

## The Volunteer Center of Grant County

**Our mission** is “To mobilize the volunteer human resources in Grant County to meet the needs of the community.”

**Our vision** is to be the number one resource for information, referrals and solutions to any community need that can be addressed with volunteerism; to understand the interconnectedness between poverty, educational attainment, civic responsibility, civic engagement and volunteerism; and to be a catalyst for conversation, collaboration, connectedness and community sustainability.

**Our purpose** is to recruit volunteers and match them with recipients, which may be individuals or agencies and organizations that utilize volunteers.

**Our goal** is for volunteers to have challenging and rewarding experiences that will encourage them to develop and/or continue a lifelong commitment to service and learning in their community.

**Our history:** The Volunteer Center of Grant County began as an idea in 2001, opened its doors in 2002 with a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation “Faith in Action” grant and became a 501 (c) 3 in 2004. The effort to create The Volunteer Center was collaboration between many interested citizens, the Grant County Community Health Council and the Senior Lifecycle group. We are one of only four volunteer centers in New Mexico and the only center that does not rely on substantial funding from a parent organization or government entity

### Volunteer Center Fast Facts

**Since becoming a 501 (c) 3 in February, 2004:**

- Thousands of volunteers have given
- 20,000+ hours to
- 2500 children
- 300 adults
- over 25 partner agencies and organizations

**We Serve:**

- children who don't get enough to eat
- seniors who have no other way to get to the grocery store or doctor's office
- veterans without families
- women recovering from substance abuse and domestic violence
- anyone who needs assistance getting the services they need

**Our Current Programs:**

- “Lift Every Voice”, community organizing project to end hunger and poverty in Grant County
- Alimento para el Niño weekend backpack program
- Partners for Seniors Program
- Volunteer Matching for Organizations and Agencies
- Enhanced Summer Lunch Program
- “Miel de Mi Corazon” Emergency Grant Fund for women and children
- Community Wide Service Learning Initiative
- “Building Bridges Out of Poverty” Initiative
- Annual Volunteer Fest

**Fiscal Agents For:**

- Community Gift Card Supplemental Food Program for Women and Children

**Past Programs and Collaborations:**

- Corre Casitas bus route for low income seniors
- Classroom in a Trunk program for children
- Grab Bar Program for seniors
- Hermanas Program for women

**Current and Past Funders:**

- Town of Silver City
- Freeport McMoRan/GCCHC Community Enhancement Fund
- Gila Regional Medical Center
- PNM Foundation
- Silver Health Care
- AmBank
- Western Bank
- Western Telephone
- Timberland Construction
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- McCune Foundation
- Daniels Fund

**How we do it:**

- Average of 15-20 calls for service/referrals per week
- Part-time Executive Director
- Two part-time Americorps Members
- One field placement intern from WNMU Social Work Dept.
- Office space donated by First United Methodist Church
- Eight member volunteer Board of Directors