WHAT IS MMIWR?
It is a community-based grassroots movement to raise awareness and address the lack of response when Native women, girls, and relatives go missing or murdered.

WHAT CONTRIBUTES TO MMIWR?
The legacy of violence perpetuated against Native women and children within New Mexico date back to Spanish and Euro-American invasion of Native lands. The adoption of patriarchal systems of governance set the foundation to normalize the ongoing imbalance of power and oppression experienced by Native women, children, LGBQ+, 2Spirit and Trans and gender non-conforming relatives.

ADDITIONALLY
The forced removal of Native people from their traditional territories and the forced implementation of bureaucratic borders allowed for the ongoing lack of accountability when an Indigenous relative goes missing or is murdered.

NEW MEXICO STATISTICS
The National Crime Information Center reported in 2016 that 5,712 cases were reported and only 116 were logged into the Department of Justice database [1]

The median age of MMIWR victims is 29 [1]

Native Americans account for 52% of Missing Persons in McKinley and San Juan Counties in New Mexico [3]

New Mexico and The Navajo Nation have 194 verified missing or murdered persons. [2]

Native American Women in NM have the highest rate of homicide among ALL racial and ethnic groups [1]

27% of cases were under the age of 18 [1]

SOURCES
MISSING AND MURDERED WOMEN & RELATIVES (MMIWR) IN NEW MEXICO

THINGS TO BE AWARE OF WHEN TALKING ABOUT MMIWR

RECOGNIZING THAT SEX TRAFFICKING DIRECTLY INTERSECTS WITH THE MMIWR CRISIS

INCONSISTENT RESPONSES DUE TO JURISDICTIONAL GAPS AND BARRIERS

LAND AND BODY ARE ONE OF THE SAME; EXACERBATES THE ONGOING MMIWR CRISIS DUE TO THE CONSTANT VIOLATION OF SACRED LANDS FOR THE INTEREST OF EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES

MISINFORMATION OR LACK ACKNOWLEDGMENT IN THE MEDIA

SYSTEMIC RACISM AND LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTIGATORS

HISTORICALLY UNDERFUNDED AGENCIES TASKED WITH RESPONDING TO THIS CRISIS

UNDERCOUNTED CASES OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, TWO SPIRIT (LGBTQ2S+) INDIVIDUALS IN DATA

RECOMMENDATIONS

Demand the implementation of MMIWR Tribal Community Response Plans in all of NM’s Tribal Nations and Pueblos.

Sharing and updating available resources needed to address the ongoing violence

Establish support services for families to create access to domestic violence shelters in border towns and rural areas of NM.

Support local MMIWR efforts in New Mexico

Call on Tribal communities to build brave and supportive spaces to discuss these issues.

RESOURCES

NM Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Relatives Task Force
505-476-6000
www.iad.gov

Murdered and Missing Dine Relatives Coalition
http://www.navajommdr.org/

National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center
www.niwrc.org

Sovereign Bodies Institute
http://www.sovereign-bodies.org/