



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the citizens of New Mexico stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they:

- Provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help children realize their full potential; and
- Support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive when they are out of their classrooms; and
- Build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults; and
- Engage families, schools, and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and

WHEREAS, quality afterschool programs provide critical support for the academic growth and well-being of youth and offer new experiences and opportunities that help young people learn and grow. Quality afterschool programs provide innovative, hands-on opportunities for youth to engage in learning and connect with caring adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment; and

WHEREAS, Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 26, 2023, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities; and

WHEREAS, nearly 25 million families report that they would enroll their child in an afterschool program if one were available; however, for every child in a program, four children are waiting to get in.; and

WHEREAS, many afterschool programs across the country are facing operating challenges so severe that they are forced to consider closing their doors and turning off their lights; and

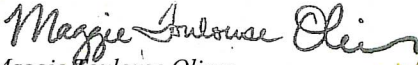
WHEREAS, New Mexico is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing quality expanded learning opportunities that help our children learn and grow, while helping them develop the skills essential for success in life and work.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim October 26th, 2023, as:

“Lights On Afterschool Day”

throughout the state of New Mexico.

Attest:


Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this
17th day of October 2023.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal
of the State of New Mexico.


Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

