



**American
Friends
Service
Committee**

Top Accomplishments in 2023

AFSC New Mexico Program

1. 10th Annual Farmer Gathering



We were very happy to gather 40 farmers and partners in-person and virtually at the Santa Fe Friends Meeting for two days of peer-to-peer learning. Farmers from Albuquerque, the Espanola Valley, the Taos Valley, Jemez Pueblo, Acoma Pueblo, and Taos Pueblo participated and gave us feedback on our 2023 goals.

2. “Farmer Unwind” Wellness Celebration



To provide for farmers’ wellbeing, Angelina and Sayrah organized an event where they could receive a nourishing lunch, chair massage, foot soaks, stretching instruction, local remedies, a chance to dye a paño (handkerchief), and a time to connect with one another at the end of another season. “No one has ever done this for farmers before!” said one farmer.

3. Expanded Farm to Early Childhood

Angelina and Sayrah were excited to respond to requests from preschools and farmers to add more healthy food campaigns. This year we hired a former Head Start teacher and tribal home visitor to create the Cool Cucumber Crunch and the Sweet Potato Snack. Teachers report that children are eating more vegetables as a result of our campaigns.





Angelina organized farmer visits to Head Start classrooms. The children loved asking questions, singing, and planting peas in the spring. One farmer brought a goat and another shared danza.

4. Acequia Organizing

Angelina worked with the South Valley Regional Association of Acequias and a local acequero to support parciantes on the Rogers Lateral who lost access to water this season. The acequero was able to bring the case to district court and together the partners were able to secure the support of the District Attorney. Through this work, community members became more involved in the SVRAA's work and a great new set of commissioners got elected to serve the Armijo Acequia. Angelina also became a licensed notary to support the community's water rights declaration process.



5. Farm Bill Advocacy



Every five years the federal government passes massive funding for the Farm Bill. Sayrah worked with partners across the country to advocate for shifting subsidies away from big agribusiness and to small sustainable farms. She gave educational workshops about the importance of the Farm Bill and the systemic changes we want to see.

**THANK YOU to the Community Partners,
Farmers, Funders, Contractors, and
Volunteers who make our work possible!**