

**State of New Mexico**  
**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE DEPARTMENT**

**MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM**  
GOVERNOR

**HOWIE MORALES**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



**ELIZABETH GROGINSKY**  
CABINET SECRETARY

**DR. JENNIFER DURAN-SALLEE**  
DEPUTY SECRETARY

**Hello New Mexico Early Childhood Leaders!**

As you know, we are at an extraordinary moment - poised to launch the new Early Childhood Education and Care Department, and to work alongside the entire early childhood community to improve the health, wellbeing, and economic opportunities available to children and families.

Last year, we completed a Needs Assessment, courtesy of a federal preschool development grant. Nearly 1,300 people came to events across the state and more than 2,000 people completed our survey. That Needs Assessment allowed us to develop a series of Goals and Objectives that will inform our three-year Strategic Plan.

As we develop that plan, we respectfully ask for your support in evaluating the Goals and Objectives that have been identified so far.

With your feedback, we aim to produce a strong framework to guide the Children's Cabinet and the new Early Childhood Education and Care Department - as well as other areas of government which touch the lives of young New Mexicans.

All of us in the early childhood community do this work because we love children - and because we know how important the first years are for their development. The research is in: nothing our state does will have more impact on our shared future than the way we care for and educate our youngest New Mexicans.

Thank you so much for all the work you do. I feel profoundly lucky to have the chance to work with each of you, and I am excited to see what we can do together.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Groginsky".

Secretary Elizabeth Groginsky  
Early Childhood Education and Care Department