

NEWSLETTER



Dear NMAIMH Members and Partners,

NMAIMH has had an incredible first quarter of 2026. Just as we see children build on their past strengths to grow, our organization is doing the same. Our membership continues to expand (we reached 300 members on March 19, wow!). We're also building on the success of our monthly spotlights by introducing quarterly deep dive trainings this year. Our hybrid Annual Meeting and Training in January was a success, with 87 attendees and, for the first time, breakout sessions.

We are grateful for our dedicated board, including returning members and three new additions: Jeannie Baca, Julia Bergkamp, and Iliana Perez. I am honored to serve as Board President and to build on the outstanding leadership of our past president, Diana O'Brien. Our exceptional staff; Liz Martinez (Executive Director), Katrina Diaz-Castillo (Endorsement Coordinator), Kassandra Gonzales (SEED Agency Liaison), Heather Peynetsa (Communication & Training Coordinator), and Amy Goodner (Administrative Coordinator); continue to make this work possible.

Our funding sources and membership participation remain strong, helping ensure NMAIMH's stability and future growth. A major accomplishment from 2025 was the completion of a three-year strategic plan (<https://www.nmaimh.org/strategic-plan/>), which provides clear direction for the years ahead.

Along with recognizing the successes we've had, I also want to acknowledge the challenges happening in our world right now. We are living within systems that have been purposefully designed to create inequities and disadvantages for most people, while at the same time benefiting very few others. I know that IMH providers see the reality of this every day. I look forward to NMAIMH increasing access and participation from diverse voices. I will do what I can as an ally to step back to amplify the voices of others and support the incredible work that IMH providers are already doing. We are all working cooperatively to achieve great things for children and families in New Mexico.

In these stressful and traumatic times, the work you are doing to hold space for children and families makes a huge difference! I feel honored to be a part of this community and I look forward to seeing more we can accomplish together in the coming year.

With care,
Sam Hufnagel
Board President, NMAIMH

Message from the Executive Director

Expression of Gratitude to the NM Infant Mental Health Community

We are grateful to be part of a rapidly growing NM Infant Mental Health community. We are excited to share two meaningful milestones that reflect this momentum. In response to the continued expansion of the field, we have welcomed a new bilingual endorsement advisor to better support our diverse community. We are also proud to announce that NMAIMH Membership has reached 300 members so far in 2026. This is an encouraging testament to the strength, commitment, and collaboration within infant mental health across New Mexico.

300

300 Members in March 2026

The NMAIMH has 300 Members as of March 2026! Thank you so much! Let's keep this number growing!

Share this [link](#) with a colleague who may be interested in membership.



NMAIMH Bilingual Endorsement Advisor

The NMAIMH welcomes Olga Alvara on board as the newly contracted Bilingual Endorsement Advisor. We are so excited to begin offering IMH Endorsement Advisement to professionals whose preferred language is Spanish. Funding for this position is made possible through the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico.

Olga will host a Spotlight in Spanish on 4/22/26 from 6:30–7:30 to provide more information about the Endorsement process.

You can connect with Olga at bilingual@nmaimh.org.

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation

In recent months, NMAIMH has been honored to take part in a variety of community events. Our organization was invited to join the Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD) for Early Childhood Days at The Roundhouse during the Legislative Session. We also attended the Native American Family and Child Conference, where NMAIMH members connected with both local and national leaders dedicated to advancing early childhood initiatives. These events offered meaningful opportunities to move forward important conversations about Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC) in New Mexico.

While NMAIMH Leadership engages with the community, our IECMH Consultants continue their dedicated work supporting early childhood education professionals throughout New Mexico. Coming soon, our consultants will participate in the Circle of Security Classroom Foundation Course, which is a research-based program designed to provide educators and caregivers with effective strategies for building secure attachment relationships with young children.

From the Endorsement Coordinator

Please join us for an engaging overview of the Endorsement® credential—the globally recognized standard for professionals committed to promoting infant and early childhood mental health across diverse scopes of practice.

Who Should Attend: Professionals working in infant and early childhood mental health, including those in clinical, educational, advocacy, policy, home visiting, and supervisory roles. Professionals supporting infant and early childhood systems.

Whether you are new to Endorsement or seeking a clearer understanding of how it reflects your work with or on behalf of infants, young children, and families, this session will inspire and guide you.

Click [HERE](#) to register.

Please add the session to your cart then go to the cart and complete the check out – you will not be charged, however failing to complete the checkout will not complete the registration.



The graphic features a light green background with a faint world map. At the top, the text 'ENDORSEMENT 101' is written in large, bold, dark blue letters, followed by 'Join us for a Free 1-Hour Webinar!' in green. Below this, four blue rounded rectangular callouts contain text. In the center, there is a logo for IECMH-E® consisting of a stylized green plant with human figures at its base. Below the logo, the text 'A CREDENTIAL FOR THE INFANT & EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH-INFORMED WORKFORCE' is displayed in a light blue font.

ENDORSEMENT 101

Join us for a Free 1-Hour Webinar!

Why It Matters

Endorsement® strengthens the workforce supporting babies, young children, and families — helping professionals reflect, connect, and grow together.

Discover Endorsement®

The globally recognized credential for professionals advancing infant and early childhood mental health across disciplines.

Who Should Attend

Professionals working with or on behalf of infants, young children, and families — including those in clinical, educational, home visiting, advocacy, policy, or supervisory roles.

What You'll Learn

- How Endorsement® highlights your expertise
- How it helps you track competencies and growth
- How it connects you to a global IECMH community

IECMH-E®
A CREDENTIAL FOR THE INFANT & EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH-INFORMED WORKFORCE

April IMH Spotlight

4/22/26 from 6:30–7:30 PM

Endorsement Support–
Now in SPANISH
¡Acompáñenos en una
sesión de preguntas y
respuestas sobre todo lo
relacionado con el Endoso
en Salud Mental Infantil —
en español! [Haga clic aquí.](#)

May Deep Dive

5/5/26 from 10 AM–1 PM

Understanding Trauma in
Infancy– Assessment,
Caregiver Support &
Special Considerations.
Register [HERE.](#)

May IMH Spotlight

5/21/26 from 1–2 PM

Caring for Caregivers in
Early Childhood
Register [HERE.](#)




VIRTUAL COFFEE WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hear updates or ask questions on the Association's Strategic Plan

MAY 13

9AM


[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81994511653?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81994511653?pwd=o3Knk16aw8VeUFVP2YGf9s0rNm55dz.1)
[pwd=o3Knk16aw8VeUFVP2YGf9s0rNm55dz.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81994511653?pwd=o3Knk16aw8VeUFVP2YGf9s0rNm55dz.1)



AUG 12

9AM


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[pwd=TZQjzfbQuWbN5bhQDdZ04yJ9FJiTO.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89744568171?pwd=TZQjzfbQuWbN5bhQDdZ04yJ9FJiTO.1)



NOV 11

9AM

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[pwd=EINUybCpE5vz4MDp5MG2mjBHZ7JYc.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85455521989?pwd=EINUybCpE5vz4MDp5MG2mjBHZ7JYc.1)



 EXECUTIVE@NMAMH.ORG

 WWW.NMAIMH.ORG

May 13th at 9am. Join [HERE.](#)

Let's Stay Connected!

Follow us on social media for the most up to date information regarding trainings, events etc.

Each month we celebrate the stories and achievements of IMH providers in our community with our Member Highlight.

Thank you to our first quarter features:
Katrina Diaz–Castillo, Lara Lehman, & Krystal Chavarria!

Check out our pages to learn about the amazing work our members are doing to promote IMH in our state!

Instagram: @nmaimh
Facebook: NewMexicoAIMH

Contact Us
NMAIMH.ORG

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communication@nmaimh.org