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New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority November board meeting in Las Cruces showcases statewide outreach and impactful project tours

LAS CRUCES, N.M. – The New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA) held its monthly board of directors meeting at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum in Las Cruces Wednesday, Nov. 15. MFA Board of Directors include Angel Reyes (chair), Derek Valdo (vice chair), Lieutenant Governor Howie Morales, State Treasurer Laura M. Montoya, Attorney General Raul Torrez, Patricia A. Sullivan and Rebecca Wurzburger (treasurer). Martina C'de Baca represented Lt. Governor Morales, and Gideon Elliot represented Attorney General Torrez at the board meeting.

With MFA's office located in Albuquerque, MFA Executive Director/CEO Isidoro Hernandez recognizes the value of holding board meetings around the state to provide board members and staff an opportunity to engage and interact with individuals from various parts of New Mexico.

"Whether it's local leaders, service providers, developers or clients who have benefited from our many programs, it's great to be able to visit with people from all areas of our state, so we may have face-toface interactions, answer questions and see funded projects firsthand," said Hernanadez.

The board meeting opened with a welcome from City of Las Cruces Mayor Kenneth Miyagishima, followed by presentations from Jerry Pacheco, Border Industrial Association President/CEO and International Business Accelerator Executive Director, as well as Priscilla Lucero, Southwest Council of Governments Executive Director.

Hernandez presented an award to Tierra del Sol Housing Corporation Executive Director Rose Garcia, honoring the Las Cruces nonprofit's 50th anniversary and unwavering commitment to providing affordable housing and other community services.

Following the meeting, board members and staff visited a local veteran's house, which was rehabilitated as part of MFA's Veterans Housing Rehabilitation and Modification Program. Southwestern Regional Housing and Community Development Corporation Executive Director Veronika Molina showcased the home's significant improvements, including brand-new heating and cooling units, window replacements and enhanced accessibility features like a walk-in shower with a seat.

Board members and staff also visited Mesilla Valley Community of Hope's Camp Hope – a self-governing transitional living community that provides temporary, transitional shelter in the form of tents, showers and cooking facilities while residents transition to permanent housing. Mesilla Valley Community of Hope Executive Director Nicole Martinez provided insights into the diverse services they offer. MFA provides funding to the Mesilla Valley Community of Hope in the form of Emergency Solutions Grant/HOME-American Rescue Plan Rapid Rehousing and Homeless Prevention assistance, Continuum of Care match funding, and Linkages permanent supportive housing vouchers.

For more information about MFA and its impactful programs, visit <u>www.housingnm.org.</u> For information about MFA Board of Directors meetings, visit <u>https://housingnm.org/meetings-events-notices</u>.

The New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA) was created in 1975 by the New Mexico State Legislature to provide quality affordable housing opportunities for all New Mexico residents. MFA, the state's housing agency, uses housing bonds, tax credits and other federal and state resources to fund more than 40 housing programs. In addition to funding the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing and rental properties, MFA's programs include down payment assistance, homelessness prevention and emergency shelter, weatherization services, rental assistance and housing for people with special needs. MFA has provided over 500,000 families with affordable housing and services since its inception.

To learn more about MFA, visit <u>www.housingnm.org.</u>

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CUTLINE: New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA) Executive Director/CEO Isidoro Hernandez (left) and City of Las Cruces Mayor Kenneth Miyagishima (right) presented Tierra del Sol Housing Corporation Executive Director Rose Garcia with an award at the Nov. 15, 2023, MFA Board Meeting at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum in Las Cruces. The award recognizes the Las Cruces nonprofit organization for its 50th anniversary and commitment to providing affordable housing and other services to the community. (Photo courtesy New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority)



CUTLINE: New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA) Board Members and staff visited Mesilla Valley Community of Hope's Camp Hope following the Nov. 15, 2023, MFA Board Meeting in Las Cruces. MFA provides funding to the Mesilla Valley Community of Hope in the form of Emergency Solutions

Grant/HOME-American Rescue Plan Rapid Rehousing and Homeless Prevention assistance, Continuum of Care match funding, and Linkages permanent supportive housing vouchers. (Photo courtesy New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority)



CUTLINE: Following the Nov. 15, 2023, New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA) Board Meeting in Las Cruces, board members and staff visited a Las Cruces veteran's house, which was rehabilitated as part of MFA's Veterans Housing Rehabilitation and Modification Program. The home rehabilitation project included the removal of the bathtub and the installation of a walk-in shower with a seat. (Photo courtesy New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority)