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# El Centro de la Raza Collective Impact & Outlook 2014-15

El Centro de la Raza

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# Student Affairs Collective Impact & Outlook 2014-2015

## El Centro de la Raza

### **Mission**

El Centro de la Raza, a department of the Division of Student Affairs, at the University of New Mexico (UNM) provides tools for self-determination, personal responsibility and resiliency to UNM Latino/Hispanic students. We support the transformation of students through knowledge and skills, while challenging systems to achieve social justice. In engaging the community, El Centro continues the legacy of advocacy, holistic support and partnerships.

### **Vision**

El Centro de la Raza serves as an agent of change to provide state of the art student services, programs, research and educational opportunities to support social, cultural, economic and political sustainability in New Mexican communities.

### **2014-2015 Goals**

- El Centro will positively impact retention and graduation of undergraduate and graduate/professional students through academic, cultural/personal and professional activities designed to build a sense of community and a supportive environment.
- El Centro will recruit Latino students and provide information to Latino students and their families about UNM and El Centro programs/activities.
- El Centro will use program evaluation and assess the data for continuous improvement and to ensure its relevance in academic, cultural and professional aspirations of Raza/Latino students.

### **Impact on Students**

El Centro's strategic direction and the impact it has on UNM students are defined by meeting present and future challenges that our student population and communities face. El Centro is meeting these needs by creating specific academic and research programming, professional development opportunities, support services, mentoring and strategic relationships that benefit UNM students. Understanding the difficulties that Latino/Hispanic students experience navigating through the university system and the need to advocate and serve this growing population, El Centro de la Raza serves as a bridge and a support system so Latino/Hispanic students graduate and/or move on to professional careers or to graduate school. Throughout its 45 years of existence, El Centro has served as a bridge and a support system so Latino/Hispanic students can reach their highest potential. Understanding the difficulties that Latino/Hispanic students experience navigating through the university system and the need to advocate for Latino/Hispanic students, El Centro will continue to serve as a place where advocacy, mentorship, and professional advising is conducted to provide guidance and support to our Latino/Hispanic students at UNM. According to census data Latino/Hispanic population constitutes 46% of the population of New Mexico, and by the year 2050 the Latino population will become an absolute majority in the US. The growth of the Latino population means that the need to serve this population will increase in the way that is proportional both to population increase and the services this population will need. Similarly, programs and services that are particularly tailored for Latino/Hispanic students will need to correlate with the needs of industry and local

communities to ensure that our population of students is competitive in engineering, health, management, and social science fields so that our program supports the economic and social needs of our larger community by creating special opportunities in mentoring, academics, social entrepreneurship, advocacy, internships and scholarships. El Centro is instrumental to student success by building strategic partnerships and supporting the development of new leaders for the future of the Latino/Hispanic community. In order to address this need, El Centro promotes indigenous models of sustainable community development, innovation, and social entrepreneurship to enhance the education of our students. Our special programs are intended to reinforce High Impact Practices and Activities that enhance student transformational learning, increase retention rates and provide clear pathways to graduate and professional education. El Centro has partnerships with over 100 community organizations locally and from across the state of New Mexico. It also fosters relationships with UNM public service and academic departments, and indirectly serves K-12 schools. El Centro sponsors students, staff, and faculty to participate in academic and professional conferences across the nation, and its now creating specific relationships with universities in Latin America and Mexico to provide Latino/Hispanic students with special programs abroad through very specific and targeted programs.

**El Centro de la Raza – Programs and Services**

The target population for El Centro’s programs is the Latino/Hispanic student body, although El Centro is inclusive and supports all students on campus. El Centro serves undergraduate students, graduate students, and professional students, including our larger community.

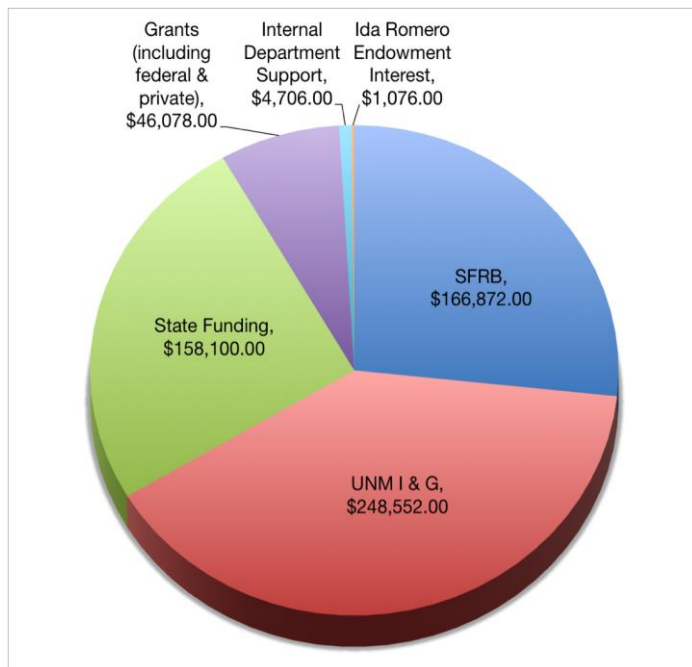
<b>Programs &amp; Services</b>	<b>Goals/Objective</b>	<b>Target Population</b>
El Puente Undergraduate Fellowship	*Strengthen academic writing and critical thinking skills. *Create a pathway to graduate/professional school. *Development of research skills.	Undergraduate and Graduate/Professional Students
Professional Development Initiatives	*Early identification of career paths. *Learn to develop effective professional interpersonal skills. * Provide relevant and current trends in the professional world and graduate school. *Expose students to individuals in different career fields in order to promote career exploration. *Provide in house career advisement and assessment.	Undergraduate and Graduate Professional Students
Transformar Fellowship	* Enhance the leadership and social entrepreneurship skills of participants. *Assist students in the development of specific ideas and professional plans to create a pathway to academic or professional career	Undergraduate and Graduate Professional Students
Latina/o Graduate Fellowship	*Support graduate students. *Serve as a support system. *Increase the representation of Latina/os in graduate school.	Undergraduate and Graduate Professional Students
FAFSA Free for all	*As an effort in partnership with other entities; to assist New Mexico students and their families to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. *Join high school seniors, college students and their families with trained FAFSA advisors to complete the form that is required to qualify for federal or state financial aid	Undergraduate and Graduate/Professional Students, Community, and high school students

<b>Programs &amp; Services</b>	<b>Goals/Objective</b>	<b>Target Population</b>
Recruitment and outreach	* To host and collaborate with community organizations, public/private/charter schools and on campus departments to make direct contact with prospective and current UNM students including middle and high school visits, college/career fairs, campus orientations, community forums, and on campus direct recruitment through El Centro's activities and special programs.	All UNM and non-UNM students
Lobos Unidos Mentoring	*To help new & future UNM students acculturate to the UNM campus. * Increase representation of Latino/Hispanic students at the graduate and professional student level.	Undergraduate and Graduate/Professional Students, Community
Scholarships and Sponsorships	*To provide emergency scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students demonstrating a critical financial need	Undergraduate and Graduate/Professional Students
Wellness Initiatives	*Obtain tools and skills to handle challenging situations in a healthy manner. *Students will recognize the importance of healthy psychological and emotional habits. *Obtain skills to help students perform better in the classroom (i.e. overcoming test anxiety) *Provide in house professional counseling services.	Undergraduate and Graduate Professional Students
Speaker Series	*Expose students to scholars in different fields of study *Use this program as a baseline to coordinate academic talks that will discuss issues affecting the Latino community *To collaborate with other UNM and community centers to coordinate academic events	Undergraduate and Graduate/Professional Students, Community
Raza Graduation	*Celebrate the achievements of Latino/Hispanic students * Encourage Latino/Hispanic graduation.	Undergraduate and Graduate/Professional Students, Community
Raza Junta	*Create a space where students can connect to campus and community resources. *Increase collaboration between community and university partners	Undergraduate and Graduate/Professional Students, Community
Computer Pod & Facility Spaces	*All students will utilize our computers and have access to free printing services, copying, fax services and a phone for emergencies *Provide additional community space through a study area; break room and kitchen that is used by UNM community (staff & students) *Provide El Centro's conference room for diverse workshops, professional meeting, training and development- including CAPS tutoring services, UNM libraries, Career Services, Student Health and Counseling, classes, staff and student organization meetings, study groups, internship and graduate programs	Undergraduate and Graduate/Professional Students, Community
Intercultural Relations/I-Tour	*Collaboration in Indigenous education and research. *Offer courses on line on and offer certificates for biodiversity and indigenous issues. *Develop relationships in the area of intercultural education.	Undergraduate and Graduate Professional Students

## Data and Results FY 2014-2015

<b>Goal 1. Recruit Latino students and provide critical information to students and families</b>	
1.1 Information and outreach to UNM and prospective students	13,498
1.2 Academic Development and Advocacy (formerly advisement)	1,415
1.3 Leadership for students	89
1.4 Students in el Centro Mentoring program	297
1.5 Student Referrals	1,415
1.6 Scholarships and sponsorships	124
1.7 Cultural programming (students and families)	4,158
<b>Goal 2. Positively impact the retention and graduation of Latino students through academic cultural/personal and professional programs</b>	
2.1 Office visits/unique students (student, family and community contacts)	2,174
2.2 Website visits unique users (includes social media)	54,356
2.3 Information and outreach to non-UNM students, families, and community contacts	1,381
2.4 Identify, outreach, and provide critical programs and services that improve the success of underrepresented students (at-risk)	8
<b>Goal 3. Use program assessment and evaluation for continuous improvement to ensure its relevance in academic, cultural, and professional aspirations of Latino students</b>	
3.1 Students and family survey participants	0
3.2 Program assessment participants	508

## Fiscal Update:



FY2015	Total	Quantity
<b>Direct Student Support</b>		
<b>Student Salaries</b>	\$13,045.00	8
<b>El Puente Fellows</b>	\$38,000.00	19
<b>Graduate Fellows</b>	\$32,400.00	3
<b>Emergency Undergraduate</b>	\$8,000.00	20
<b>Emergency Graduate</b>	\$7,450.00	16
<b>Professional Development</b>	\$11,000.60	36
<b>UNM Programming Support</b>	\$2,944.20	11
<b>Transformar Fellows</b>	\$3,590.00	5
<b>Latina/o Graduate Fellows</b>	\$8,750.00	9
<b>GRC Graduate Professional SA</b>	\$2,875.00	6
<b>Total *</b>	\$128,054.80 *	133

\* This funding was directly from the SFRB appropriation