

# Welcome

**Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2025**

Emcee: Sonya Martinez, Communications Director



NEW MEXICO  
**Early Childhood**  
Education & Care Department

**Thank you for your attention!**

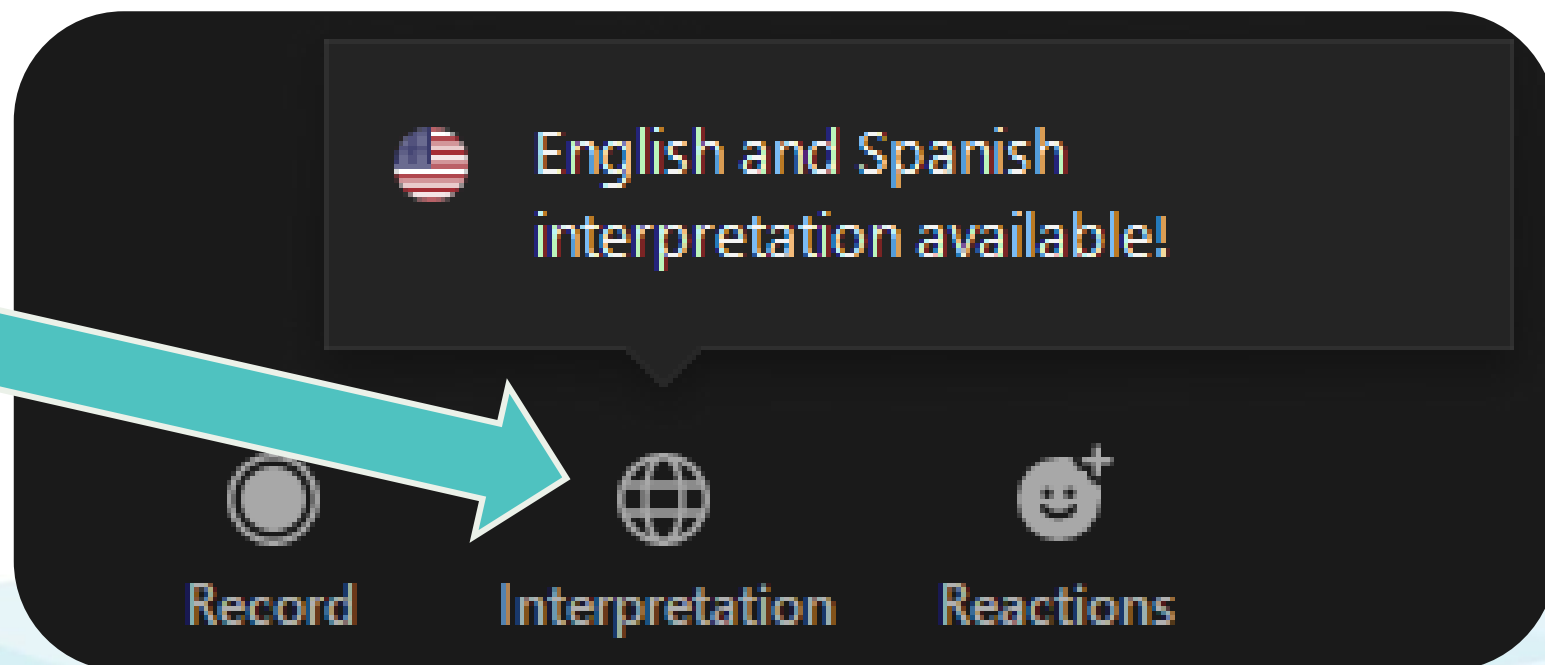
# Language Instructions

*Inglés > Español*

# Instrucciones de Interpretación

Step 1: Click the Interpretation Symbol

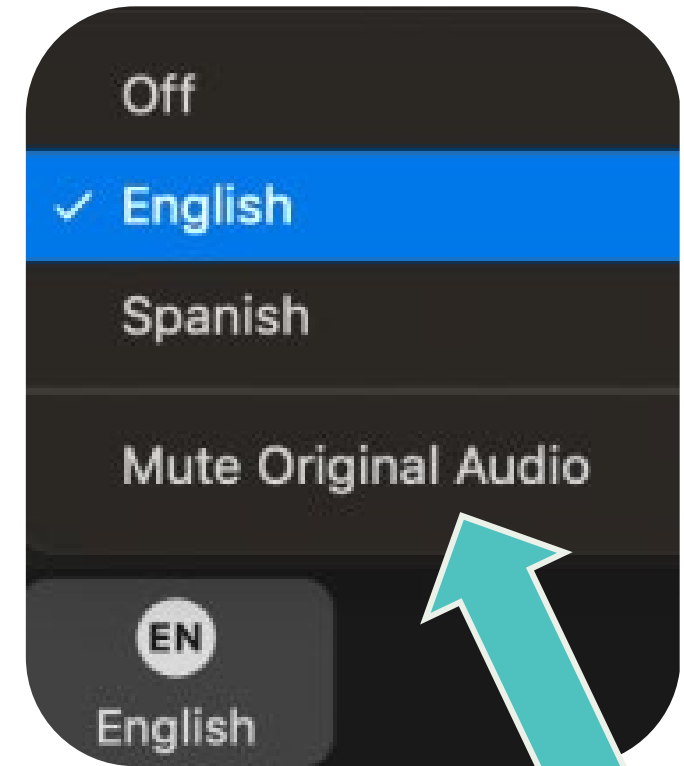
**Paso 1: Selecciona el símbolo de INTERPRETACIÓN**



# Steps 2 and 3: Choose From the Menu

## Pasos 2 y 3: Elija del menú

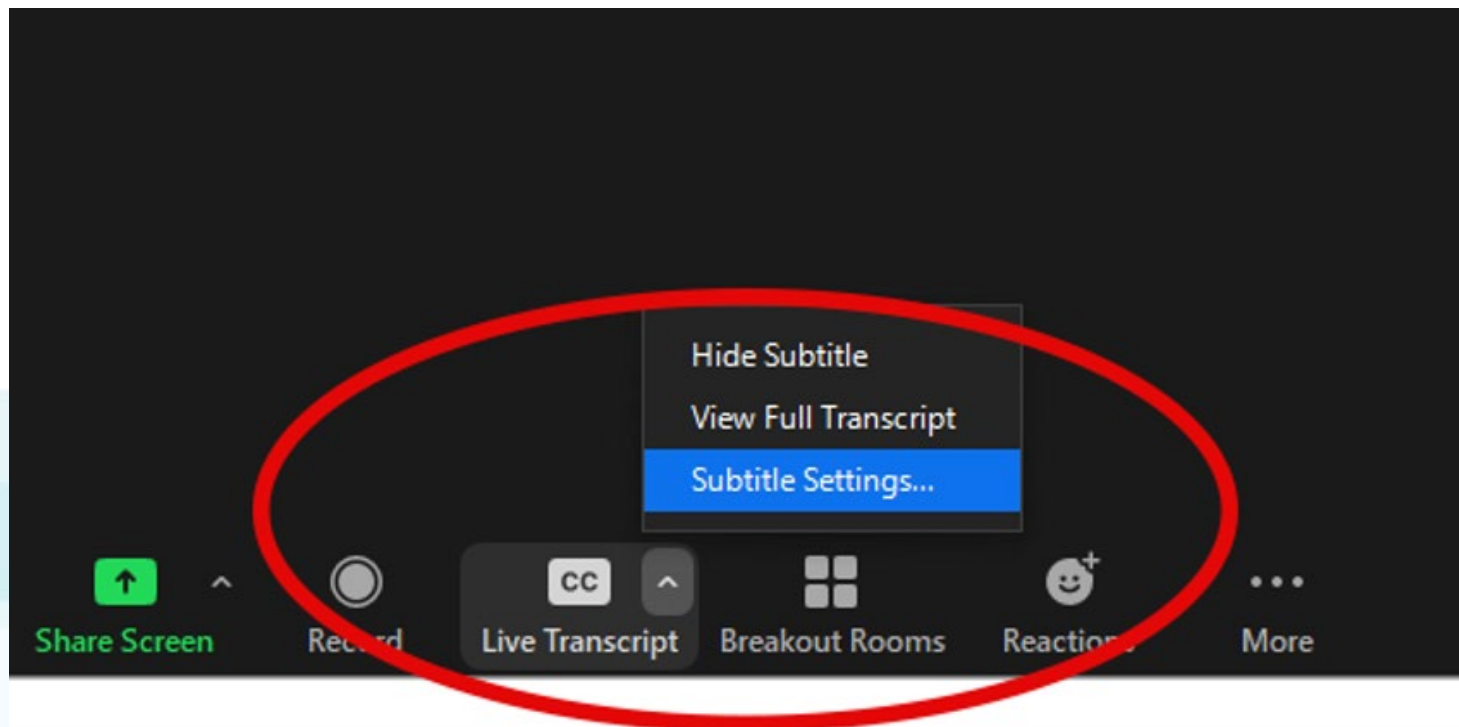
- You'll then see a menu; click "Spanish" OR "English"
  - **Vas a ver el menú; clic "Spanish"**
- If you would prefer to hear ONLY Spanish, also click "Mute Original Audio."  
Otherwise you will hear the Spanish loud and clear and the English quietly.
  - **Si usted prefiere escuchar SOLO Español, también clic "Mute Original Audio"** De lo contrario, oirás el español alto y claro y el inglés en voz baja.
- You will now hear the Spanish interpretation.
  - **Usted escuchara ahora la interpretación en Español.**
- If you choose "English" you will automatically hear only English.
  - **Si eliges "English", automáticamente escucharás sólo inglés.**





# Enable Closed Captions

- See the Show Captions or CC button in the toolbar.
- Click it and choose Show Captions to turn them on (or Hide Captions to turn off).
- You can click the small arrow next to CC/Captions to adjust caption size.



# Agenda

- Welcome and Spanish Interpretation Instructions – Sonya Martinez, Communications Director
- Updates and Announcements – Cabinet Secretary Elizabeth Groginsky
- 2026 Family Engagement Survey – Chase Barnes, Media Desk Communications Strategist, and Clarissa Franco, Project ECHO® Program Manager
- Wonderschool, Claim your site! – Lindsey Dyer, Account Manager



# Updates and Announcements

---

Cabinet Secretary Elizabeth Groginsky







NEW MEXICO  
**Early Childhood**  
Education & Care Department

# *Spotlight on 2026* **Legislative Session for Families *and* Community**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Tuesday, January 20, 2026**

**7-8 p.m.**

**Virtual:**

**[nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/88208483103](https://nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/88208483103)**

***More details to come.***

***Disponible en español.***





2026



NEW MEXICO  
**Early Childhood**  
Education & Care Department

# Early Childhood Day at the Roundhouse

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday, February 14**

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

New Mexico State Capitol

Join early childhood educators, families, partners, and advocates for a day of **celebration**, **connection**, and **learning** at the New Mexico State Capitol.

*More details to come.*



# UCC Pledge Campaign

Nearly 1000 Pledges

- New Mexico is leading the nation with Universal Child Care, a system built on the belief that every family deserves affordable, quality care, and every provider deserves recognition and support.
- ECECD invites providers, families, businesses, and community partners across the state to take the Universal Child Care Pledge—a public commitment to making Universal Child Care a success for everyone.
- By taking the pledge, you show your pride in being part of this historic effort and your commitment to helping build a stronger, more equitable early childhood system for New Mexico families.



[nmececd.org/universal](https://nmececd.org/universal)





# Legislative Budget Hearings:

## *Public Participation Encouraged!*

The New Mexico Legislature's finance committees review and make recommendations on state spending, budget priorities, and funding proposals that **shape how programs and services are delivered in communities across New Mexico.**

### Senate Finance Committee

Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 1 p.m.

### House Appropriations and Finance Committee

Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.

Meetings are open to the public and available to attend or view online at [www.nmlegis.gov](http://www.nmlegis.gov).



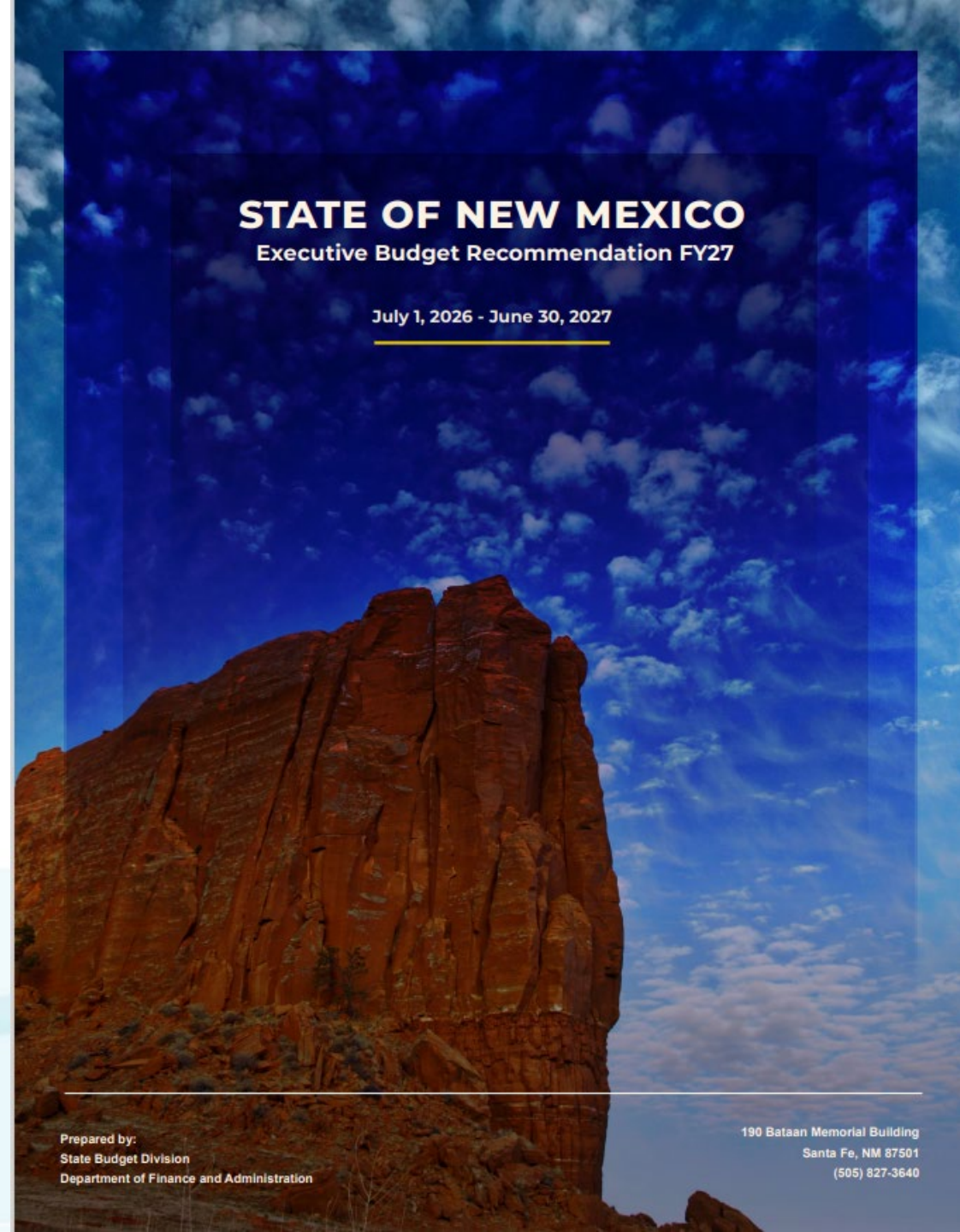
*Alax, the Care Ambassador,  
with Lieutenant Governor Howie Morales  
during Early Childhood Day at the  
Roundhouse, 2024.*

# Executive Budget Recommendation

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham has released her FY27 executive budget recommendation, outlining a responsible and strategic spending plan for the upcoming year. As the New Mexico Legislature prepares for the 2026 session, this proposal emphasizes **the state's commitment to long-term stability and family support.**



Read the full budget recommendation at [governor.state.nm.us/press-releases/](https://governor.state.nm.us/press-releases/)



Prepared by:  
State Budget Division  
Department of Finance and Administration

190 Bataan Memorial Building  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
(505) 827-3640



# Early Childhood Investments

## Non-recurring

- **\$57 million** for wage scale and career lattice implementation
- **\$3 million** for local early childhood system building coalitions
- **\$3 million** for FIT professional development
- **\$20 million** for low interest loans for child care
- **\$400,000** for a statewide convening for Native American Early Education and Care

## Recurring

- **\$160 million** for child care direct services
- **\$3 million** for Early PreK
- **\$3 million** for Family Infant Toddler (FIT) rate increases

# Governor Lujan Grisham's 2025 Child Care Summit





# Governor Lujan Grisham's 2025 Child Care Summit





***Office of Child Care sent this bulletin at 01/05/2026 06:16 PM EST***

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) provides funding to states, territories, and Tribes which is critical to supporting working families throughout the country. In light of recent allegations of child care fraud, the Department of Health and Human Services has activated Defend the Spend for all CCDF grantees. It is the goal of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) for there to be no disruption to child care payments for legitimate services provided.

You may recall from last spring that Defend the Spend requires grantees to complete a mandatory field in the Payment Management System (PMS) when requesting a drawdown of funds. We ask that grantees provide the following information in this justification field:

- Grantee's attestation that they have reviewed, made any necessary updates, and are implementing strategies and controls to identify fraud and ensure program integrity, including verification of child enrollment and attendance submissions.

***Continued >***



- A strong justification for the use of funds that aligns with CCDF program purposes, that at a minimum includes a description or summary of expenses or activities, by CCDF expenditure category (i.e., direct services, quality activities, infant/toddler quality activities, administrative costs).

ACF has surged capacity with additional internal and contract support to ensure expeditious review of DTS submissions. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your OCC Regional Office or to [OCCInfo@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:OCCInfo@acf.hhs.gov) should you have questions or need additional support.

### ***Important Note*** .....

**This federal requirement applies to ECECD's internal funding and reporting processes and does not require any action from child care providers.**



# Family Engagement Survey

---

Chase Barnes, Media Desk  
Communications Strategist, and Clarissa  
Franco, Project ECHO® Program Manager



# 2026 Family Engagement Survey



# About the Family Engagement Survey



The annual Family Engagement and Satisfaction survey is a way for ECECD to hear directly from parents and caregivers.

Feedback will inform childhood programs and resources that address:

- Language accessibility, culturally diverse materials, and financial support
- Program availability in communities
- Access to programs for children with developmental delays and/or disabilities
- Overall awareness of programs

The survey is for parents and caregivers with young ones ages 0–5.



# Survey Findings To Date

A decorative graphic at the top of the slide features a teal background. On the left, there is a small yellow circle with three concentric orange circles around it. On the right, there is a larger orange circle with three concentric yellow circles around it. Below these circles, there are several wavy orange lines that span across the width of the slide.

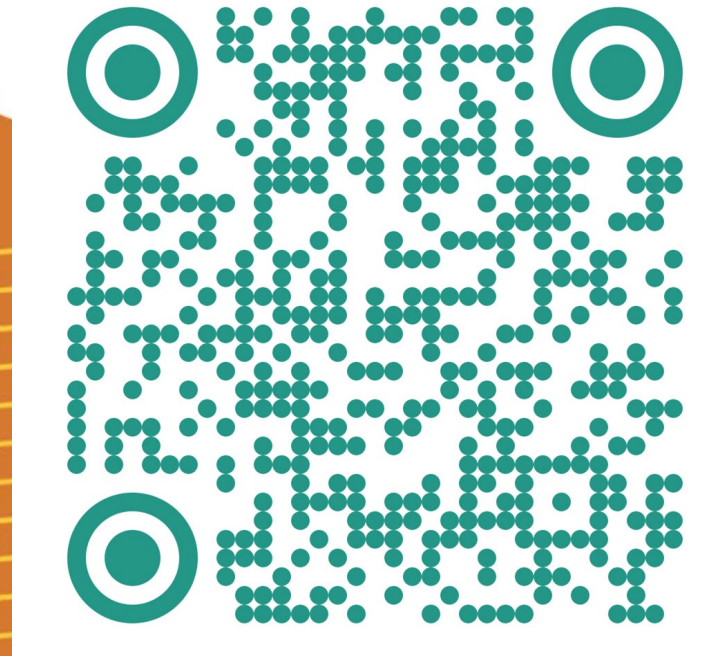
## Facts + Stats

From our 2022 to 2025 surveys, we learned that:

- **More Families Know About Early Childhood Programs**
  - Awareness of key programs like NM PreK, FIT, and Home Visiting has climbed to **80% statewide**, meaning more families know where to go for support.
- **Child Care Services Are Making a Big Impact**
  - A record **91%** of families using child care or Child Care Assistance said these programs improved their well-being—helping families work, study, and care for their children with confidence.
- **Families Report Higher Well-Being Across All Programs**
  - An overwhelming **89%** of families said early childhood programs made life better for their household—the highest level of positive impact in four years.
- **Child Care Access Has Improved Dramatically**
  - Unmet child care needs **dropped from 32% to 12%** since 2022—one of the largest improvements in the entire early childhood system.

For more information, visit:

**NextStepsNM.org**



**Survey opens**

**February 5, 2026**



---

## **Wonderschool, Claim your site!**

Lindsey Dyer, Account  
Manager



# New Mexico Early Childhood Community Call

01/06/2026

WONDERSCHOOL CONFIDENTIAL



NEW MEXICO

**Early Childhood**

Education & Care Department

# Agenda



1. Wonderschool Overview
2. Wonderschool x ECECD Partnership
  - a. Childcare Finder
  - b. Wonderschool Platform and Suite of Provider Tools
3. Q & A

## Wonderschool Mission

Ensure every child has access to high quality child care within five minutes of their home.



# Wonderschool Overview

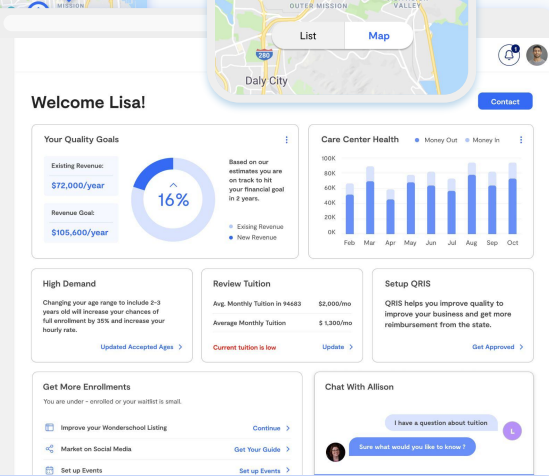
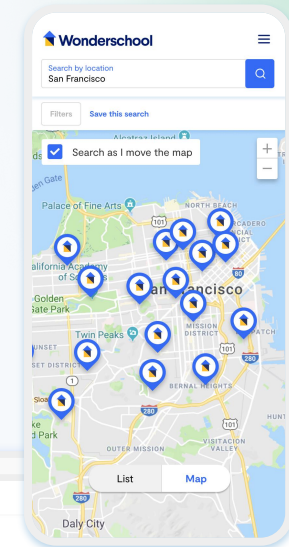
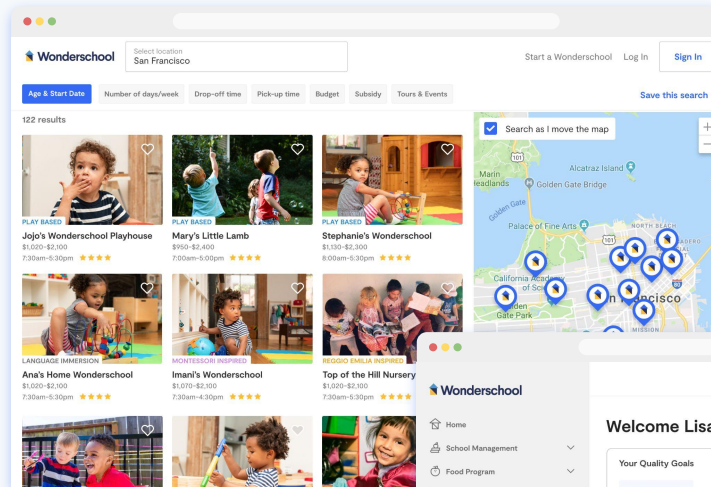
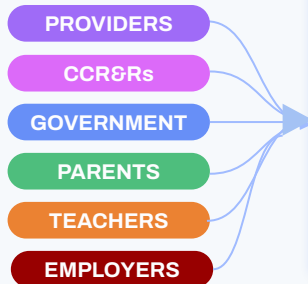
Wonderschool partners with governments, businesses and nonprofits to ensure every child has access to high-quality child care close to home.

Since 2016, Wonderschool has led in providing integrated child care solutions, balancing technology and services to meet the needs of families.



**Chris Bennett**

Co-Founder & CEO,  
Wonderschool





# State, City, and Local Technology Partnerships

100k+

Providers on Platform

50

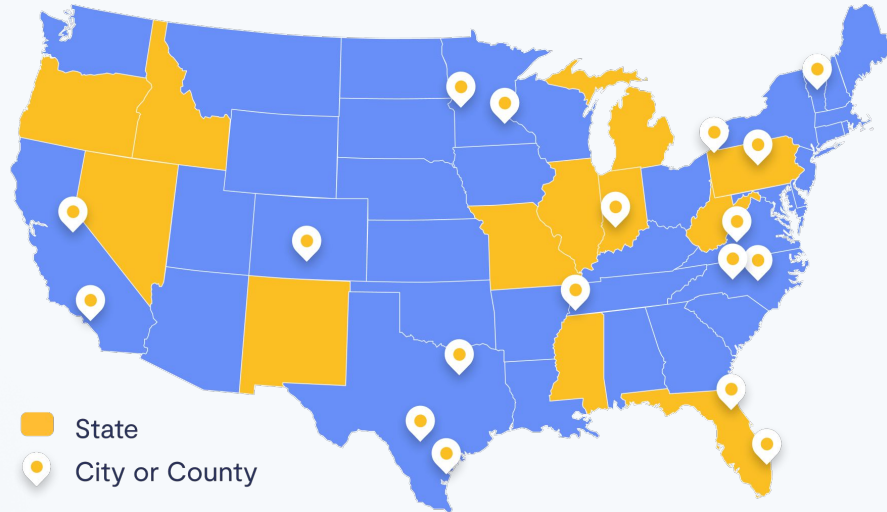
Marketplace  
live in 50 states

12

State agency  
partnerships

29

Local  
partnerships



## Mississippi

New Childcare Programs  
Program Sustainability  
Substitute Teacher Pool

## Florida

Statewide [Childcare Finder](#)  
0-12th Grade, All Schools  
17,000 Programs  
3 Languages, 4.6m Kids

## Indiana

Statewide [Childcare Finder](#)  
Micro-Facility Creation

## West Virginia

New Child Care Programs  
Business Sustainability  
Tri-Share



# Spotlight: New Mexico Early Childhood and Education Department

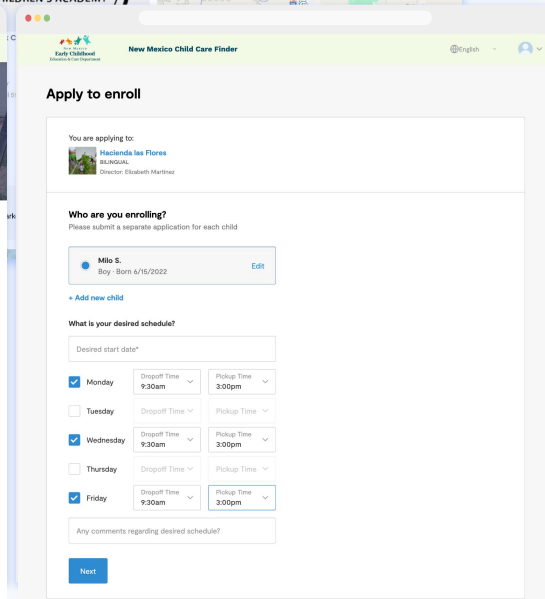
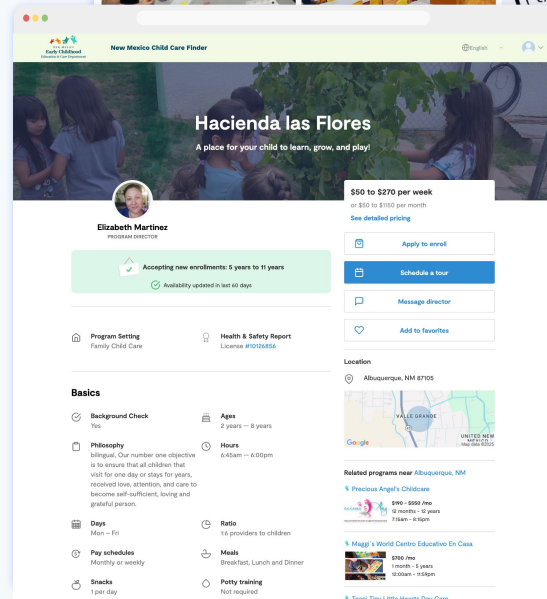
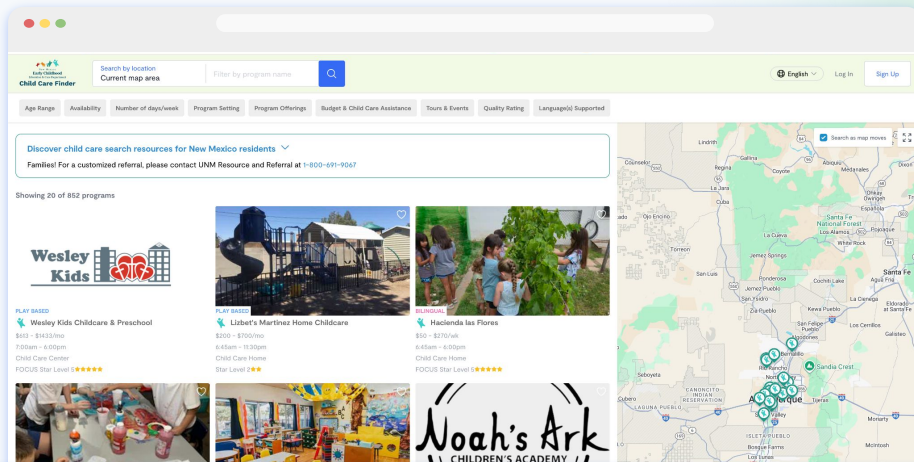
## New Mexico Child Care Finder Coordinated Enrollment Provider Licensing Business Sustainability



New Mexico  
Governor  
**Michelle Lujan  
Grisham**



Cabinet Secretary Early  
Childhood Education  
and Care Department  
**Elizabeth Groginsky**





## New Mexico Child Care Finder Demo

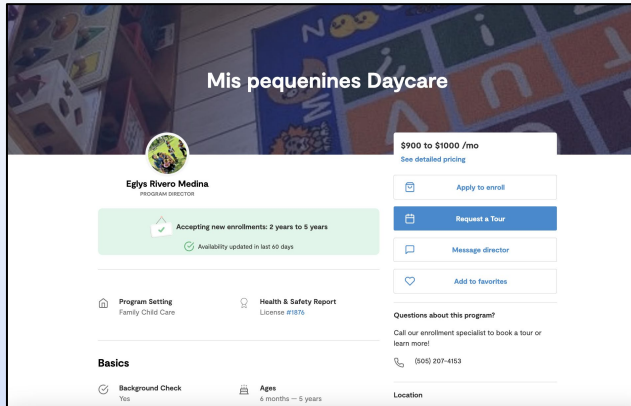
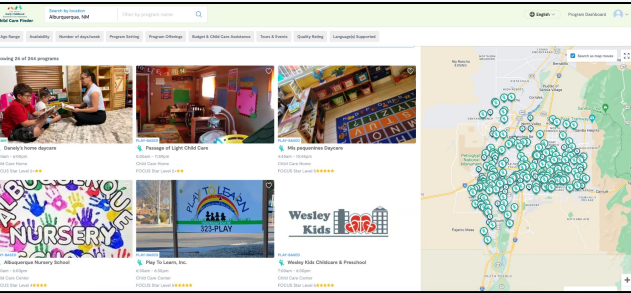


# Wonderschool Tools

# New Mexico Child Care Marketplace and Website



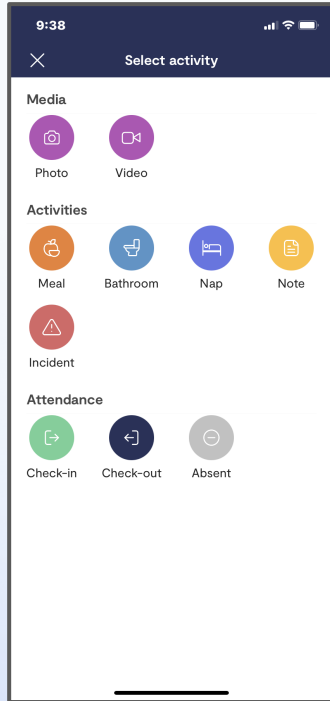
- Create a professional and informative website for potential families to learn about your program
- Link to other platforms where you market your business, such as Google My Business or Facebook
- Drive enrollment for full enrollment



- Cree un sitio web profesional e informativo para que las familias potenciales conozcan su programa
- Enlace a otras plataformas en las que comercializa su negocio, como Google My Business o Facebook
- Impulse las inscripciones para completar la matrícula

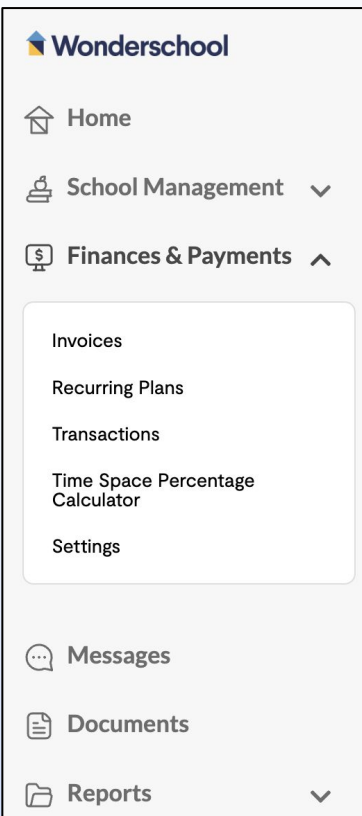
Sign-in to Wonderschool: <https://accounts.wonderschool.com/signin>

# Wonderschool App



- Allows for seamless communication with current families enrolled in your program
  - Post activity updates including naps, food, medication and incidents
  - Send direct messages to parents for one-to-one communication
  - Easily access and respond to messages from prospective parents
- 
- Permite una comunicación fluida con las familias inscritas en su programa.
  - Publique actualizaciones de las actividades, incluyendo siestas, comida, medicación e incidentes
  - Envíe mensajes directos a los padres para una comunicación personalizada.
  - Acceda y responda fácilmente a los mensajes de los futuros padres

# Wonderschool Financial Tools



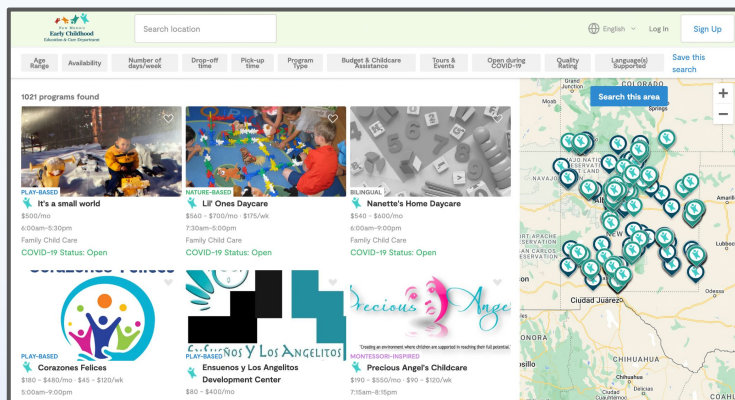
- Track one time expenses
  - Utilize billing to collect tuition from families
  - Add tuition paid by cash or check to keep accurate records
  - Easily track and categorize expenses and see a monthly total
  - Add images of receipts for expenses to streamline recordkeeping
  - Export reports when necessary
- 
- Realizar un seguimiento de los gastos puntuales
  - Utilizar la facturación para cobrar la matrícula a las familias
  - Añada las matrículas pagadas en efectivo o con cheque para mantener registros precisos
  - Rastree y clasifique fácilmente los gastos y vea un total mensual
  - Añada imágenes de recibos de gastos para agilizar el mantenimiento de registros
  - Exporte informes cuando sea necesario



# **Elevate New Mexico with Child Care Finder**



# New Mexico Child Care Finder



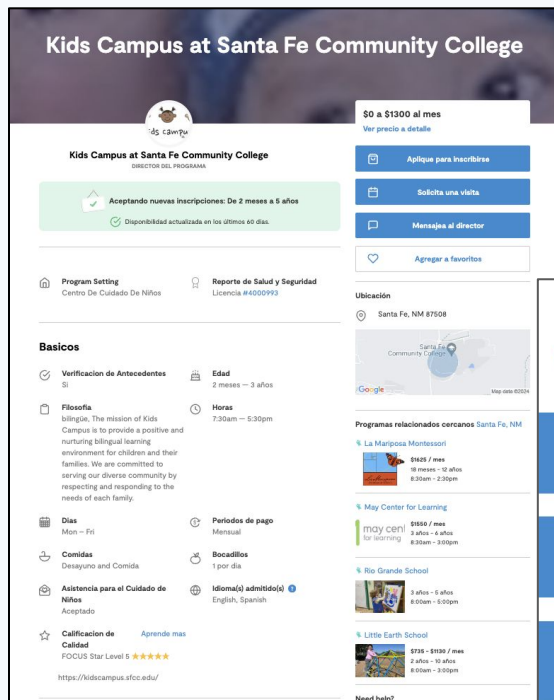
- Powered by Wonderschool tools
  - **Statewide Child Care Finder for New Mexico**
  - Child care management system
- Easy to use for parents in New Mexico to **find child care** in their area quickly and easily
- Increase your **online presence & build enrollment**
- **No cost to providers or parents!**

- Desarrollado por las herramientas Wonderschool
  - **Child Care Finder estatal para Nuevo Mexico**
  - Sistema de gestión de cuidado infantil.
- Herramienta fácil de usar para que los padres en Nuevo México **encuentren cuidado de niños** en su área rápido y fácilmente
- Aumenta su **presencia en línea y aumenta la inscripción**
- **¡Sin costo para los proveedores y para los padres!**



# Grow Enrollment

- Build professional website that is connected to a childcare management software.
- Manage waitlist and enrollment from one platform.
- Cree un sitio web profesional que esté conectado a un software de gestión de cuidado infantil.
- Administra la lista de espera y la inscripción desde una plataforma.



**\$0 a \$1300 al mes**

[Ver precio a detalle](#)



**Apique para inscribirse**



**Solicita una visita**



**Mensajea al director**



**Agregar a favoritos**

# Streamline Revenue & Expense Tracking

- Automatically invoice, charge, and track payments
  - Track expense and revenue.
  - Tax preparation – peace of mind!
- 
- Facture, cargue, realice un seguimiento de los pagos automáticamente y reciba pagos rápidamente.
  - Seguimiento de gastos e ingresos.
  - Preparación de impuestos: ¡tranquilidad!

The image displays three screenshots of the Wonderschool software interface, which is used for managing school finances.

**Top Screenshot: Recurring Plans**

- Header:** Wonderschool logo, language selection (English), and user profile (Len Crockett).
- Left Sidebar:** Navigation menu with options: Home, School Management, Finances & Payments (selected), Messages, Documents, Reports, School Website, and School Settings.
- Sub-menu:** Under 'Finances & Payments', options include Invoices, Recurring Plans (selected), Transactions, Time/Space % Calculator, and Settings.
- Main Content Area:** Titled 'Recurring Plans', it features a 'Create New Plan' button and a table with columns: Status, Description, Amount, Balances Due, and All Dates. Below the table is a search bar and a checkbox for 'Hide archived invoices'.

**Middle Screenshot: All Invoices**

- Header:** Wonderschool logo, language selection, and user profile.
- Left Sidebar:** Same as the top screenshot, with 'Finances & Payments' selected.
- Sub-menu:** Same as the top screenshot, with 'Invoices' selected.
- Main Content Area:** Titled 'All Invoices', it features a 'Create New Invoice' button and a table with columns: Status, Description, Amount, Balances Due, and All Dates. Below the table is a search bar and a checkbox for 'Hide archived invoices'. A table of invoices is displayed below, with columns: Student, Description, Due Date, Amount, Balance Due, Status, and Actions.

**Bottom Screenshot: Create Recurring Plan**

- Header:** Wonderschool logo, language selection, and user profile.
- Left Sidebar:** Same as the top screenshot, with 'Finances & Payments' selected.
- Sub-menu:** Same as the top screenshot, with 'Invoices' selected.
- Main Content Area:** Titled 'Create Recurring Plan', it features a 'Create New Plan' button and a form with fields for: Billing Interval (Weekly, Bi-Weekly, Twice Per Month, Monthly), Plan Start Date, Plan End Date, and a 'due date' field. A 'Next' button is visible at the bottom right.

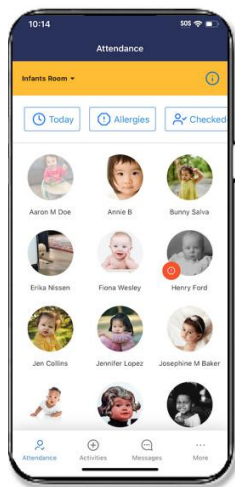
## Documents

Upload, store and share documents with parents electronically here.

Upload

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name ↑↓	Updated ↑↓	Size ↑↓	File Type
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrollment LIC702	03/30/2023 by henry ford Status: Clean	129.46 kB	Downloadable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrollment LIC700	03/30/2023 by henry ford Status: Clean	97.05 kB	Downloadable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lunch Menu-March	03/30/2023 by henry ford Status: Clean	19.00 kB	Downloadable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Holiday Schedule	03/30/2023 by henry ford Status: Clean	198.78 kB	Downloadable

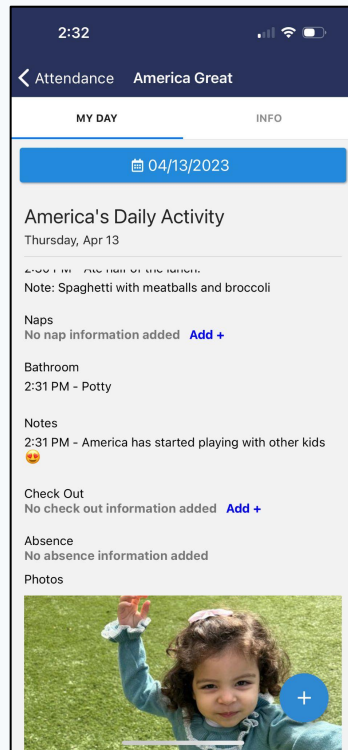
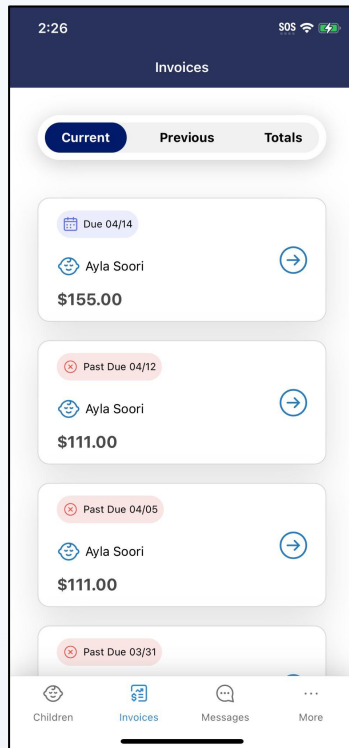
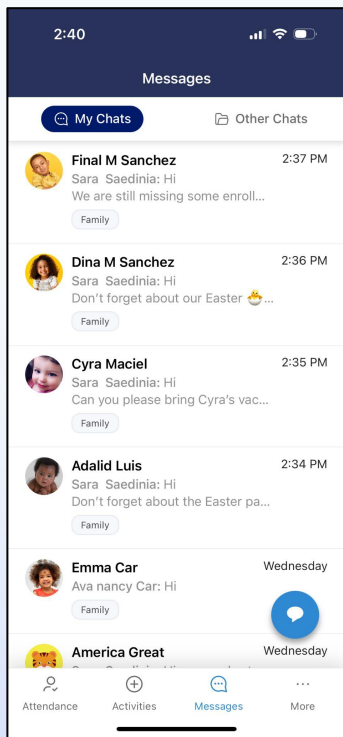
Built with ❤️ by good people. ®



Get Started

# Simplify Operations

- Manage students, share activities, create attendance reports
- Check in / check out
- Upload, store and share documents with parents online
- Maneja estudiantes, comparten actividades, y crea reportes de asistencia
- Seguimiento de Llegada y Salida
- Subir, guardar, y compartir documentos con los padres en línea



## Delight Families

- Share photos and videos with parents
- Share activities with parents
- Message families via the mobile app
- Comparte fotos y videos con los padres
- Comparte actividades con los padres.
- Enviar mensajes a las familias a través de la aplicación móvil

## Already licensed? licencia?

1. Claim & update your site program's website today!
2. [childcare.ececd.nm.gov/](http://childcare.ececd.nm.gov/)
3.
  - Find your program on the **map**
  - Click to **Claim your Website**
  - Enter **basic info** to set up account
  - Update your site with **photos and more**

## ¿Ya tiene

1. ¡Reclame y actualice el sitio web de su programa de sitio hoy!
2. [childcare.ececd.nm.gov/](http://childcare.ececd.nm.gov/)
3.
  - Encuentra tu programa en el **mapa**
  - Haga clic para **reclamar su sitio web**
  - Ingrese **información básica** para configurar la cuenta
  - Actualiza tu sitio con **fotos y más**



# *Stay Connected* with the New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department



**NMECECD.org**



**800-832-1321**



**PO Drawer 5619  
Santa Fe, NM  
87502-5619**

ECECD's bi-weekly newsletter delivers agency announcements, resources, training opportunities, and upcoming events straight to your inbox. Join our monthly Community Call (held the first Tuesday of each month) for updates and engagement.

**Sign up at [nmececd.org/newsroom](https://nmececd.org/newsroom).**



**@NewMexicoECECD**



NEW MEXICO  
**Early Childhood**  
Education & Care Department

# Next Community Call

Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2026

---

## Questions?

*Email:* [ececd.communications@state.nm.us](mailto:ececd.communications@state.nm.us)

*Website:* [nmeccd.org](http://nmeccd.org)

---

**Thank you for your attention!**