Rising to Meet the Challenge: 
*Improving Child Protection Response Systems*

Santa Fe – New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department Superintendent Marguerite Salazar announced Monday that the Department’s Substitute Care Advisory Council will be hosting the 2019 National Citizen Review Panel Conference.

Citizen Review Panels are a federal mandate for citizen participation in child protection. The Substitute Care Advisory Council provides a permanent system in New Mexico for independent and objective monitoring of children placed in the custody of New Mexico Children, Youth & Families Department.

“Protecting our children is everyone’s business. Citizen participation is important, and I encourage New Mexicans to volunteer to become members of this vital council,” said Superintendent Marguerite Salazar.

Each year, a diverse group of stakeholders from across the nation come together to share child welfare best practices and engage in solution-focused discussions to meet Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act mandates. This year’s Conference agenda will include a variety of workshops that focus on relevant topics in child welfare. Guest speakers will be Dr. Raquel Garzon, President and Founder of the Revitalize Project, which provides science-based strategies to assist organizations and communities to create cultures which inspire, empower and enable change, and Vanessa Dixon, known nationally for her expertise in the areas of youth trauma, domestic violence, human trafficking and implicit bias. This year’s conference will be held in Albuquerque from June 6-8 at the Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown.

CEUs will be provided and a special conference registration rate is offered for New Mexico residents. For full conference details visit: [www.scacnm.org/2019nationalcrpconference/](http://www.scacnm.org/2019nationalcrpconference/) or contact Shelly Bucher at shelly.bucher@state.nm.us or 505.469.4781.

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