



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 2, 2020

Rio Arriba County Secures Utility Debt Relief Funding for Kit Carson Electric Cooperative Members

Rio Arriba, NM- Rio Arriba County and Kit Carson Electric Cooperative (KCEC) collaborated to offer utility debt relief for members struggling with their utility bills during this COVID-19 pandemic. In particular, KCEC wants to thank Rio Arriba Commissioners, James Martinez, Leo Jaramillo, Danny Garcia for their leadership and dedication to helping Rio Arriba County residents in these difficult times.

The County used a portion of its EDA CARES Act funding to allocate monies of approximately \$38,000 to KCEC in order to assist members that had been paying on time through the pandemic before being forced into delinquency in their utility bills.

The goal of this program was for Rio Arriba County to deliver money directly to citizens clearly effected by the pandemic, and offer a form of instant relief through direct payments.

"The top priority of the Rio Arriba County Commission is to ensure county residents make it through this pandemic. It is our goal to help those in need and to come together as a county in order to make it through together" said County Commissioner James Martinez.

"We want to thank Rio Arriba County for the commitment they put forward in leading the way for their residents. Our primary focus is the well-being of our members and their families. We, as a co-op, instill values of pride, commitment and leadership. We will always be there for our members during good times and also times of hardship." said KCEC CEO, Luis A. Reyes Jr.

Rio Arriba and KCEC have worked together for decades to help their members and residents. This partnership exemplifies how municipalities, governments, and sovereign tribes can join together to serve the ultimate goal of helping their people during difficult times.

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