

# PITCHING IN

## UnitedHealthcare gives nearly \$200K in grants

UnitedHealthcare has awarded \$196,585 in grants to four organizations with New Mexico programs addressing social determinants of health, including access to affordable housing and food, according to a news release.

“Healthy living goes beyond the doctor’s office, and our grants will enable local organizations to help people access food, affordable housing and social services to live healthier lives,” said Andrew Peterson, chief executive officer of UnitedHealthcare, in a statement. “A community-based approach to addressing social determinants of health is essential to achieving health equity and building healthier communities in New Mexico and across the country.”

The grant recipients:

- Economic Council Helping Others, Inc., or ECHO, has received \$32,500 to provide emergency rental or mortgage assistance to 25-40 families

for up to two months, and food nutrition boxes tailored to chronic conditions.

- ABQ FaithWorks Collaborative has received \$47,800 for housing assistance, eviction protection and to sponsor a community advocate who will help people navigate community partners and managed care organizations.

- Roadrunner Food Bank of New Mexico has received \$91,285 to implement food assistance programs in two Southeast New Mexico public schools and to expand programs that support people managing nutrition-related chronic health conditions, such as diabetes and hypertension.

- Senior.One has received \$25,000 to provide seniors and their caregivers free resources to help them access care navigation services in the areas of senior housing, in-home care and community support services.

## Grant supports financial literacy programs

Homewise has received \$5,000 from WaFd Bank’s Washington Federal Foundation to support its

free bilingual financial literacy and home buyers’ education coaching experience, according to a news release.

“Homewise is deeply grateful to Washington Federal Foundation for this grant award,” said Elena Gonzales, Homewise senior director of policy and resource development, in a statement. “By supporting financial literacy and home buyer education we are removing obstacles to achieving homeownership and transforming outcomes for families in New Mexico.”

The financial literacy program aims to provide financial management tools such as creating a budget, setting financial goals, reducing or eliminating debt, repairing or improving credit and building savings.

The buyer education program aims to prepare prospective buyers for a home purchase, understanding mortgage and escrow accounts, dealing with home maintenance and working with contractors.



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