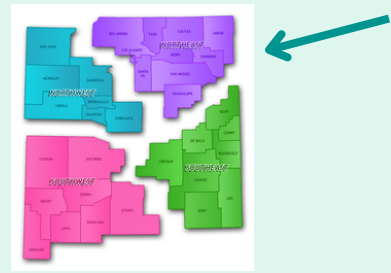


COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS ABOUT HEALTH RESEARCH



Overview

In June of 2023 the Integrating Special Populations Committee of the University of New Mexico supported a community conversation with folks in the **Northeast** region of New Mexico. The goal was to hear different perspectives on how to include diverse populations in health research.

The following main questions were asked:

1. What do communities want to know before agreeing to participate in research?
2. When a study is presented as an opportunity for your community, what things need to be addressed to see if it is a good fit?

Who took part in the conversation

Cynthia Killough, a UNM community liaison, invited a selection of community members to take part in the conversation from health councils in **Colfax, San Miguel, Taos and Union** counties (designated with **gold stars** on the map). In total 7 community members participated and were each given \$80 in merchandise cards as a thank you for their time.



What Community Members Shared

1. Recommendations for researchers:

- Go to the people
 - Grocery stores
 - Churches
 - Restaurants
- Collaborate with established connections like Health Councils
- Hire staff from the community
- Relationship building is a must
- Understand culture and language with appropriate materials
- Have heart for the people you are collecting data from



2. Northeast culture considerations in New Mexico:

- Our neighborhoods have unnamed streets
- We have frequent natural disasters like fires and floods
- We are geographically isolated
- Religion and conservatism play a huge role in our community
- There is a lot of distrust of research and the government

