



*Happy  
New Year*

## **Happy New Year!**

*from all of us, to all of you and yours!*

***Los Ojos de la Familia is about much more than holiday baskets. Our programs also include general assistance, educational scholarships, our Athletic Youth Development Program, and the First Responders Program.***

***Here is a summary of the dozens of deserving families we were able to help them through these programs, over the last few months.***

**Belen Consolidated School Attendance for Success** - This program was created to help families understand the importance of education, analyze barriers to attendance and arrange intervention if necessary. They incentivize children with gifts for regular attendance. We donated gift cards to help incentivize children to attend school regularly.

**Beverly Montano** - Ms. Montano is 74 and lives alone, and her furnace broke down last year. We helped her find a good company to fix the furnace and wrote a check to help with the service fee.

**Jennifer Florez** - Ms. Florez and her family lost everything in a fire that burned down her rental house. We gave them a gift card to help them with new clothing and furniture.

**Jessica Garrett** - Ms. Garrett is a senior in high school who lives with her sister, who has been trying to balance school and a job, while saving for her own apartment, as her sister cannot continue to support her. We helped her with her phone and car insurance bills, and a gift card for necessities.

**Lucy Salazar** - After several years of waiting on the transplant list for a kidney, Lucy has finally found a match. We wrote a check to help toward the rent.

**Esteban Hermosillo** - Esteban is a 7-year-old boy who is learning mixed martial arts, however, his family cannot afford the dues for him. We wrote a check to a gym, close to his school, so that he can continue to learn.

**Gladiola Valdez** - Ms. Valdez and her family have been staying in a hotel

under the Vento program, for a limited time. Due to limited income, they have not been able to pay for enough storage for all their belongings and have had to lose many of them. We gave them a gift card to help replace some of those things.

**Breaking The Silence** - is a local nonprofit organization that promotes mental health literacy, advocacy, and well-being for teens, youth and adults through education, personal stories and the arts. We partnered with them to provide t-shirts for 500 children for a New Mexico United soccer game.

**Sandra Linda Medel** - Sandra is the mother of two children who has not been able to work full time, and has fallen behind on utility bills. We wrote a check to help get her caught up.

**Debbie Salas** - Debbie, who is 60 and lives by herself, was recently terminated from her job of 5 years. We wrote a check to help with a payment on her vehicle loan, while she is searching for a new job.

**Valerie Cortez** - Valerie and her children are living in a shelter awaiting housing. She recently had to take medical leave, for which she was not paid. She asked for help with storage of their belongings. We wrote a check to help with storage.

**Terra Davis** - Ms. Davis is a single mother of 4, who was forced to move out of her rental home when it was sold. They have been staying in motels since summer, but have exhausted their savings, and have fallen behind on bills. We wrote a check to help her catch up on her phone bill.

**Angel Ramirez** - Ms. Ramirez recently suffered the tragic loss of her daughter in a car accident, but was unable to pay for the full amount of her burial. We wrote a check to the headstone company toward the cost.

**Bryan Mirabal/Capital HS Basketball** - Bryan is the coach of the basketball team at Capital High School, which is a Title 1 school, and the team has to fundraise for all expenses. Bryan asked for help to purchase beanies for the team, for traveling. We wrote a check to the vendor to help pay for the hats.

**Mark Anthony Romero/All Access Project** - Mr. Romero founded the All Access Project to help children with disabilities at Tingley and UNM Children's Hospitals. Due to COVID, they have been unable to hold their annual teddy bear drive for hospitalized children. We partnered with them to provide this year's teddy bears.

**Renee Aragon** - Renee's husband left her on her own to care for hers and her brother's 10 children, two of whom are disabled. She has struggled to keep utilities paid. We wrote a check to help fill their propane tank.

**Mark Dixon** - Mark has been trying to find employment. He fell behind on rent and has been showing early signs of dementia. We wrote a check for his rent to help toward his past balance.

**Marlene Romero** - Mrs. Romero and her family live in her mother's trailer, but are struggling to pay rent and utilities. We helped them get caught up on gas and electric.

**Monique Ramirez** - Monique lost her job last year, and was forced to move out of her home. She found another job, but has fallen behind on bills. We helped her get caught up on gas and electric this month.

**Nichole Hernandez** - Nichole is a single mom whose work hours were cut and she fell behind on utilities. We helped her get caught up on her gas bills.

**Josie Marrujo/LULAC** - The **League of United Latin American Citizens** is the largest and oldest Hispanic membership organization in the country. We partnered with them to provide supplies for a CABQ Thanksgiving event to provide groceries to 200 families.

**Jessica Saldana** - Jessica is a single mother who recently graduated from a Safe House program, but she has fallen behind on bills. We wrote a check toward her rent this month to give her a helping hand.

**Carlos Polaco** - Carlos was hospitalized with COVID in the fall, but his electricity was scheduled to be cut off while he wasn't able to work. We wrote a check to help him get caught up on his PNM bill.

**Barrett Foundation** - The Barret Foundation is a local organization supporting women and children experiencing homelessness. We partnered with them to provide food and supplies for the New Year's Eve party for all the families.

**Leroy Romero** - Leroy is on a fixed income from SSI, and he fell behind on some of his bills. We wrote a check to help with some of his rent for the month.

**Rosa LaRouge** - Rosa is a single mother with one autistic child, who is unemployed after two heart surgeries, and receiving some rental assistance. She fell behind on her portion of the rent through SFCHA. We wrote a check to help her cover her portion for the month.



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