

The latest news from Luna Community College

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Luna Community College launches Padres Y Madres Academy

Academy will assist parents with essential skills

Luna Community College is excited to announce the launch of the Padres Y Madres Academy, a groundbreaking initiative aimed at empowering parents and guardians with essential skills to support their students' educational journey. The "Parents Academy" offers a comprehensive curriculum covering critical topics such as Digital Literacy, Financial Literacy, Financial Aid (including FAFSA and Scholarships), and Luna Pathways.

With the ever-evolving landscape of education and technology, Luna Community College recognizes the importance of equipping parents with the knowledge and tools necessary to actively engage in their students' academic and financial success.

Luna Community College is thrilled to introduce the Padres Y Madres Academy as part of their ongoing com-

mitment to fostering student success and community engagement. Parents play a pivotal role in supporting their students' educational journey, and this academy aims to provide them with the knowledge and resources needed to navigate important aspects of the college experience effectively.

The Padres Y Madres Academy curriculum covers the following key topics:

1. Digital Literacy: Helping parents navigate technology and online resources to support their students' learning in today's digital age.
2. Financial Literacy: Equipping parents with essential financial management skills to support their students' college expenses and plan for the future.

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Luna's Samuel Gabaldon recently received \$2,000 from the Coalition on Adult Basic Education after being named as the national adult learner of the year. Gabaldon, who was a student at Luna's College & Career Readiness Institute, is now attending the University of New Mexico.

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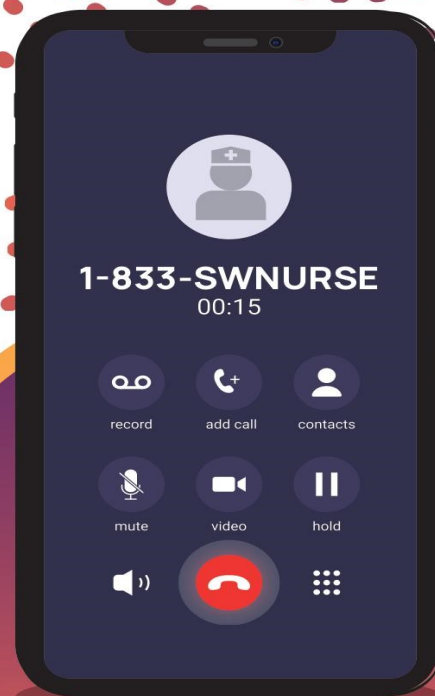


MONDAY-FRIDAY
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WEEKENDS
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. MST

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Connecting New Mexicans to Health & Wellness

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- Find primary care doctors, mental healthcare & specialists.
- Get STI testing & treatment resources.
- Find addiction treatment.

Health Questions

- Ask questions about diseases & infections, including food poisoning & animal bites.
- Get advice about COVID & other winter viruses.
- Schedule vaccines for kids & adults.

Reproductive Health Services

- Find birth control, including the morning after pill.
- Find an abortion provider & learn about resources.
- Connect to healthy pregnancy resources & prenatal care.

Provider Support

- Report notifiable conditions.
- Consult with an epidemiologist.
- Receive help with STD & TB management.



f X in nmhealth.org



Montano-Baca new SBDC director

Luna Community College proudly announces the appointment of Briana Montano-Baca as the new Center Director of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC). The SBDC at LCC serves San Miguel, Mora, Guadalupe and Colfax County. With an extensive background in marketing, business management and entrepreneurship, Montano-Baca brings a wealth of experience and passion for supporting small businesses to her new role.

In her capacity as Center Director, Montano-Baca will lead the SBDC team in providing invaluable resources, guidance, and support to entrepreneurs and small business owners throughout the community and surrounding areas. Her leadership will play a pivotal role in fostering economic growth and innovation in the region.

Montano-Baca's career is marked by a dedication to empowering individuals to achieve their entrepreneurial dreams. With a solid foundation of education and experience in entrepreneurship, she is poised to leverage her expertise to further the SBDC's mission of driving small business success.

"I am excited to move into the role of Center Director of the Small Business Development Center at Luna Community College," said Briana Montano-Baca. "Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and I am committed to

providing them with the resources and guidance they need to thrive. Together with the talented NMSBDC team, I look forward to making a meaningful impact on the entrepreneurial landscape of Northern New Mexico."

Montano-Baca holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Texas Tech University and a Master of Business Administration degree from New Mexico Highlands University. Her professional journey has equipped her with a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing small business owners, making her a continued valuable asset to the SBDC team.

"Briana has demonstrated an unwavering enthusiasm and unparalleled commitment to the Luna Community College service area since becoming a part of the NMSBDC program," said Adriene Gallegos, NMSBDC Associate State Director. "Her dedication to our mission and vision has been nothing short of exemplary. We are incredibly excited about the future of this center under Briana's leadership. Her vision, passion, and dedication will undoubtedly propel us to new heights, inspiring innovation and excellence every step of the way."

For more information about the Small Business Development Center at Luna Community College, please visit www.nmsbdc.org/las-vegas or contact 505-454-5349.

Padres Y Madres Academy...

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3. Financial Aid: Providing guidance on navigating the complex process of applying for financial aid, including completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and seeking scholarships.

4. Luna Pathways: Offering insights into Luna Community College's various pathways, programs, and re-

sources available to students to help them achieve their academic and career goals.

The Padres Y Madres Academy will offer a series of workshops, seminars, and resources designed to accommodate the diverse needs and schedules of parents and guardians. Through interactive sessions led by knowledgeable instructors and guest

speakers, participants will gain practical skills, insights, and strategies to effectively support their students' educational journey.

For more information about the Padres Y Madres Academy and upcoming workshops, please contact Sherry Goodyear at parentsacademy@luna.edu, or via phone at 505-587-3827.

Luna to be closed on Friday, March 29, and Monday, April 1, for spring recess

Luna Community College in Las Vegas and its campuses in Mora, Springer and Santa Rosa will be closed on Friday, March 29, and Monday, April 1, for spring recess.

The college will resume its regular hours on Tuesday, April 2.



Luna Community College prioritizes mental health with expansion of student resources

Partnership with virtual care leader, TimelyCare, offers 24/7 equitable access to well-being resources

Completing a degree in higher education is an incredible accomplishment. Nevertheless, students encounter many challenges along the way academically, socially and emotionally. While every student's collegiate journey is unique, Luna Community College provides a wide breadth of services that meets the needs of each and every student on campus through its Luna Strong Program. Founded in 2022 with funding from the New Mexico Higher Education Department, the mission of Luna Strong is to increase student success, engagement, retention, and completion by promoting the 8 Dimensions of Wellness: emotional, physical, occupational, social, spiritual, intellectual, environmental, and financial.

With support from the American Rescue Plan CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), Luna has partnered with TimelyCare, higher education's most trusted virtual health and well-being provider, to offer students free and equitable access to mental health support, medical care and basic needs assistance. The partnership is an extension of existing resources available to students, with a goal of improving student well-being, engagement and retention.

Luna students and employees will have access to TimelyCare services beginning on Tuesday, April 2. Orientation events throughout April will introduce the campus community to these new services. For more information, download the app or visit timelycare.com/Luna.

The need for 24/7 access to high-quality care has never been more important. Dr. Carol Linder, Luna Strong's founder and current VP of Finance and Administration, explains that the coronavirus pandemic has accentuated the preexisting issue of basic needs insecurity and increased health disparities in Luna's service area of northeastern New Mexico. "Students have been especially hard hit by disruptions in their education and accompanying mental and behavioral health challenges. The 2023 New Mexico Basic Needs survey of 27 colleges and universities revealed that an astonishing 70 percent of Luna students are grappling with some food and/or housing insecurity. Luna is committed to narrowing these disparities and meeting the needs of our students."

Through TimelyCare on their phone or other device, Luna students, faculty, and staff will select from a wide-ranging menu of virtual care options from licensed

physicians and counselors in all 50 states – at no cost and without the barrier of traditional insurance – including:

- On-demand and appointment-based medical care
- On-demand mental health and emotional support (TalkNow)
- Appointment-based mental health counseling (up to 6 sessions each academic year)
- Health coaching
- Basic Needs assistance
- Care navigation
- Peer support community
- Digital self-care content

"At the forefront of our commitment to student well-being is the priority of health and safety. TimelyCare's user-friendly platform, convenience and immediacy make it easier than ever for our students to access on-demand support," says Luna Interim Director of Allied Health and Public Service Casey Applegate-Aguilar. "TimelyCare enhances campus resources by making care more readily available to students when they need it, limiting the spread of illness, reducing the stigma of mental health issues, and granting peace of mind to students and their families."

The partnership with TimelyCare allows Luna Community College to deliver a hybrid model of care in collaboration with on-campus resources. Benefits include:

Convenient 24/7 care – Physical and mental health issues often present themselves outside regular business hours, and TimelyCare makes seeking support or treatment as easy and convenient as making a video or phone call. Nationally, half of mental health care visits through TimelyCare occur after regular business hours or on weekends.

Reduced wait times – Many campus counseling centers often have a 2-3 week wait time for appointments, whereas students can typically connect with a TimelyCare provider in less than 5 minutes.

Diverse provider network – TimelyCare's diverse and culturally responsive provider network reflects and is proud to serve students who embody diversity in race, ethnicity, gender identity and

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Luna prioritizes mental health...

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expression, age, religion and worldview, language, health, ability, sexual orientation, socioeconomic and immigration status, and more. More than half of mental health providers identify as people of color. The platform also offers professionals who identify as LGBTQIA+, speak multiple languages, and translation services to support more than 240 languages. Students scheduling services can choose to meet with a specific provider or select the first available.

Peace of mind –TimelyCare is a safe, secure, URAC-accredited and HIPAA-compliant platform that follows campus-specific protocols to facilitate care coordination and follow-up to ensure continuity of care. Integrations with leading learning management systems ensure students have even more on-ramps to in-the-moment support whenever they need it.

Three-quarters (75 percent) of college students who accessed virtual mental health and well-being interventions through TimelyCare reported mental health improvements – including 100 percent those who presented as a potential suicide risk. More than half (53 percent) of all students who have sought mental health support through TimelyCare said they would have done nothing if the service were not available.

“With nearly seven out of 10 students reporting that they experience mental health issues such as stress, anxiety or depression, expanded access to virtual health and well-being interventions like TimelyCare has never been more important,” said Luke Hejl, CEO and co-founder of TimelyCare. “Ultimately, supporting students means providing access to care whenever and wherever they need it.”

About TimelyCare

TimelyCare is higher education’s most trusted virtual health and well-being provider, serving 2.3+ million students at more than 350 campuses nationwide. Founded in 2017, TimelyCare pioneered the first telehealth solution built exclusively for higher education, with a mission to improve the health and well-being of college students by making virtual medical and mental health care accessible anytime, anywhere. Today its comprehensive suite of services – including mental health counseling, on-demand emotional support, medical care, psychiatric care, health coaching, basic needs assistance, faculty and staff guidance, peer support and self-guided wellness tools – expands the breadth of campus resources and empowers student success.

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MISSION

Luna Community College is dedicated to providing accessible, innovative and integrated learning experiences that prepare students to compete at the forefront of their chosen fields and to lead in their communities



The Luna Community College softball team split two games with Trinidad Junior College recently at Rodriguez Park. The Lady Rough Riders are scheduled to play at Northeastern Junior College Friday and Saturday. The Luna baseball team is scheduled to play Lamar Community College at home on March 28.



Luna student Joseph Baca Jr. participated in Eastern New Mexico University's Juried Art Exhibition on Thursday, March 21 in Portales. He is pictured here with Luna art instructor Bernadette Maldonado. "To see my work on display in such a prestigious art gallery with other talented aspiring artists validates my official entry into the world of art," said Baca. Jr.



Proudly Presents a fundraising concert:

Mariachi Gran Victoria



Proceeds go toward providing LCC students with scholarship opportunities!

Saturday, May 4th, 2024 2 – 4 PM

Luna Community College Auditorium

Media Education Center Building 366 Luna Drive; Las Vegas, NM 87701

Including: ticket raffle, silent auction!
Food & refreshments for sale at intermission.

\$20 per person

For more information, or to buy tickets in person, please contact the Luna Foundation at: 505.454.5337

Scan for tickets!



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Luna Community College Education Department

INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR AN EVENING
WITH

JENNIFER ANDERSON

TALES FROM THE PRE-K: TAKING STUDENTS ON
EXPEDITION TO THE GALAPAGOS



Jennifer currently teaches in a dual-language Pre-K classroom at El Camino Real Academy in Santa Fe, N.M. She has traveled extensively during her teaching career and is eager to share her travel experiences with other educators. Jennifer will share about her latest expedition with National Geographic and how she is implementing project-based learning in her classroom.

April 19, 2024
5:30-7:00 p.m.

366 Luna Drive, Media Arts
Building



*Refreshments will be served

