



SFFRW

Santa Fe Federated Republican Women



Winter Newsletter



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**"The American dream is independence and being able to create
that dream for yourself"**

-Marsha Blackburn

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

At our first Board of Directors meeting this year we met to define our goals and priorities for 2021. While the prize is turning the state more red with city, county, state, and federal positions up for vote in 2022, we identified the task of restoring and adding to our base of volunteers as the essential priority for us in 2021.

In the area of Programs we decided that our two topics to explore in 2021 are election integrity issues that befell Santa Fe in November 2020 and to identify public works for the SFFRW where we can get involved to help those less fortunate in Santa Fe County.

Under Membership we prioritized contacting all Republican Women in the county (perhaps 8000) either by phone or postcard to ask them to join us.

To increase the funds we have for operations, including renting the office for the next two years, and creating a nest egg for candidates in 2022 we're launching a new subscription program whereby we ask members to invest in us. See the donate button at: www.santafefrw.com to donate \$10 a month to help us get where we're going.

Volunteers were key to our increase in voter turnout in 2020 and they'll be essential again in 2022. Fortunately we already have a sign up list of 25 women who have volunteered to help us in different ways. What we need is someone to coordinate their activities. Could that be you?

And finally, we've decided to launch our scholarship program this year. We're offering a scholarship of \$1000 to a college-bound senior. The question to seniors is from George Washington's farewell speech. We will circulate the application to Christian high schools and maybe home-schooled kids in the county.

Your president, Anita Statman

P.S. If anyone would like written information about how the Hilton at Buffalo Thunder is maintaining cleanliness and employing Covid guidelines for us, please see our Facebook page.



Roundhouse Update

from Sharon Mottola

On January 19, 2021, the New Mexico State Legislature will open its doors for the first session of the 55th Legislature. Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham will give her state of the state address that afternoon and will recommend a \$7.3 billion budget for the next fiscal year, an increase of 3.3% over last year. Her focus continues to be increased spending on education and raises for teachers, shore up abortion rights, as well as support for the legalization of marijuana, which she deems “innovative economic diversification”.

Our state has lost thousands of jobs, businesses and dollars due to the governor’s response to the pandemic. Rather than open up our state in a responsible way, as other states have done, she wants to spend more money on “pandemic relief” in such questionable ways as to allow restaurants to deliver alcohol. She also wants to spend \$25M to revitalize the tourism economy she decimated. On a brighter note, she wants to allocate \$10M for broadband expansion and \$2M for innovative grid modernization. \$6M is proposed for the Secretary of State to fund local elections. It will be interesting to see where that money will go. We can only work to pressure her office to improve election integrity and election worker education.

Due to the governor’s COVID restrictions, the public will **not** be allowed in the Roundhouse throughout the entire legislative session. There will be webcam and Zoom access to committee and floor meetings through the www.nmlegis.gov website, although Zoom information is not yet available on the website. You can also look up legislator’s contact information and legislation on this site. Staff expects more communication with the public through phone calls, emails and Zoom meetings. Please take advantage of all available means of communication to make your opinion heard and to support our representatives. Staff does keep track of all interaction with the public and shares that information with their legislator.



We encourage you to write issue-based letters of support of our positions. We recommend that you follow the guidance on our website when writing letters. See: www.santafefrw.com/members
“How to write effective letters to Editors and Congressmen.”

Caring for America/Caring for Santa Fe

Caring for America is based on the belief that problems can be solved most effectively through the generosity and combined energies of individual citizens. During this off-election year is an opportune time for the Santa Fe FRW to get involved in helping our community. This year you will be given four opportunities.

BIEN VENIDOS - First Quarter

Their mission is to provide food and clothing to those in need in Santa Fe and the surrounding area. On a normal day of volunteering you might pack sack lunches for approximately 85 homeless men and women, distribute them for several hours, and staff the clothes/housewares room. Due to Covid restrictions there is a limit to the number of people allowed in the building at one time. They have also had to close the closet and limit the number of volunteers. In addition, the Covid restrictions have also decreased the numbers of our homeless population to probably about 45.

They also give out boxes of groceries to families in need. This aspect of their mission has increased. There are many more hungry families. Bien Venidos provides a box of groceries to families every two weeks. Here is where we can help. A FOOD DRIVE - we would like you to go through your pantries and gather up some non-perishable items. Suggestions are peanut butter, soups, canned vegetables and fruit, pasta, rice, beans, etc. You can leave the items in your car, and we will transfer them to our delivery cars, either before or after our meetings. When Covid lets up, we look forward to staffing the facility a day here and there. We'll let you know when that happens so you can sign up.

CARENET Pregnancy Center of Santa Fe - Second Quarter

CARENET provides free basic pregnancy information and options. They also provide lightly used baby clothes if needed and they have a baby clothes closet onsite. We have volunteered to do a deep "Spring Cleaning" of their facility and also organize the clothes closet in April. A date will be forthcoming. We will also help with mass mailings on an as-needed basis throughout the year.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - Third Quarter

The mission of Santa Fe Habitat for Humanity is to promote affordable home ownership for Santa Fe area residents by constructing simple, adequate, and energy efficient new homes and repairing or rehabilitating existing homes through the cooperative efforts of partner families, volunteers, donors, and staff. Currently the volunteers are limited to those who volunteer at least eight hours per week. However, they are anticipating being able to open up to additional volunteers mid to late summer. We are on their list to call when this happens.

YOUTH SHELTERS AND FAMILY SERVICES - Fourth Quarter

Youth Shelters and Family Services delivers life-changing solutions to homeless, runaway and in-crisis youth by providing shelter and addressing health, safety, education and workforce opportunities so they can achieve lifetime independence. Ages of clients range from 5 to 25.

We can help by providing hygiene products -- tampons and pad (all sizes). Also new socks, new underwear and bras. So, let's look for sales and start collecting! We will deliver in the fourth quarter. Currently they are only open to staff. The volunteer assistance they can use from us when they are allowed to reopen is sorting and managing the donation room. Ensuring clothes are clean, donations are taken out of boxes, sorted and put on shelves in orderly ways. This is a two-hour per week job.

Barbara Dedmon is spearheading our "Caring for Santa Fe" committee, so please let her know how you would like to help. Phone: 505-690-9831. Email: barbaradedmon@gmail.com



The Benefits of Being a Partner of the NFRW

As you rejoin the SFFRW this year, you join with a much larger group of Republican women because the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW) is behind us. NFRW was founded in 1938 to become one of the largest grassroots political organizations in the country with tens of thousands of active members in local clubs across the nation.

At its height the NFRW claimed 435,000 members in the 1970's.

Our mission together with state (NMFRW) and national (NFRW) is to empower women from all backgrounds in the political process and provide a forum for women to serve as leaders in the political, government, and civic arenas. The mission statement has never been more important than it is today. The NFRW provides us invaluable resources to help us grow and educate our members. Here are a few of the benefits we gain:

Resources and encouragement from the NFRW - A robust national website and member database management system that connects the entire Federation and provides key membership services, including administrative access and capabilities at the club level.

The NFRW's electronic communications, including the weekly and monthly newsletters and political briefings, and free or nominally-priced publications like the Leaders's Guide, Membership Handbook, Legislative Advocacy Manual, and outreach/recruitment materials.

The Member Center, a private online network on the NFRW website available to members only.

The Member Center includes a member directory and the Digital Resource Library, which features committee and issue-related resources and materials, general organizational publication and forms, event information, graphics, and more.

Assistance creating new clubs, launching or updating a state or club website, and other membership services.

Sample materials, multimedia and resources that states and clubs with public relations and fund-raising efforts, membership recruitment, campaign and issue advocacy programs, meeting planning, literacy and armed services initiatives, leadership development, community service, and more.

Campaign Management Schools, Legislative Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill, and other programs, workshops and seminars that offer members the opportunity to meet national Republican leaders, discuss key issues, and develop leadership and professional skills.