 2013	2013
“Transferring: You Can Do It”, Transfer Workshop, Central New Mexico College, October 2008	2008
“Student Success: Retaining Students with Best Practices,” Co-Presenter, New Mexico Student Affairs Symposium	2007
“Understanding Your Tutee, Learning Styles,” Presenter, 1 <sup>st</sup> Annual College Enrichment/Special Programs, May	2006
“Differences Between High School and College” Annual TRIO NM/WTASAP TRIO Day and College Assistant Migrant Program, AMP, HEP Office of Migrant Education Celebration, April	2005

## Committees

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NASPA Sub-Committee, 2024 Annual Conference	2023-2024
TRIO New Mexico Scholarship Selection Committee, October	2023
Career Services, Director, Search Committee Member, July	2023
SWASAP Student Leadership Conference, Van, TX, August	2016-2017
TRIO New Mexico Executive Committee	2015-2019
Lena Clauve Outstanding Student Senior Award Selection Committee, UNM	2011-2022, 2024
Faculty Search Committee, School of Public Administration, February	2008
Various Committees for TRIO New Mexico/NMWTASAP	2001-present

## Article

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“UNM SSS High-Five Award,” Spring Issue, Volume 7	2020
“SSS-TRIO Conference & Network with UNM McNair,” Fall Issue, TRIO New Mexico	2016

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### Professional Training

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Adult Mental Health First Aid USA, 3-yr Certification, National Council for Mental Wellbeing	2022
Friends of Beta, NM Chapter Counselor Leadership Academy, National Beta Theta Pi Fraternity	2019-2020
UNM-Basic Safety and Professional Ethics	2001 to present
Academic Advisor Institute, UNM	2011 to present
Grant Writing, Council for Opportunity in Education	2004, 2009, 2019, 2020, 2021
TRIO Training-Grant Management	2004 to present
Safe Zone Ally Training, LGBTQ Community, UNM	2018
Dream Zone Training, UNM	2018
Executive Leadership Institute-Princeton University, Council for Opportunity in Education	2017-2018
UNM Management Academy	2012-2013
Measuring Success to Validate Culturally Based Programs	2010
National Assoc. of Student Personnel Administrators Mid-Level Institute, NASPA	2006

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### Volunteer

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National Senior Olympic Games, Non-Profit Multi-Sports Council, Alb.	June 2019
National Congress of American Indians, Albuquerque	October 2019
Friend of Beta, Staff Advisor, Beta Theta Pi Fraternity	2018-2020
Native American Higher Education Focus Group, Dissertation Research, C.Montoya	October 2019
Volunteer, 2014 McNair Scholars Research Conference, UNM	2014
Moderator, 41 <sup>st</sup> Annual SWASAP Conference, November 2012	2012
Faculty Search Committee, Graduate Student Grp, School of Public Administration	February 2008
Specialized Travel Grant Reader, Graduate & Professional Student Association, UNM, June 2008	June 2008
Selection Committee Scholarship Reader, Daniels Fund Scholarship	Sept. 2008
Moderator Coor., UNM Ronald E. McNair Scholars Conference, UNM	Sept. 2008

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### Professional Affiliations

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National Association of Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education	2023 to present
Council of Opportunity in Education	2001 to present
Southwest Association of Student Assistant Programs	2001 to present
TRIO New Mexico -Statewide Assoc.	2001 to present
UNM Native American Alumni Chapter	2023 to present
Association on American Indian Affairs	2022 to 2023
New Mexico Association of Student Affairs Professionals	2010