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2020-05-21 A Message from Chancellor Roth

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HEALTH SCIENCES

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

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A Message from Chancellor Roth

Dear Colleagues:

In these uncertain times, the support of our community and their continued generosity on behalf of our employees and our mission takes on added significance. Since March, the UNM Foundation has received more than \$250,000 in donations that will greatly benefit our students, clinical enterprises and employees.

The Foundation has also established crisis relief funds for UNM Hospital and UNM Sandoval Regional Medical Center to help the dedicated physicians, nurses and staff whose lives have been upended by the COVID-19 pandemic. You can learn more about these funds [here](#).

Throughout this crisis, many of our faculty, students and staff have donated their time and expertise to benefit their colleagues and the community at large. As President Garnett S. Stokes often says, we are the University for New Mexico. I'd add the UNM Health System is the health care system for New Mexico, with clinics and specialty services touching all four corners of the state.

While so much of our focus has been on COVID lately, we have continued to provide vital care for our patients. This past week, Dr. Irene Agostini, chief medical officer at UNM Hospital, [shared her experience](#) of accompanying a team of sonographers to Gallup to provide prenatal checkups for pregnant women. That community has been hit especially hard by the novel coronavirus, so this visit was a real credit to the professionalism and compassion of our team.

On days like today, when I see the incredible work being done and all the support we are receiving from the community, I am reminded why I have dedicated four decades of my life to this cause – and why I love this state.

We are continuing to map out new operating procedures at the Health Sciences Center for our employees, students and patients. The guiding principles I have shared with you will help determine the steps we take as we return to full operations.

But here is what I know for sure: our vital work will continue and you all will be recognized for the commitment you have shown to ensure every New Mexican is cared for with the highest level of service.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul B. Roth".

Paul B. Roth, MD, MS
Chancellor for Health Sciences
CEO, UNM Health System
Dean, UNM School of Medicine

Please visit the [New Mexico Department of Health website](#) for the latest COVID-19 updates.