

# 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. 11, #3** *McCurdy Ministries Community Center creates hope and empowers the lives of children, Nov./Dec., 2022 youth, adults and families through education, life skills and faith-based programs in Española, NM*

**Saturday, October 29**

## Celebrating 110 Years in Mission

1 Corinthians 12 <sup>6</sup>There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. <sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

McCurdy Ministries 110th Birthday Party was a success by many standards. Several hundred children and families enjoyed games on the lawn: a football toss, a blow-up obstacle course, sack races, fishing for prizes and pumpkin ring toss, eating popcorn, cotton candy, and cupcakes. They admired the beautiful classic cars representing different generations since McCurdy first opened and ate old time favorite candies like root beer barrels and candy necklaces. Inside the McCracken Gym over 80 people received the newest COVID-19 booster, while also bidding on a wide array of silent auction items that had been donated to McCurdy. Board Members, United Women in Faith from Los Alamos and throughout the New Mexico Annual Conference, VIM Mission Team members, our Dorm Hosts, and staff circulated throughout the campus and volunteered in numerous ways while dressed creatively from 1912 until the present day.

When it was time for our program, McCurdy Charter School students,

representing the diversity we are known for, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the New Mexico State Flag in both English and Spanish. Our Board Chair, Reverend Sanford Coon and our Bishop of the New Mexico Annual Conference, Bishop Schnase provided welcome and prayers for the gifts and fruitfulness of McCurdy, past present and future. Film makers, who had been students themselves at McCurdy, brought the past to life. Architects gave us a glimpse of the future campus, while staff shared how we will make it happen and the new programs it will allow us to put in place. Beautiful music and a final prayer invoking Mellie Perkins' words when learning she had been chosen to start the school in Velarde, which resonate today, "If it be thy will Lord, I will do my best" completed the formal presentation.

We remember all those who have graced McCurdy since 1912, teaching and caring for all the generations of students who have come through the McCurdy School of Northern New Mexico doors in the various communities we have served. If not for their love of God, and commitment to the children in this area, this amazing legacy and vision would not have been possible.



*Honoring our flag; McCurdy Charter School 6th grade students Toni Naranjo and Isaac Corona led the Pledge of Allegiance with teacher Zelda Jaramillo; Patsy Alvarado and sister Frances Castellano singing La Mananitas*



*Bounce Obstacle Course at Fiesta and several of the beautiful cars on display honoring our 110 Years*

*BELOW: Patsy Alvarado and Sister Frances Castellano singing Las Mananitas and some of our Community Partners*



## The 2022 McCurdy Giving Tuesday Season 'til Nov. 30

McCurdy Ministries Community Center (MMCC) is celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> Giving Tuesday Season which started on Nov. 1 and ends on Nov. 30th. A number



of faithful donors have already stepped up to provide over \$35,000 of match so far so that once again your gift will be matched up to \$2,500 as long as the match lasts. Your support during the Giving Tuesday Season is critically important as MMCC works to expand our impact while rebuilding our campus and programs.

Our staff are still transforming the lives of McCurdy Charter School and MMCC students and families every day through Project Cariño, McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico Pre-K and After School Care. MMCC continues our mask wearing, filtration and protective policies to keep especially our youngest 4-year-old students safe from COVID-19 because they are too young for the vaccines.

McCurdy has celebrated Giving Tuesday since 2013.

Four years ago, we expanded the effort from one day to a season to make it easier for our donors to support our ministries. During our Giving Tuesday Season last year 133 donors gave \$75,891 which helped keep McCurdy and our ministries strong during a very difficult year!

Pastor Sarah Allen, director of development says, "We have been so blessed by the prayers and support given by our faithful donors as we return to full programming after two years of COVID-19 restrictions. We are excited that our pre-K program, After School Care and Project Cariño programs are continuing to make a difference and had a wonderful CampStars Program with the help of the Los Alamos National Lab volunteer presenters bring science to life for our young students. The program was presented in a way which combined God's miracles with the miracles of science that deepen student's faith as well as made science enjoyable. It was a winning combination."

Our theme for our Giving Tuesday Season continues to be "Give light. Give love. Give life." Your gift up to \$2,500

for the General Fund will be matched as long as match lasts. Please note the match is only for gifts to the General Fund and cannot be designated for a program, the capital campaign or the McCurdy Foundation.

To receive the match please give in these ways: 1. Mail a gift to MMCC postmarked between Nov. 1 and 30, 2022. The check MUST be marked Giving Tuesday or be in a Giving Tuesday envelope included in this mailing to count toward the match. 2. From Nov. 1 through Nov. 30, 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. Or any time during November you can go to <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/581479/> to give through the United Methodist Advance. These gifts will be matched if match is still available.

Please call Pastor Sarah Allen at 928-691-6471, or email her at [sallen@mccurdy.org](mailto:sallen@mccurdy.org) if you want to make a matching donation or have any questions about McCurdy's 2022 Giving Tuesday.

**"Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established." Proverbs 16:3 ESV**



# The Inspiring Work of our Volunteers in Mission before and during the 110th Anniversary Celebration

We are so grateful for our Dorm Hosts and Volunteers who come from all over the country to help the students and staff at McCurdy. Working together we continue to provide a place that creates hope and empowers our students through our educational and faith-based programs.

This year was especially intense due to having extremely limited teams on campus due to COVID-19 and then the horrific fires in the near-by mountains which made our air quality in the Española Valley especially poor. Our teams this summer did a herculean job cleaning and repairing two years' worth of projects and preparing of our 110th Anniversary Fiesta. We are so blessed with the gifts of their time and talent and all the extra's they provide to help McCurdy. Thank you for a blessed summer of work and caring.

## So Grateful for our Friends from United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith were present in force from Arizona and New Mexico. Six of the 9-member team from Payson, Arizona are UWF members. They had been with us all week, cooking for the 30-members, made up of Payson team members, long term volunteers, and MMCC Board members, who were performing all the final clean up and set up of the campus.

Many members from the New Mexico Conference UWF came and brought with them a variety of lawn games including pumpkin ring toss, fishing for prizes and sack races. They also helped sell pop corn and cotton candy and oversee children playing in the blow-up obstacle course and the football toss. The children loved playing out on our grass and especially were fond of the prizes and laughter.

And our local UWF group from nearby First UMC in Los Alamos provided specially made Fall designed sugar cookies to decorate. These special treats were a big hit. They also helped oversee children coloring and creating special Christmas ornaments. Our United Women in Faith volunteers helped make the day super special for all the children involved.

Also remember, if your church no longer has a



*Clockwise from above: Several of our Board Members and ED Patsy Alvarado in Period Costumes; Sanford Coon, Board Chair; Cookie Decoration with Los Alamos UWF; Volunteers selling popcorn and cotton candy; McCurdy cart full of cuttings; Coloring Ornaments at Fiesta.*



United Women in Faith/United Methodist Women Unit you can become an individual member on their web site. That way you can still stay connected at the state and national level. Since our existence in 1912, through our various church affiliations and names, "Women of Faith" have helped and supported, donated, volunteered and prayed for McCurdy Ministries. Their faith and commitment, since the beginning of our existence, has been the bedrock, supporting us for 110 years. They made a difference and continue to do so and we are deeply grateful.

## Our Hardest Working Volunteers—Our Board of Trustees and McCurdy Historian Edith Brown

McCurdy Ministries is very grateful for our Board of Trustees who help guide our organization and work in so many ways to make McCurdy remain vibrant and life changing. Many of our Board Members got in the spirit of our 110th Celebration by dressing in period costumes.

Sanford Coon—Chairperson, Jeanie Williams—Vice-Chairperson, Ellen Lipsey—Secretary, Russ Hall—Treasurer, Steve Trout, Glenn Tombaugh, David Duran, Linda Polson, Lori Riddle, Dee Dee Heffner, and Peggy Arensdorf.

Edith Brown Has been our McCurdy Historian and overseen the Historical Room and archives since the early 2000s. She is always willing to help with alumni groups and historical research and is great at connecting the stories through the years. Thank you so much Edith and the McCurdy Board for making our special Saturday be even more meaningful and fun filled.

## Space Filling Quickly for More Volunteer in Mission Teams For 2023

We are so excited to welcome our Volunteer in Mission Teams back to McCurdy. For 2023, we already have 12 teams signed up. We are able to have teams from Mid-February until Mid-November. Examples of work available are: painting, mowing, office work, maintenance, dry walling, building fences, yard work, cleaning, and assisting in the afterschool program with crafts. We also need one more Dorm Host for the month of August. Volunteers make such a positive difference in the lives of our students and staff. Check with Eufemia Romero at 505-753-7221 ext. 210 or [eromero@mccurdy.org](mailto:eromero@mccurdy.org).

## Enjoy De-Construction/Demolition?

**Plans being made to start taking down several of the smaller buildings with Volunteer help.**

We will be putting together several week-long teams made up entirely of people with specific skills in demolishing buildings. The goal is to take down several smaller buildings that are no longer needed and are without EPA issues.

The first crews will strip electrical wiring and plumbing and uninstall any heating or air conditioning units. Next comes doors and windows, then roofs and finally interior and exterior walls. If you have any of these specific skills, please let us know your skillset and availability as soon as possible and when we have the right skills gathered, we will assemble the teams. We are happy to be making space for our next 110 years. Email or call Sarah Allen 928-691-6471 or [sallen@mccurdy.org](mailto:sallen@mccurdy.org).



# action

Our actions have always spoken as loud as our words. Acts of love. Acts of faith. Acts of change. For more than 150 years, our members have been showing up and getting things done. Together, we're making the world a better place: locally, globally, fearlessly.

**“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28 ESV**





Patricia A. Alvarado,  
MMCC Executive Director

## Notes from the MMCC executive director

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, I want to express our gratitude for the many volunteers that have come from different parts of the United States as well as our local volunteers, to continue the work of helping maintain and revitalize our campus grounds and buildings to make it a safe and nurturing space for the children we serve and to help us in reaching out to others right here in our own community. I believe Our Lord wants us to have a spirit of gratitude in all we do and say. I believe that when we are able to recognize our blessings in the many forms we receive them, that we will be more joyful and content. If we can acknowledge these blessings and remember to express our gratitude, we will find ourselves drawing closer to God! The word “gratitude”

shows up 157 times in the Bible. Sometimes in our busy lives, as we strive to “maintain”, we can easily overlook the many little blessings throughout the day that are bestowed on us, even when we didn’t know we needed a blessing, be it great or small. And even when we can recognize an answered prayer, we are on to the next thing on our agenda of busy lives.

As this publication goes to print, we will have just celebrated **110 years in the Española Valley!** We hosted over 300 people who came onto our campus and filled it with laughter, joy, and a spirit of comradery as alumni reminisced about their time here; as families (dressed in fun costumes) played together tossing a ring around the pumpkin, competed in sack races, decorated cookies, and admired vintage cars, tossed a football and went through an obstacle course; as well as received vaccinations and were able to shop from our silent auction all in the same setting!

Of course we remember all that have gone before us to make this place called “McCurdy” a dream come true and a legacy for so many and look with hope to the future for the many who will come after us to continue this legacy. That legacy being, not only academic education and opening doors to life-long and successful careers; but just as importantly if not more so, opening doors to a relationship with Our Father through His Son and daily guidance, protection, and provision through the Holy Spirit!

On behalf of our Board of Directors and our staff, I say THANK YOU to all who have and continue to make McCurdy Schools of Northern NM, now known as McCurdy Ministries Community Center a place of vision, partnerships, and HOPE for the future!

Patricia A. Alvarado,  
Executive Director

## Project McCurdy: Light In The Valley

McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico graduate class of 2012, Kezziah Casias Green, as well as her sister, Capriza Casias and her fiancé Cristian Madrid-Estrada who both also attended McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico and graduated from McCurdy Charter School have a deep love for the campus and the education they have received. Kezziah and Capriza’s father Ray Casias was a student in the early 1960s at our Alcalde Mission School. The sisters have been working diligently to create several meaningful documentary films for McCurdy Ministries. They have also been meeting with and recording memories from various staff, former staff and students. This has all been a labor of love from these former students.

In their introduction to their proposal are these beautiful words:

**“For those of us who walked these halls and traced the steps of the McCurdy Mission School campus, this place is more than just a school; it is not only where we grew up, but a place that grew us. McCurdy is the physical and spiritual embodiment of the story of this community’s history, a mission that taught generation after generation the value of a solid education, hard work, Godly morals, and biblical principles.”**

We are grateful for their commitment to McCurdy Ministries helping us capture and be able to more fully tell the legacy that McCurdy has been a part of in so many lives. If you have stories to share or would like to donate to their work capturing poignant and lifechanging stories please contact them at Project McCurdy at [projectmccurdy@gmail.com](mailto:projectmccurdy@gmail.com). Look for their work as a link from our website in the near future.



### Tee shirts and Bags commemorating McCurdy’s 110th Anniversary

Beautiful black T-shirts and McCurdy red bags commemorating McCurdy’s 110th Anniversary are for sale in our Gift Shop. On the T-Shirt the front Logo with the Cross and Flame says “McCurdy Ministries “Light in the Valley” since 1912.” The Back of the T-Shirt includes John Wesley’s soul stirring “do all the good you can” quote. It is a beautiful shirt patterned off a design created by McCurdy Board Member Linda Polson. Tee Shirts are \$20.and the red carry-all bag is \$5.



Board Member Dee Dee Heffner and Sarah Allen at Ministries Fair at Mountainside UMC, 9 24 22.

## Consider having a Ministry Fair

Ministry Fairs are a great way for your Mission Team or UWF group to introduce your entire church to the ministries that you are supporting. McCurdy Ministries was recently invited to present at Mountainside UMC in Cedar Ridge, New Mexico. It was a joy filled event, with door prizes, beautiful music and food for sale as well as over 20 booths representing a number of ways to volunteer and places to participate as a mission team. It was so invigorating to see how many ways a church can be the hands and feet of Jesus in today’s world. If you hold a Ministry Fair, please invite us to participate. If we can’t be there in person, we would be glad to send pictures and materials as well as commemorate how your church has been a partner with McCurdy Ministries.

## Women in Faith Podcast as part of National Hispanic Heritage Month

Amanda Trujillo-Gonzales, the director of our Project Cariño and Sarah Allen, our Development Director were honored to be asked to present on the United Women in Faith Podcast highlighting Hispanic Heritage Month on October 20. The Podcast explored the issues impacting Latino and Hispanic communities in the U.S. It also focused on the ways that several National Mission Institutions, such as Wesley-Rankin Community Center and McCurdy Ministries, are serving Latino communities in New Mexico and Texas. With Host Jennifer Farmer this podcast helps explore the rich Hispanic history and traditions that are a part of about 70% of our students and challenges they face. <https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuc3ByZWFrZXIuY29tL3Nob3evMzYzMTEyMi9lcGlzb2Rlcy9mZWVkb2Rlc3ByZWFrZXIuY29tL2VwaXNvZGUvNTE2NDMxNjI?hl=en&ved=2ahUKewiqcurmJL7AhW-EEQIHbRNBWwQjrkEegQIChAF&ep=6>

**“The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.” Proverbs 16:9 ESV**



# McCurdy Ministries Community Center Annual Report

## McCurdy 2021-22 Annual Report

As we begin our 110th year in the Española Valley it is hard to even begin to count the number of lives impacted through the years because of McCurdy's presence here. People who have never stepped on campus still may have been affected because they needed help from the Fire Department, went to nursing school locally, had a visit to the local hospital, or played in an intramural sports program. All of these programs and services were first started from McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico. McCurdy has been so much more than just a system which provided an excellent education with a Christian influence.

Project Cariño staff and interns spent the spring of 2022 providing individual counseling and play therapy as well as family therapy. They provided educational programs as well as emotional support for teachers and staff. They constantly provided resources to students and their families enhanced by a recent purchase of therapy story books from funds provided by the LANL Foundation. A Project Cariño student intern created and taught McCurdy Charter School students concepts regarding Peer Mediation and the program was implemented in a number of classrooms.

Our McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico Pre-K staff were pleased when the State of New Mexico allowed us to offer their six-week Jump Start program again this summer. Our Pre-K staff was eager to provide this service to help preschoolers catch up from the long period of COVID-19 isolation. Both our regular school year program and the Jumpstart summer program are greatly appreciated by parents, the students themselves, and especially by the kindergarten teachers at McCurdy Charter School.

Our After School Program and Camp Stars programs continue to provide students a safe place to learn and grow. It is not just homework help and

computer skill building but includes art and music combined with science, math and learning more about God. Children learn by example and they are often reinforced to nurture and respect those around them and help pass on those skills whenever new children join the program.

We were able to host our much-treasured volunteers on campus again, after COVID-19 and Forest Fires caused delays. Their help is always greatly appreciated. We continue to send out weekly devotionals, updates on our ministries and the Volunteer Newsletter by blast email. Thanks to Board Member Linda Polson, our Volunteer Newsletter is being read by a growing number of people as many pick up hints for their next trip, assisting us in so many ways. Many people also comment that the weekly devotional has touched their life. The McCurdy Board continues to work through the myriad of details and funding streams needed to create our updated Master Plan for our campus with the help of our Public/Private Partnership.

Everywhere I go in this area I meet people who feel that someone in their extended family has been helped by McCurdy. Just a few weeks ago our volunteer in mission group visited the pueblo ruins at Puye Cliff Dwellings. Their tour guide was a McCurdy graduate and she proudly told our volunteers what a difference going to school at McCurdy made in her life. I had several friends who needed services at the beautiful, Quality Award winning Presbyterian Hospital in Española recently and many of the staff members had come through the local nursing program and several of them had been McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico graduates. Making a difference is what McCurdy Ministries does by creating hope and empowering each generation to be the special people they can be, with God's help

## Mellie Perkins Legacy

Mellie Perkins, with the blessing and backing of the then United Brethren Church arrived at Velarde to start what has become McCurdy Ministries Community Center in October, 1912. When she realized she had been chosen to lead this new mission outpost her original thoughts were, "it (is) utterly preposterous to think of (my) undertaking such a task." But luckily for us all she realized, "The Lord does not call in vain, so one by one my objections were overcome and I was glad to say, "if it be Thy will, Lord, I will do my best."

### Let us pray:

If it be Thy will Lord, I will do my best. I will honor the courage and convictions of Mellie Perkins and all the many missionaries, teachers, home deaconesses, Church leaders, Trustees, students and staff who have come after her, working together through 110 years to enable McCurdy Ministries to be a Light in the Española Valley.

Lord, I will do my best to help create hope and empower lives by supporting McCurdy's educational and faith-based programs because they have made a difference for 110 years and will continue to make a difference, with your blessing and guiding hand. Thank you, Lord, and continue to touch the hearts of all involved. I will do my best, Amen

### 2021-22 Mellie Perkins Society

During our 2021-22 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 have remembered McCurdy in your estate plans, we invite you to be a member of the Mellie Perkins Society. Please contact Pastor Sarah Allen, director of development/church relations, at 928-691-6471, or email her at [sallen@mccurdy.org](mailto:sallen@mccurdy.org) to let her know your intention.

Our gratitude to those who remembered McCurdy during the 2021-22 fiscal year: Virginia Cole Kraner and Keith and Viola Megill

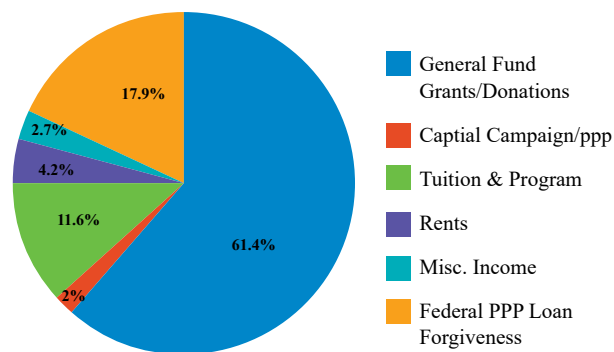
Our gratitude to these persons who have remembered McCurdy in their estate plans: Pat Alexander, Marijean Backman Ambrose, Rev. Chuck Chipman, Rev. Sanford and Mrs. Mary Ellen Coon, Tom and Sandy Hofmann, Betty Letzig, Rev. Diana Loomis, Holly Ludlam, Virginia McQuiston, William and Carol Mead, Ronal & Marvalene Ricard, Virgil Jean Sancken, Robert Setiz and Dorothy and Larry Swalley

## McCurdy Ministries Community Center Finances

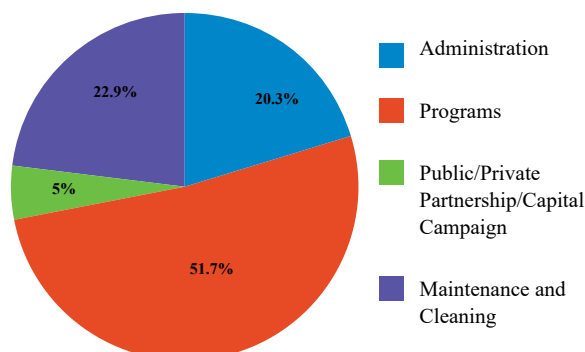
For the 2021-22 fiscal year which ran from August 1 to July 31, we gratefully acknowledge 706 people who donated to McCurdy Ministries. We also received 8 grants. We received donations and grants from individuals, churches, UWF units, annual conferences and foundations from across the country with the 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, 2017-18, 2019-20, and 2020-21 fiscal years and has a gold transparency rating with [Guidestar.org](http://Guidestar.org).

### 2021-22 Income



### 2021-22 Expenses



***“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” Matthew 9:38 NIV***