Economic Vitality Funding

Funders Perspective
About NMRA

**Mission:** To strengthen the resiliency of New Mexico’s rural and underserved communities by mobilizing and leveraging resources and collaborative partnerships that enhance the economic vibrancy and quality of life of its residents.

**Resilient Communities:** Have awareness of their strengths and a high capacity to utilize those assets to build community while adapting to changing socio-economic conditions in order to sustain economic activity, social connectivity, and quality of life.

**Resilient Communities Fund:** provides financial support for locally-driven, community-based economic development projects statewide.
1. **Strategies for Rural Development**: Initiatives that revitalize the most sustainable and traditional practices in creative ways and upgrade rural built environments in terms of revitalization and community cohesiveness/connectivity.

2. **Economic Development**: Expand the economic base by fostering entrepreneurship across sectors, provide training and technical assistance to entrepreneurs.

3. **Influencing Built Environments**: Inject community voice into development, use innovative approaches to planning, design and construction, affordable housing.

4. **Capacity-Building in the Nonprofit Sector**: Engage diversity, develop leadership, access expertise, professional development and training that builds capacity.

5. **Linking Arts and Community Engagement**: Arts as a tool for civic engagement, collaboration-building, reaching diverse audiences, and economic revitalization.
RCF Grants - $311,000 since 2014

- $201.6k (65%)
- $25.9k (8%)
- $28k (9%)
- $40.5k (13%)
- $15k (5%)

- Promo
- Org
- EV*
- D/P
- Design

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* Includes 2 non-NMMS affiliates
EV Funded Projects

1. Generation Ag Youth Entrepreneurism (Mora, 2015, $3k)
2. Drylands Brewpub Business Plan (Lovingston, 2015, $5k)
3. Business Development Workshop (Farmington, 2015, $1k)
4. Calle Cuarta Incubator Business Development (Barelas, 2016, $5k)
5. Coworking Space Development (Los Alamos, 2016, $5K)
6. Youth Farm to Market Entrepreneurism Development (Villanueva, 2016, $5k)
7. Downtown Business Succession Workshops (Gallup, 2017, $4k)
8. Community Economic Development Plan (South Valley, 2017, $4k)
9. High Five! Business Development Funding (Alamogordo, 2019, $2.5k)
10. Community Supported Agriculture Development (S. Valley, 2017, $3k)*
11. Youth Entrepreneurship/Food Handler Trainings (Silver City, 2017, $3k)*

* non-NMMS affiliate
Requirements

- Must be Legally-Compliant 501c3
- Meet Eligibility Criteria
- Align with the Funder(s) Mission and Goals
  - Economic Development, Underserved Communities, Revitalization, Capacity-Building
- Complete Projects by Deadlines
- Spend Funds for Intended Uses
- Comply with Other Grant Terms and Conditions
- Comply with and report leverage/match commitments
What We Hope For...

1. **Plan Ahead:** Apply only when ready; seek RS assistance early, submit on time
2. **Clearly-articulated proposals** with clear goals, tasks to be completed, economic impacts, and intended use of funds
3. **More/Stronger EV Projects**, or those with demonstrated EV impact
4. **Follow-through on EV and Capacity-Building impact measures** (public art, placemaking and promotions)
5. **Project Durability:** Business closures or Org. challenges water down impact of facade squads, challenge grants
6. **More Historic Building Preservation/Adaptive Reuse, Cultural Preservation projects**
7. **Strengthen Community Engagement**, participation (including diverse populations that reflect your community/district)