

## Senator Tom Udall's Work to Bring Federal Funding to New Mexico

New Mexicans elected Tom to the U.S. Senate in 2008. Since assuming office in January 2009, **nearly \$90 billion** in federal outlays have reached New Mexico communities. Serving on the Senate Appropriations Committee since 2012, Tom made sure his appointment to the committee invested in New Mexico jobs and communities while benefiting the entire nation. This was a team effort, working with the entire New Mexico congressional delegation over that time on a bipartisan basis, including U.S. Senators Jeff Bingaman and Martin Heinrich and U.S. Representatives Ben Ray Luján, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Harry Teague, Steve Pearce, Deb Haaland and Xochitl Torres Small. The following federal outlays were awarded to New Mexico with Senator Udall's help and support during his time in office, including formula, block, and competitive grants, as well as direct payments to constituents.

### **Over \$9.6 billion in U.S. Department of Agriculture funds to New Mexico's agriculture and rural economies**

- New Mexico agriculture and food processing industries are foundational to the economy, contributing over \$10 billion annually to the state's GDP.
- Tom championed grant funding programs to support beginning farmers and ranchers, especially minorities and Native American farmers to increase opportunity and food security. This grant funding made a difference in New Mexico, contributing over **\$750,000** to support projects like Not Forgotten Outreach's initiative to train over 750 veterans and military families in agricultural practices to support their transition from military to civilian life.
- Tom also focused on making sure USDA's program to extend broadband in rural communities reached New Mexico. In 2020, USDA awarded **\$23 million** to connect 2,200 homes in rural New Mexico with high quality rural broadband.

## **Over \$1 billion in Department of Interior funding to protect New Mexico's enchanted landscapes**

- Tom believes every child should have access to the outdoors. Throughout his Senate career, he championed full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the nation's most successful conservation program that has touched every county in New Mexico.
- In 2015, LWCF awarded New Mexico **\$5.9 million** in funding to complete the 570-acre Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge, the Southwest's first urban national wildlife refuge.

## **Over \$787 million in funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education to Support New Mexico's strong Native communities**

- Throughout his career in public service, Tom has worked with New Mexico's 23 federally-recognized Pueblos and Tribes and Native leaders across the country to uphold federal trust and treaty obligations to Indian Country. Serving as vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and top Democrat on the committee that funds and oversees the Department of the Interior, Tom has worked on a bipartisan basis to pass legislation to reinforce the principles of Tribal sovereignty and self-determination, support Native economies, and protect and sustain cultural resources.
- While many of the federal obligations to Tribes come from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, Tom has also supported legislation to bring strong funding to support housing and community infrastructure to Tribes from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. New Mexico Tribes, who have received over \$22 million in the past five years alone from the Indian Community Development Block Grant program. In 2015, Picuris Pueblo used over **\$500,000** to renovate the Tribal gym, while Tesuque Pueblo used **\$605,000** in grant funding to connect 23 homes with new electric, sewer, water and road services.

## Over \$56.8 billion in funding from the Department of Health and Human Services

- Tom has worked tirelessly in Congress to make quality, affordable health care and education a reality for all New Mexicans, and to take on the health and education disparities facing the nation.
- Tom has long championed funding for mental health programs. In 2019, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) awarded a **\$3 million** grant to New Mexico's Children, Youth, and Families Department's Behavioral Health Services to improve services in rural communities.
- Tom also pushed to increase funding for innovative telehealth priorities. He cosponsored the *Expanding Capacity for Health Outcomes (ECHO) Act*, to create a federal grant program to support technology-based collaborative learning models for health care providers similar to the University of New Mexico's Project ECHO. In 2020, Project ECHO won a **\$237 million** contract with HHS to provide connects local medical professionals in nursing homes and long-term care facilities with specialists for training to provide the highest quality care in nursing homes.

## Over \$9.4 billion in funding from the Department of Education

- Tom has a proven record of tackling educational inequalities in New Mexico. As a Senate Appropriations Committee member, Tom has worked to direct funding to strengthen our classrooms, provide resources to teachers and schools, and to support students.
- In 2016, five New Mexico universities received **\$18.6 million** through the Hispanic-Serving Institutions STEM Program to fund Hispanic and low-income students studying science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), designed to help students find work at Los Alamos and Sandia national laboratories.
- In 2010, the Department of Education granted **\$8.6 million** to fund Questa Independent Schools with 50 special education teachers and principals in the Chama Valley, Dulce, Cuba, Jemez Mountain, Mesa Vista, Questa, Peñasco and Central Consolidated (Kirtland) school districts.

## **Over \$356 million from the Federal Communications Commission**

→ Tom knows that the internet is the foundation of today's economy. As a member of the Senate Broadband Caucus, he has been fighting for increased funding to connect New Mexico's rural and Tribal communities with equal access to high speed internet so no one is left behind. In 2020, 18 internet service providers serving New Mexico won **\$165 million** from the FCC's Rural Digital Opportunity Fund to create high-quality broadband access in 64,170 rural locations in New Mexico.

## **Over \$19 million in funding to the National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities**

→ As an ardent art lover, Tom appreciates the contributions of New Mexico's unique arts community to the state's economy and culture and has introduced legislation like the CREATE Act to increase resources for artists across the country. The arts, cultural education and cultural tourism industry employs 1 in 10 New Mexicans.

→ Tom pushed to increase budgets for NEA and NEH throughout his career, which have invested in important art centers in New Mexico. The creative endowments have supported creative institutions both large and small, such as when NEA gave **\$100,000** in grant funds to community arts organization gallupARTS support a digital project to increase public engagement and **\$750,000** to the Georgia O'Keeffe museum.

## **Over \$4.2 billion in funding for New Mexico veterans to the Department of Veterans Affairs**

→ The son of a World War II veteran, Tom knows that we owe our veterans and military families an enormous debt of gratitude. While championing research and health benefits for veterans exposed to toxic burn pits, Tom has also supported robust funding for veterans as a member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs.

→ In 2015, the Veterans Health administration funded **\$15.6 million** to build the New Mexico State Veterans' Home in Truth or Consequences, which constructed a new 59 bed facility including 39 Alzheimer's beds, a 20 bed Skilled Nursing Unit, a new rehabilitation section for inpatient and outpatient services, and a new pool.

## Over \$4.6 billion from COVID-19 relief legislation to New Mexico

- Tom voted to pass the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act* on March 25, 2020 to bolster the U.S. and Tribal healthcare systems responding to an unprecedented pandemic and bring immediate economic relief to New Mexicans and state and Tribal governments. The **\$2 trillion** package is the largest funding bill in U.S. history in order to meet the historic challenge of the dual public health and economic crises caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Tom joined Senate Democrats to increase unemployment assistance, send direct payments to every American, and usher emergency aid to hospitals and rural healthcare providers.
- Tom also fought hard to create the first dedicated fund for Tribal governments to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. He was instrumental in securing **\$10 billion** for Tribes—**\$2 billion** for public health needs and **\$8 billion** to provide a historic “one-stop” access fund for Tribal governments to meet their unique needs.
- COVID-19 funding in New Mexico provided **\$84 million** to fund local education institutions, students, and the governor’s office, **\$16.7 million** in emergency housing assistance, and **\$20.5 million** to fund 59 skilled nursing facilities.