

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 18, 2019 Contact: Bruce Krasnow (505) 827-0226 Bruce.Krasnow@state.nm.us

Frontier & Native American Communities Initiative Now Accepting Applications for New Projects

Applications due by September 13, 2019

Santa Fe, N.M. – New Mexico MainStreet, a program of the New Mexico Economic Development Department, today announced that it is accepting applications for the sixth round of the Frontier & Native American Communities Initiative. The initiative is project-based and provides support to rural and Native American communities under 7,500 in population. Proposed projects must demonstrate job creation, business development, leveraging private sector investment, or enhancement of a community's economic environment.

"The Frontier & Native American Communities Initiative is a fantastic opportunity for rural communities to engage in economic development projects that stimulate economic growth and employment opportunities," said Economic Development Secretary Alicia J. Keyes. "I look forward to seeing completed projects making an impact in these communities."

The application can be found on EDD's website, <u>www.gonm.biz</u>. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 pm on September 13, 2019. Selected Frontier Communities Projects will be announced in October and will receive professional services and technical assistance from New Mexico MainStreet to implement and complete their projects within 12-18 months. MainStreet professionals work with the community to identify appropriate funding for projects. Direct funding for selected projects is not included with services and resources provided for the project.

"We've seen wonderful success with this program since its inception," said Interim Director for New Mexico MainStreet Daniel Gutierrez. "This program assists rural and Native American communities with building capacity for local economic revitalization, enhancing the entrepreneurial & creative economy, and creating thriving places."

The Frontier & Native American Communities Initiative was created by the Legislature in 2013 and 30 Frontier Community Projects have been completed in more than 28 rural communities.

For more information about the Frontier & Native American Communities Initiative, contact Daniel Gutierrez at (505) 827-0151 or <u>daniel.gutierrez2@state.nm.us</u>.

About New Mexico MainStreet:

A program of the New Mexico Economic Development Department, New Mexico MainStreet works

throughout the state to help affiliated local organizations create an economically viable business environment while preserving cultural and historic resources. New Mexico MainStreet currently serves 30 affiliated MainStreet Districts, 12 state-authorized Arts & Cultural Districts, 4 Frontier and Native American Community projects, and 8 Historic Theater Initiatives. For more information about New Mexico MainStreet, visit www.gonm.biz or www.nmmainstreet.org.

> ### New Mexico Economic Development Department <u>gonm.biz</u>

