



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the citizens of the 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 their academic growth and well-being, and support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive when they are out of their classrooms; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs help address key issues in our state such as school absenteeism, learning loss recovery, and workforce development; build stronger communities by involving students, parents, businesses, and volunteers in the lives of young people; additionally afterschool programs provide a solid return on investment where every dollar invested saves at least three dollars by increasing kids' earning potential, improving kids' performance at school, reducing crime and juvenile delinquency; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs provide critical support for children and youth, offering them new experiences and opportunities, along with hands-on learning, that help them learn and grow. Youth who attend afterschool programs attend school more often, do better in school, and gain important work and life skills; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is committed to the education and well-being of our youth, and recognizes that quality afterschool programs prepare our children to become successful adults who help our community thrive; and

WHEREAS, Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs for our children, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, the demand for afterschool programs continues to grow; for every child in a program, four are waiting to get in; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is committed to providing expanded learning opportunities that help our children learn, grow, and develop the skills essential for success in life and work.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2024, as:

"Lights On Afterschool Day"

throughout the state of New Mexico.

Attest:

Handwritten signature of Maggie Toulouse Oliver in black ink.

Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this
3rd day of October 2024.

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

Handwritten signature of Michelle Lujan Grisham in black ink.

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor