The UNM Center for Regional Studies (CRS) in partnership with the College of Arts & Sciences announces a Community-Based Research Initiative. This initiative is to financially support two community-based research projects for the 2022-2023 academic year (FY23) with the option for a second year in 2023-2024 (FY24). The financial support for each project will total $30,000 per fiscal year.

CRS invites project proposals engaging with a New Mexico or Southwest community and works to develop or help with practical and real-life solution(s) to the challenges facing peoples in the twenty-first century. The project should be co-directed by a faculty member from a department or program in the College of Arts & Sciences and community-based partner(s). The project should be a shared and equitable building of a relationship between the community-based partner(s) and faculty. The proposed project also must be in accordance with CRS’s mission and emphasis on New Mexico, the Southwest region, U.S. Mexico Borderlands, and the Americas.

Eligibility Criteria: All UNM faculty in the College of Arts & Sciences including full, associate, and assistant professor ranks are eligible to apply. Faculty applicants must hold tenure-stream or tenured full-time appointments in a UNM College of Arts & Sciences department or academic program.

Proposal Format and Guidelines for Submission:

- Proposals must scope out the issue, develop research tasks and plan of work, and must include a description of the intended project outcome.
- Application materials must include a cover sheet, project description, statement of relevance to the CRS mission, a budget request and justification, CV(s), and a letter of support from the community partner.
- Proposals and attachments must be submitted as PDF files to: crsunm@unm.edu no later than May 2, 2022 5:00 p.m.

Guidelines for Application, Budget Request, & Justification

1. Project expenses should not exceed the 2022-2023 academic year (FY23), although supplemental or secondary funding from other sources may be utilized for multi-year projects.

2. In general, the Center for Regional Studies will not support expenses such as faculty or staff salaries, indirect or administrative costs, or extra compensation to faculty or staff. In addition, CRS funding cannot be used in the production of student credit covered by the instructional budget of the university.
3. Project costs may include travel expenses, a course buy-out approved by the faculty member’s unit for the fall 2022 or spring 2023 semester, community-based partner(s) stipends, graduate student salaries, or other direct costs essential to the completion of a project outcome. The application must describe the intended project outcome such as a community presentation, film, exhibition, or other creative work associated with the project.

4. All CRS expenditures should be completed by June 1, 2023 in accordance with line items in the final approved budget. Line items and the amounts must be justified as essential to the project activities and outcomes. Balances cannot be reprogrammed for any other purposes, and any unspent funds will revert to CRS. A Final Report of project outcomes and expenditures must be submitted to CRS by July 31, 2023.

5. An evaluation committee of UNM faculty, administrators, and CRS staff will review and score each submitted proposal.