



McCurdy Ministries Community Center

An outreach of The United Methodist Church

A place of hope & possibilities

McCurdy Ministries Community Center creates hope and empowers lives through education, life skills and faith based programming for children, youth, adults and families in the Española Valley. In a community where 86% of the population is Hispanic, 35% live under the Federal Poverty Line, 20% of those over 25 have not graduated from high school or earned a GED and 62% of the children are being raised by their grandparents, our programs include free all day Pre-K, school based mental health services, after school care, summer camp, adult education programs and Volunteers in Mission programs. Overall McCurdy's programs impact the lives of more than 550 students and their families every day!

Project Cariño

Project Cariño, McCurdy's school based mental health program, was founded by a UMW Prayer and Self Denial grant in 1984. For over 35 years we have helped children and their families. In the 2021–22 school year Project Cariño's two counselors and two MSW interns continued to provide many hours of free therapy, crisis interventions, educational presentations and administrative support to McCurdy Charter School and MMCC's preschool and after school programs! Project Cariño is located in two portable classrooms which were completely remodeled to include four offices, play therapy rooms, bathrooms, kitchen, dining and living room spaces for clients to gather for supportive programs. Project Cariño transforms lives!

One counseling client describes her Project Cariño experience saying,

“Project Cariño has been a great help to me. I was dealing with problems at home and in school. I felt alone, worthless, stupid... Then one day when I couldn't take it anymore, someone...introduced me to (my counselor) Ms. Amanda. I thank God I met her. She has impacted my life in such a positive way. She has also inspired me to become a social worker because now I can see a positive future where I am useful. Thanks to her and this program I feel like I have a place in this world.”



A Project Cariño Big Buddy/Little Buddy duo enjoy fellowshiping together



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

Adult Education Program

One way MMCC is expanding the difference we make is by reopening our Adult Education Program. Over 24% of our population has not graduated from high school or earned a High School Equivalency. Many adults need to improve their English and computer skills and many need to learn how to read and write in English. We plan to make attending classes easier for these adults by providing free childcare for their children.

Early Childhood Education

The most important indicator whether a child will graduate from high school is preschool attendance. With preschool spots for only 39% of the children in the Española Valley, McCurdy expanded to a free all day Pre-K program in the fall of 2019. Our highly trained staff profoundly impacts these little lives. One parent said, "This Pre-K program is excellent! My child has shown tremendous growth."

After School Care

The number one time that children get in trouble with drugs, sex, alcohol and the law is between 3 to 5:30 PM across the United States, so providing a safe, enjoyable and challenging after school program during this time is essential to our students. Currently, up to 40 preschool to 6th graders enjoy snacks, free play, games, crafts, Bible study and homework assistance in McCurdy's After School Care.

Camp Stars

Camp Stars, our summer camp which combines Vacation Bible School with the best of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education is a huge success every summer. The camp



Preschoolers playing in a sandbox.



After School Care students enjoy the playground.

runs seven hours a day for six weeks and is open to students entering kindergarten to sixth grade. Not only do students learn STEM and Bible skills but they participate in hands on mission projects to make God's difference in our community. One camper shared, *"I like going to camp and learning how to be God's hero."*

Come volunteer at McCurdy!

We invite you to volunteer at McCurdy as part of a Volunteer in Mission Team or as an individual volunteer. If individual volunteers stay for two weeks or more your room is free. Our retreat center holds up to 30 volunteers and provides rooms with beds and semi-private bathrooms. We look forward to showing you our beautiful mountains, the blending of our Hispanic, Native American and Anglo cultures and help you make God's difference in our community. To download a MMCC volunteer application or handbook go to our website at www.mccurdy.org and click on the Volunteer Tab. You can also plan a Virtual McCurdy Ministries Mission Event at your church. Get up to date information by requesting our Volunteer Newsletter monthly by emailing eromero@mccurdy.org.

Come to McCurdy for a retreat!

Laitly and clergy who work full time in the United Methodist Church are welcome to come to our campus for a seven night spiritual retreat. There is no charge for your room and kitchenettes are provided so you can cook your own meals. Our only requirement for the week is that you participate in a tour of our campus to learn about our ministries.

To learn more about McCurdy Ministries Community Center please visit our website at www.mccurdy.org or contact Sarah Allen, director of development/church relations, by writing to 362A S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532, emailing sallen@mccurdy.org or calling Sarah on her cell 928-691-6471. We would love to hear from you!