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Frequently asked questions

What is the mission of McCurdy Ministries Community Center? MMCC creates hope and empowers the lives of children, youth, adults and families through education, life skills and faith-based programs in Española, NM. MMCC has developed a new Master Plan for our 29 acre campus based on our Long Range Plan for Ministry. Our vision is that our campus will become a nexus bringing together programming, nonprofits, families and the faith community to collaborate to create hope and empower the lives of children, youth, adults and families.

Why is a Community Center approach to ministry needed in Española? According to the U.S. Census, 32% of Española's population lives under the Federal Poverty Line. This figure is higher because there is a hidden immigrant population that will not report. In addition, one in five adults 25 and older have not graduated from high school or completed a GED.

Who owns McCurdy Ministries Community Center? The MMCC nonprofit corporation owns McCurdy's 29 acres and buildings. MMCC is incorporated under our legal name, McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico, and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit registered with the IRS. McCurdy School, the predecessor organization to MMCC, came into the United Methodist Church from the Evangelical United Brethren Church at merger in 1968. MMCC is a National Mission Institution that relates to Global Ministries and the United Methodist Women National Office.



NMAC representatives on the McCurdy Ministries Community Center Board

Officers: Sanford Coon & Steve Trout, co-chairpersons, and Harry Riser, treasurer.
At large members: Ellen Lipsey and Patricia Parkinson.

NMAC representatives on the NMAC/McCurdy Capital Campaign Steering Committee

Rev. Dr. Randall Partin, chairperson of the NMAC/McCurdy Campaign
Rev. Dr. Steve Trout, chairperson of the Church Segment of the NMAC/McCurdy Campaign.
Sid Strebeck, NMAC lay leader, is the National Chairperson for the Creating Hope, Empowering Lives Campaign.

McCurdy Ministries Community Center

362A S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532, www.mccurdy.org. For more information contact Rev. Diana Loomis, campaign director, at dloomis@mccurdy.org or call 505-753-7221, ext. 352.

Imagine the outcome

With the addition of childcare for infants to preschoolers, parents will be able to trust their children to MMCC and our support, from infancy until they graduate from high school.

Special financial aid resources will be made available to help provide affordable childcare for persons who work in helping professions in the community. We believe this is a way to support those who work every day making God's difference in our community.

Preschool will be available to more children and their learning experiences will greatly increase their likelihood of graduating from high school.

Expanding our quality After School Care will mean we can impact the lives of more children and share God's love through homework support, Bible stories, free play and service projects.

Project Cariño counseling services will reach more children, youth, adults and families.

Engaging volunteers will act as Christ's hands and enrich the lives of our students.

Parenting and grand parenting support is critical because 60% of our children are being raised by grandparents. Parents and grandparents will find new hope through support groups as they learn life skills which contribute to happy, healthy homes and lives.



The New Mexico Conference & McCurdy Ministries Community Center Working together to Create Hope & Empower Lives through the McCurdy Children's Ministries Center



The Children's Ministry Center will be a welcoming place

The Children's Ministry Center will be a welcoming place filled with Christ-like hospitality, energy, imagination and learning. The former elementary school on the McCurdy campus will be updated to become the Children's Ministries Center. This facility will:

- Increase McCurdy's capacity to serve more children by expanding to two preschool classes which is important in a community where there are spots for only 46% of the children who should be in preschool.
- Provide a permanent home for Camp Stars, our summer camp which combines the best of Vacation Bible School with STEM education.

- Expand our After School Care programs for younger and older elementary children.
- Add infant to preschool childcare with emphasis on providing excellent childcare and financial aid for those who serve the community in helping professions.
- Provide a computer lab available for all the programs in the building.
- Provide a teaching kitchen to help teach our children nutrition and life skills.

All areas of the building will be handicapped accessible and energy efficient. The cost of the facility is \$1.7 million.

The NMAC and McCurdy are partners in ministry

McCurdy Ministries Community Center is an outreach ministry of the United Methodist Church. McCurdy and the New Mexico Annual Conference share a commitment to ministry with children, youth, adults and families. We share leadership through our Bishop and Albuquerque DS who appoint members to the McCurdy Board. Current representatives include Rev. Dr. Steve Trout and Rev. Sanford Coon. The NMAC UMW and the Albuquerque District UMW presidents also appoint members to the board. Current UMW representatives are Ellen Lipsey and Patricia Parkinson.

The Children's Ministry Center creates welcoming space for transforming lives



McCurdy has a special calling

After developing our Vision for Ministry McCurdy Ministries Community Center (MMCC) believes we are called to serve in seven areas including:

- Children's Ministries
- Youth Ministries
- Adult and Family Ministries
- Art, Drama and Music Ministries
- Volunteer Ministries
- Nonprofit Hub Ministries

The Children's Ministry Center is one component of a comprehensive Master Plan that addresses redevelopment of McCurdy's 106 year old campus. McCurdy is presently working on Phase 1 which will fund the Adult Ministries Center. We are blessed by the New Mexico Annual Conference's decision to pray for our ministries, conduct a campaign, and generously raise funds for Phase 2 so the Children's Ministry Center on our campus can be prepared for the next 100 years.

How will churches be contacted?

Each district will have its own team of pastors and laity who will contact every church in the district to set a presentation date. The district team member will go to the church to share the *Creating Hope, Empowering Lives* story with the congregation in a special setting where discussion can occur. After all questions are answered, the church will be challenged to participate and ideas will be discussed that can enable churches to participate. A commitment packet will be left with the church. After prayer and consideration, the church is asked to forward its free-will commitment card to the conference office.

Churches are invited to become Spiritual Vision Partners

To provide a strong spiritual foundation for our conference-wide effort, each congregation is asked to become a Spiritual Vision Partner. *Creating Hope, Empowering Lives* is not merely a funding campaign. It is our opportunity to reach and minister to the children, youth and families in our New Mexico Conference, especially in the Española Valley. One day, we will mark this initiative as an important turning point which strengthened the church. Spiritual Vision Partners commit to do three important things:

① Focused Prayer: Be unified in prayer with sister congregations throughout 2019, by observing special prayer times in worship, Sunday School and small groups, specifically for McCurdy, and our conference endeavor to provide funding for the Children's Ministry Center.

② Educate the Congregation: Designate and observe two Sundays of focused prayer and ministry emphasis on behalf of McCurdy Ministries Community Center and the families, children and youth served through McCurdy's faith-based programs. If possible, the two focus Sundays should be scheduled one to three weeks before your church's presentation, to prepare the congregation for the presentation. Materials including prayer tools, bulletin inserts, posters and a media presentation were mailed to each church in the NMAC last fall to be of help in the educational process.

③ Schedule a Time for Your Church to Hear the Story: A District Team member will contact your church to schedule a *Creating Hope Empowering Lives* presentation. Please set a date for the presentation as quickly as possible.



McCurdy preschoolers listen intently to their teacher. (Photos on this page by Rich Saxon)



The needs and opportunities in our community are challenging and inspiring!

God blesses faithful service by entrusting us with the privilege to show God's love to the people we serve. Our conference welcomes this opportunity to extend that helping hand by adopting and endorsing the *Creating Hope Empowering Lives* initiative to fund the Children's Ministry Center.

The McCurdy Ministries Community Center Board and staff have been diligent in our efforts to chart an inspiring vision for the future. The planning process has been rooted in prayer and motivated by our century old commitment to share the love of God through education and service. While McCurdy has a strong history of transformational ministry in the Española Valley, the need to expand ministries and programs is great. According to the U.S. Census, Española's population is 87% Hispanic, 9% Anglo and 3% Native American. In the Española Valley, 32% of the people live under the poverty line, the per capita income is \$19,186, and 1 in 5 people under the age of 25 have not graduated from high school nor earned a high school equivalency or GED. The Rio Arriba Health Council reports 60% of Española children are being raised by their grandparents. This is McCurdy's mission field. God put McCurdy in the Española Valley and has sustained it for more than 106 years, to show Christ-like love and extend help to children, youth, adults and families. After years of working with students and their families, MMCC has learned we must empower the whole family to help improve their lives spiritually, educationally and economically. McCurdy's mission field is challenging and yet inspiring!

How will the New Mexico Conference benefit from the Creating Hope, Empowering Lives initiative?



McCurdy Ministries Community Center (MMCC) has 106 years of educational expertise to share with NMAC churches. We want to be a resource to conference churches in our expertise areas including: preschool, early childhood education, church/school partnerships, school/community based mental health counseling programs and faith based summer camps that combine the best of VBS with STEM education.

McCurdy has created a plan for congregational development which includes local churches and McCurdy partnering in a mid-week faith program for the entire family called Wednesday Comunidad. This program will develop connections between families served by MMCC and local congregations and become a model for others.

There is no conference more qualified to understand the challenge of ministry to immigrant populations than our NMAC. McCurdy is an experienced and a willing partner, will actively develop models for establishing and growing ministries to immigrant populations, which can be made available in our conference and nationally. Such programs position the NMAC to partner with the global church in a unique way.

When McCurdy began working on our vision for the future, we asked, "What is God calling MMCC to do in this time and place? How are we to make God's difference?" Our visioning process was key to our moving forward in ministry informed by the best of the past and inspired by the best of the future. We are willing to share our visioning process with your congregation because we believe outward focused United Methodist nonprofits and churches are dynamic and growing. By working together we can support your ministries as you support ours!

God is not in the business of dangling visions before us which we cannot fulfill.

"God can pour on the blessings in astonishing ways so that you're ready for anything and everything, more than just ready to do what needs to be done."

2 Corinthians 9:8 (The Message)

