

The McCurdy Ministries Community Center

Message

McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico is a registered nonprofit corporation. The corporation also uses the trade name McCurdy Ministries Community Center.

Vol. 8, #2

McCurdy Ministries Community Center creates hope and empowers the lives of children, November 2019 youth, adults and families through education, life skills and faith-based programs in Española, NM

McCurdy celebrates the Giving Tuesday Season with \$36,000 in matching donations!

For the seventh year, McCurdy Ministries Community Center (MMCC) will celebrate a **Giving Tuesday Season from Nov. 1 to Dec. 3**. Your support during the **Giving Tuesday Season** is critically important as MMCC works to expand our impact on our community while dealing with declining charitable giving in the United States AND declining mission giving in the United Methodist Church. McCurdy helps transform the lives of 566 students and their families every day through Project Cariño, After School Care, McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico PreK, Camp Stars and volunteer program and these programs impact 34% of the school age population in Española.

Since 2013 McCurdy has joined with nonprofits around the country to give donors a chance to give back to our communities in gratitude to God. **Last year 121 donors gave \$63,335 during our Giving Tuesday Season and since 2013 our donors have given \$288,249 in support of Giving Tuesday!** Rev. Diana Loomis, director of development says, "This year five generous donors have given \$36,000 in match so our goal is to raise \$72,000 which will fund 7% of our 2019-20 budget."



Our theme for **Giving Tuesday** is "Give light. Give love. Give life." It is easy to make a donation to McCurdy during our Giving Tuesday Event. Your gift up to \$2,500 for the General Fund will be matched as long as match lasts. The match is **ONLY** for gifts to the General Fund not the capital campaign.

To receive the match please give in these ways:

1. Mail a gift to MMCC postmarked between Nov. 1 and Dec. 3. The check **MUST** be marked **Giving Tuesday** to count toward the match.

2. From Nov. 1 through Dec. 3 go to our website at <https://mccurdy.org/give-now/> to make a donation. Mark your donation Giving Tuesday to qualify for the match.

3. **Only on Dec. 3, 2019**, go to <https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-596-mccurdy-ministries-community-center-formerly-known-as-mccurdy-school.aspx> to give through the United Methodist Advance. These gifts will be matched if the match is still available.

Please call Rev. Diana Loomis, director of development/church relations at 505-753-7221, ext. 352 or email her at dloomis@mccurdy.org if you have any questions about McCurdy's **2019 Giving Tuesday Season**.

LANL's \$2 match combined with McCurdy's \$1 match means your \$1 donation can grow to \$4

Attention all current LANL employees: This year Triad, the new Los Alamos National Laboratory contractor, is matching \$2 for every \$1 deducted from payroll in November. This means your \$100 gift to McCurdy deducted from your paycheck will be matched by \$200 from Triad and \$100 from McCurdy as long as our match lasts. Please help us get the word out about this opportunity to McCurdy alumni and supporters who work at LANL.

The McCurdy Fiesta was a great success!

The McCurdy Fiesta was a celebration of our ministries and community. We are sharing the joy of the day with these photos by Alli Newsome, communications director of the New Mexico Annual Conference. Photos starting clockwise on the right: Non-profit booth from Rio Arriba Imagination Library; child enjoying crafts; Bishop Bledsoe, Dee Dee Heffner, retired McCurdy missionary, and Maureen Appenfeller, dorm host dancing the marcha; Española Mayor Javier Sanchez sharing a proclamation; Patricia Alvarado and Roger Montoya singing; and After School students singing.





Rev. Sanford Coon, MMCC board chair, and Patricia Alvarado, MMCC executive director, lead the marcha at the McCurdy Fiesta.

Notes from the MMCC executive director

It has been said when we live with an attitude of gratitude possibilities abound! Even in the midst of obstacles, we are to thank God for his protection and provision. According to God's word, we are to be thankful for:

His goodness: "He's good and he's done great things

for his people" Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. (Ps 136:1)

His loving kindness: "...thank God for his goodness and everlasting kindness." (1 Chronicles 16:34, Ezra 3:11)

For your local church: Paul tells the Colossians to act toward one another in love and unity, encouraging his readers to sing to God from a heart of gratitude, "...singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or in deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus..." (Col 3:15-17)

For everything: "...always giving thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ." (Eph 5:19-20)

It is with this spirit of gratitude, that we at McCurdy Schools of Northern NM now known as McCurdy Ministries Community Center, enter this season of Thanksgiving! We certainly have much to be thankful for!

We just celebrated 107 years of service in this beautiful Española Valley by holding the McCurdy Fiesta. The Fiesta was well attended by community folks and United Methodists from around the country. We are thankful for the work done by our long term volunteers, local volunteers and VIM Teams to prepare our venues, manicure the grounds, coordinate the setup and clean up, and volunteer on the day of the event. On behalf of our Board members and staff, I thank you!

Our MMCC Board members also rolled up their sleeves, painted, moved furniture, set up venues, weeded, and helped out on the day of the event. We are truly blessed to have their commitment and support on so many levels! We also thank the Central UMC, Asbury UMC and Los Alamos UMC UMW units who gave of their time and resources to help put on the children's activities. We thank the different agencies that joined in helping us celebrate by sharing the work they do to assist families in the Valley. We also thank the Mariachi band, Buenaventura, for the beautiful music that made our celebration even more meaningful; and Sean Ridgeway, the magician, who put on the magic show. We thank Mayor Javier Sanchez, New Mexico Representative Susan Herrera and United Methodist Bishop Earl Bledsoe of the New Mexico Annual Conference who all came to help celebrate and acknowledge McCurdy's contributions to the community for the past 107 years!

For all this, we are truly grateful, in Christ's name!

Patricia A. Alvarado, executive director

Project Cariño staff begins a new school year

Project Cariño is underway this school year, providing social and emotional support to the McCurdy Charter School (MCS) and McCurdy Ministries Community Center students and families! September and October brought support requests for 26 students dealing with depression, anxiety, grief, divorce, anger and self-esteem issues.

So far this year our staff has provided 21 hours of individual therapy for students, 27 sessions for parents and provided crisis intervention for one student at the charter school. We have collaborated with teachers to provide them with information and recommendations in addressing specific behaviors in the classroom. In total, Project Cariño has provided almost 200 direct contact hours for the MCS and MMCC communities in 6 weeks!

Our team has decreased in size this year partly due to budgetary shortfalls, leaving us with a team of four. We remain just as committed in our ministry to support the social and emotional development of MCS and MMCC students! Marcos Castellano and I continue as full-time therapists and we have two part-time team members. Juan Sanchez, MSW, was one of our student interns last year and since his graduation from NM Highlands University has signed up for another year at Project Cariño. He is volunteering 20 hours a week so more students can rely on Project Cariño for emotional support. Juan believes Project Cariño is an excellent and important service for our students and is happy to continue to serve our community. Project Cariño is lucky to have him remain on board and we're sure grateful! Benjamin Slattery is a first-year MSW student intern from NM State University who has committed 16 hours a week to Project Cariño this year. In addition to being a full-time

student, he is a licensed professional x-ray tech practicing in Los Alamos where he lives. Ben is coordinating our Big Buddy Program, and has helped with student interviews and matching, scheduling visits and mentoring the mentors as they begin or continue relationships with their assigned Little Buddies. We have 24 students enrolled in the program this year for a total of 12 matches of Big and Little Buddies, four which are long-standing relationships that will continue again this year. Ben and Maureen Appenfeller, our long-term Volunteer in Mission, share time with the Buddies as they meet in our Activities Building every week.

Project Cariño is again partnering with Breaking the Silence New Mexico, a non-profit group that works hard to educate NM youth about mental illness, stigma and suicide. Brenda Steele, Northern NM Program Coordinator, is on campus at least once a week, making class presentations and weaving a safety net under MCS students. During last year's Breaking the Silence New Mexico school assembly for seventh to twelfth graders, several students came forward and asked for help in their struggle with depression and suicidal ideation and intentions. We immediately provided therapeutic support and also relied on outside agencies to help us save lives.

We would like to thank Frankie Long and the First UMC/Vessel volunteers from Claremore, OK, for their help in organizing our therapy storybooks which we use in our work with children. We are also grateful they replenished our cabinets so we can feed our clients snacks when they come for therapy and their Buddy Visits!

Amanda Trujillo-Gonzales, Project Cariño director



Testimony from a Project Cariño client

"What I like about Project Cariño is that they're very involved in McCurdy students' mental health and make it a priority to make sure students' problems are addressed. Project Cariño gave me another friendship and another source of connection that whenever things aren't going well I can go to them automatically and tell them what's going on. I guess I can call them my best friends."



Preschoolers enjoy coloring with their educational assistant.

PreK News*PreK News*PreK News

I recently attended a class where we were asked us to take a minute to think about how an oak tree grows. My thoughts... a seed planted in rich soil, add water, sun and time, the seed develops roots and then it grows strong. Then I considered my class and how our children grow. They develop both socially and emotionally. We as teachers plant the healthy seeds and cultivate their roots by providing good examples and nurturing in a safe, secure environment.

As we enter the fall season, I see my class growing and gelling together as a unit. They are becoming safe and secure in themselves, their environment and with each other. They are settling into their new routine, and are developing and cultivating those first and valued friendships that they will remember and treasure long after this year has passed.

Sandra Trujillo, preschool director

Volunteers made the Fiesta happen!

What a day we all had at the McCurdy Fiesta, and we could not have done it without you—our amazing volunteers!

As soon as we scheduled the Fiesta we reached out to our volunteers around the country. We knew we needed help to make sure the campus, especially McCracken Gym and Cole Adult Ministries building, was ready for visitors. VIM teams and individual volunteers heeded our call this past spring, summer and fall and worked tirelessly to beautify our campus.

Volunteers painted walls and floors, replaced tiles, stripped and waxed floors, moved dozens of tables and hundreds of chairs, made signs, supervised volunteers, solicited and also made their own donations, made phone calls and addressed postcards—and that was before the Fiesta! During the Fiesta volunteers gave tours of our campus to attendees, served lunch, helped with our community vendors, hosted lawn games and crafts, helped set up the vendor breakfast and finally, helped us put the campus back together after the event was over.

We can't thank our volunteers enough for bringing your love of our ministries, your love for the children and families of the Española Valley and your love of Christ to the McCurdy Fiesta. We saw your commitment to our mission in everything you did for us during your time on our campus. We are humbled by your caring hearts and giving spirits and please know you are in our prayers and good wishes always.

We look forward to seeing you again soon and please mark Saturday, Oct. 17, 2020, on your calendar for the next McCurdy Fiesta!

You are invited to McCurdy for a spiritual retreat!

Lay or clergy persons who work full time in the United Methodist Church and their spouses are welcome to come to the McCurdy Ministries Community Center campus in Española for up to seven nights for a spiritual retreat in our retreat center at no charge (this includes board, but not meals). We provide kitchens that can be used in the retreat center and there are wonderful restaurants in the area.

The only charge is to allow our staff to give you a tour of our campus and an introduction to our ministries while you are on campus. Our desire is to support you while providing a chance for you to reconnect with God, plan for your ministry, be still, renew and enjoy life.

If you have questions about scheduling a retreat, please email Eufemia Romero at eromero@mccurdy.org or call 505-753-7221.



Over 50 McCurdy staff, board members and volunteers from Oklahoma, New Mexico, Ohio, Texas, Minnesota, Indiana and Kansas worked together to make the McCurdy Fiesta a success



Left: A United Methodist woman watches as a child wins a prize at the fishing game. Center: Captain Martinez from the Santa Fe County Fire Department poses with two junior firefighters. Bishop and Mrs. Earl Bledsoe enjoy meeting new friends.



ASC students enjoy a photo with Mayor Javier Sanchez and McCurdy birthday cake.

After School Care News

Miss Angel, who had been working in the After School Care Program for the past five years, took a new job and left the program in mid-October. The children were sad to see Miss Angel leave but she told them she would come back and volunteer whenever she was available. Filling the void left by Miss Angel, we are pleased to announce that Virginia Montoya is our new after school care provider.

As we moved into the school year, the children were full of excitement as they prepared and worked hard to learn the song "Peace Like a River" for the McCurdy Fiesta. The Fiesta was a success for our children and they were so proud to be singing for our community.

Sydney talked about how she wanted to attend the Fiesta and that it was a special day for her. Zaiden

was amazed at the magic show. He said, "I can't believe the trick he showed me. I think I want to be a magician!" Lucas and Amor were excited to see our Española Mayor Javier Sanchez and wanted to take a photo. And finally, Hannah said, "We are going to have another Fiesta for the next school year because this was so much fun!"

As we move further into fall, our students have been making pumpkins and decorating them with Carla Yates and Teresa Fine, VIM team members. The students were so excited to share their time and learn new ideas with them. The students know that they are not alone and that they are always loved. **"Do not be afraid for I am with you."** Isaiah 43:5

Angela Ortiz and Virginia Montoya, After School Care providers



McCurdy Ministries Community Center

*"I am about to do a new thing...do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Isaiah 43:19*

God is doing a new thing in the Española Valley!

McCurdy 2018-19 Annual Report

In the midst of hard times, it is the Christian task to look for the ways God is working, to hold fast to the hope that God provides and to believe that God is doing a new thing! The 2018-19 fiscal year was a difficult time for McCurdy Ministries Community Center (MMCC). Local, national and denominational factors combined to make a financial impact on our ministries. In Española 35% of the population lives below the Federal Poverty Line which is up 7% over eight years ago. New Mexico and Española have the highest unemployment rate in the continental United States. The online shopping boom continues to affect regional shopping centers like Española and the result is more and more empty commercial space in town. Nationally, charitable giving dropped 5% in 2018 due to the effects of the new tax laws, fewer Federal grants were offered for nonprofits like MMCC making the competition for available grants even tougher. Finally, the conflict in the United Methodist Church has seriously affected mission giving to National Mission Institutions like McCurdy.

We are grateful to our donors who were especially generous the three previous fiscal years, to the McCurdy Board for having the foresight to set aside bequests and rent monies to be used for emergencies, program expansion and capital improvements and to our administrative staff who worked hard to cut expenses without cutting our programs. Using part of these set aside funds meant we were able to fund the 2018-19 year. To avoid a similar problem our board and staff worked *to cut expenses creatively while maintaining programs and balancing our budget for the 2019-20*

fiscal year. This work resulted in a \$500,000 cut to balance the 2019-20 budget.

As a result, the MMCC Board and administrative staff have re-evaluated our long range strategic plan and once again asked the question, *"What is God calling us to do in this time and place?"* *What we discovered is that there is an exciting renaissance happening and God is truly doing a new thing in Española!* The city, county, health council and nonprofits are planning our first homeless shelter, teen boys and teen girls homeless shelters, a new rehab unit in the old nursing home, a rehab program for mothers and their children, and Rio Arriba County is planning the build of a new nursing home and improved recreational facilities for our youth! At our October Board Retreat our board voted to explore a public/private partnership to consider new uses and new financial partners for developing parts of our campus to benefit our entire community. In addition, our staff is working hard to discover new income streams for McCurdy.

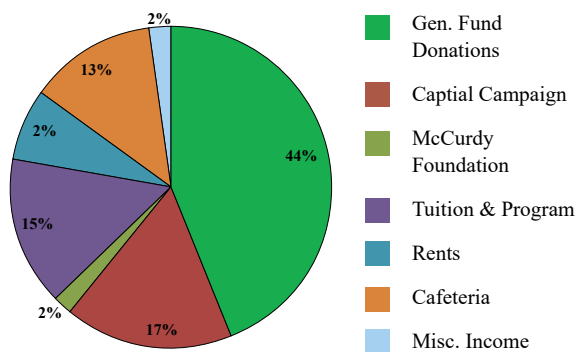
The good news is that over McCurdy's 107 years we have weathered good and bad times because of our faith in God who is always creating, always challenging and ALWAYS DOING A NEW THING and because of the faithful support of our donors year after year after year. We are grateful for God's unwavering love and for our donors' unwavering prayers, volunteer hours and support. We look forward to sharing with you the new things God is doing at McCurdy all year long!

With hope, Rev. Diana Loomis, director of development

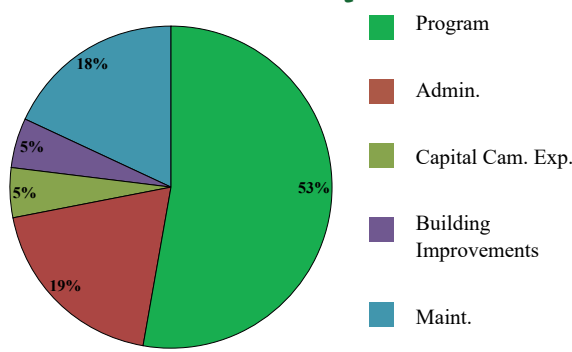
McCurdy Ministries Community Center finances

For McCurdy's 2018-19 fiscal year which ran from August 1 to July 31, we had 852 active donors. We received donations from individuals, churches, UMW units, annual conferences and foundations from across the country with the majority of donations coming from New Mexico, Ohio, Texas, Kansas, Indiana, Colorado, New York, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Iowa. Please note McCurdy Ministries Community Center has been given clean audits for our 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 fiscal years and has a gold transparency rating with Guidestar.org.

2018-19 Income



2018-19 Expenses



2018-19 Mellie Perkins

During our 2018-19 fiscal year we were blessed by estate gifts, individual donations, grants, church and church organization donations. Our greatest need is support for the General Fund which is the lifeblood for our ministries. The majority of our staff salaries, utilities, maintenance, insurance and program expenses are paid by our General Fund.

Increased estate gifts inspired the MMCC Board to start the Mellie Perkins Society to recognize our donors who make McCurdy a part of their estate plans. If you remembered McCurdy in your estate plans we invite you to be a member of the Mellie Perkins Society. Please contact Rev. Diana Loomis, director of development/church relations, at 505-753-7221, ext. 352, or email her at dloomis@mccurdy.org to let her know your intention.

Our gratitude to those who remembered McCurdy during the 2018-19 fiscal year

Mary Moon Estate, Fern Heim Trust, Julia Moya Gallegos Estate, Ruth Stambach Estate and the Mary Lou Warner Estate

Our gratitude to these persons who have remembered McCurdy in their estate plans:

Pat Alexander, Marijean Backman Ambrose, Rev. Chuck Chipman, Rev. Sanford and Mrs. Mary Ellen Coon, Tom and Sandy Hofmann, Betty Letzig, Rev. Diana Loomis, Holly Ludlam, Virginia McQuiston, William and Carol Mead, Virgil and Irma Jean Sancken

When making a charitable gift remember

If you itemize...

- Charitable gifts must be completed by Dec. 31, 2019, to be deducted on 2019 tax returns.
- Gifts of cash are deductible up to 60% of your adjusted gross income.
- A gift of appreciated stock can offer greater tax savings than cash.
- Consider pre-paying your 2020 charitable gifts if that will boost your deductions over the standard level. Then itemize every other year.

If you do not itemize...

- If you are over 70½ consider an IRA Rollover Gift. You can authorize your IRA to pay any amount up to \$100,000 directly to McCurdy. You avoid the income and the gift counts toward your required minimum distribution.

Why give stock?

- Gifts of stocks, bonds and mutual fund shares that have increased in value may provide a bigger gift and a bigger deduction for you. If you have owned these assets for more than one year, you avoid paying capital gains tax on the appreciation and may deduct the entire fair market value for tax purposes.

Planning to give a future gift?

- Remember McCurdy in a will, living trust or other estate plan.
- Consider establishing a Charitable Gift Annuity which is a current gift for tax purposes that provides annual fixed payments for life and at your passing McCurdy receives the remainder.
- Name McCurdy as the beneficiary of your IRA, insurance policy or other asset.