



Civic Engagement Training *Learn – Engage – Take Action!*

Thursday, January 12th, 2023

4:00pm – 6:30pm

Via Zoom

The purpose of the Civic Engagement Training is to introduce and engage participants in the importance of advocacy and ways to educate and inform policy makers about the issues and initiatives that are most important to you and that will benefit your collective efforts.

The training will provide an introduction to local, state, tribal and national policy in relation to food and farm systems, our water and natural resources, and the health of our communities. It will prepare us for the 2023 New Mexico Legislative session, including tools that will support your participation during the legislative session and beyond.

Through an equity lens and upstream approaches to engaging policy makers we will actively involve participants in the 2023 New Mexico Legislative Session and how to participate from your varying roles and situations.

Agenda

3:45 – 4:00pm Arrive and settle in

4:00-4:05pm

Moderator: Pam Roy, Farm to Table and the NM Food & Ag Policy Council (NMFAPC)

Welcome! A bit of housekeeping:

- Please introduce yourself in the chat: Name, affiliation and where you are based
- Please mute when you aren't engaging.
- If you're on the phone, use *6 to mute and unmute.
- If you are calling in and are dropped from the call, please just call back in.
- **We are recording the session (but not the breakouts)**

4:05 - 4:10pm Welcome – Setting the Stage

Helga Garza, Agri-Cultura Cooperative Network, and **Lawrence Gallegos**, National Latino Farmers and Ranchers; both on the NMFAPC Governing Board and NM Policy Cohort

- NM Food & Agriculture Policy Council Values

- NM Food & Agriculture Policy Council Legislative Priorities to date

4:10 – 4:20pm Why Policy Matters

Chili Yazzie, Shiprock Farmers' Cooperative and NMFAPC Governing Board

- Story from the field

4:20 – 5:00 pm

Overview of the NM Legislative Session - Introduction to the Legislative Process

Alicia Chavez, Impact and Partnerships Lead, NM - FoodCorps and NM Policy Cohort

- Legislative Tools and Messaging
- Using the Legislative Website and Staying Informed Daily and Weekly

5:00 pm – 5:20 pm

Legislator's Perspective – How Best to Work with Legislators Toward Success

Representative **Joanne Ferrary** and the **Legislative Hunger Caucus**

What is Advocacy? How Individuals, Organizations, Agencies and FoodCorps can Share Stories

Pam Roy, Farm to Table

Sam Hilborn, Rodale Institute, NMFAPC Governing Board and NM Policy Cohort

Rita Condon, NM Department of Health, Healthy Kids Healthy Communities

Who's participating:

- Agencies and public sector participants
- Non-profits, farmers, and food service personnel
- **Consider the audience – consider a variety of ways to advocate.** What do you want to personally do to take action? Role playing is good to practice.

5:20 – 5:35 pm

Policy Priority Testimonials: Setting the Stage for Breakouts

The Food Initiative, including Healthy Universal School Meals and New Mexico Grown

Michael Chavez and **Alena Paisano**, New Mexico Public Education Department

Land of Enchantment Legacy Fund (formerly known as the Conservation Trust Fund)

Debbie Hughes, New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts

Water Priorities in New Mexico

Paula Garcia, New Mexico Acequia Association

Paula will provide an overview of the Water Task Force report generally and the consensus recommendations that came out of that process; highlight some of the items that relate to agriculture which were hard fought items for inclusion; and overarching water policy initiatives to expect this legislation session.

5:35– 5:40 pm Stretch Break

5:40 – 6:10 pm Breakout Sessions

Here we will discuss policy strategies for 2023 Legislative Session and priority issues for 2023. **Choose your breakout room!**

Breakout Rooms

Room 1: Food Initiative and Healthy School Meals for All

Facilitators: **Rita Condon** and **Michael Chavez**

Storytelling: **Alicia Chavez** and **Anthony Wagner**, Wagner Farms and NMFAPC Governing Board and NM Policy Cohort

Room 2: Enchantment Legacy Fund – Conservation Trust Fund

Facilitators: **Debbie Hughes**

Storytelling: **Lawrence Gallegos**

Room 3: Water – Quality and water for farmers and food security, and planning for the future

Facilitators: **Paula Garcia** and **Jaimie Park**, NM Acequia Association

Storytelling: **Paula Garcia**, **Harold Trujillo**, (NMAA) and **Chili Yazzie**

6:10 – 6:25pm

Groups each give a 5-minute presentation – sharing about your discussions

6:25 – 6:30pm

Next steps and thank you!

- **January 26, 9:00am-12:00pm Food & Farms Day and Awards at the Capitol**
 - **Awards Ceremony at 9:00am**
- **Sign up for Action Team meetings** on our website

Special thanks to the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts for providing technical support and expertise!

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For information: NM Food & Agriculture Policy Council, www.nmfoodpolicy.org/

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