

# The Friendship Club



Volume 2  
Issue 2      **JUNE 2026**



A 501(c)3 non-profit  
founded in 1979

Seven days a week, meetings are held (over 50 each week) ensuring that individuals in recovery and seeking recovery have access to support and companionship. With a rich history dating back to the 1970s, the Friendship Club has been a reliable safe harbor for individuals struggling with the far-reaching effects of addiction. The club organizes a variety of events and activities, including dances, marathon 12-step meetings, holiday meals, potlucks, social get-togethers, and more. Visit our Memory Center in the lobby to learn more.

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## THE FACE OF THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB



When people think about the Friendship Club, they may picture the building, the meetings, the coffee bar, or the packed parking lot on a busy night. But the real face of the Friendship Club has always been the volunteers, supported by our dedicated staff. Sometimes that face is the smiling person behind the coffee counter near the front door. A newcomer may walk in frightened, shaky, embarrassed, or simply unsure what this place even is. They may be beginning a sobriety journey, supporting a loved one, or just trying to survive one more difficult day. What they find is coffee, snacks, conversation, directions, and somebody willing to help.

## Contact Us

1316 Apache Ave  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
505.982.9040  
info@friendshipclubsantafe.org  
www.friendshipclubsantafe.org

### Volunteers at the Friendship Club come in many forms

- A cleaning crew of dedicated women from our Intensive Outpatient and Recovery Center who mop floors, straighten chairs, clean bathrooms, and help keep the entire building shining. Their work is deeply important and always appreciated.. *A clean, welcoming building tells people they matter.*
- Volunteers who stay after meetings to talk quietly with sponsors and sponsees, showing newcomers how recovery relationships are formed in real life. Sometimes the most important moments happen after the official meeting ends.
- Longtime members who seem to be everywhere at once, greeting people, making coffee, answering questions, helping settle nerves, introducing strangers, checking on people who may be struggling, and simply showing kindness and patience. They are living examples of recovery *'in the trenches.'*

## Our Mission

Welcome to the Friendship Club of Santa Fe. Our mission is to provide and maintain a multi-use community center that promotes activities and events focusing on mental, spiritual and physical recovery. We provide an inviting, supportive environment where people in recovery can heal and help one another.

### Often the face of the Friendship Club is the first kind person somebody talks to

- Other volunteers help administer and participate in *DWI Impact Panels*. These people were once arrested for drunk driving themselves and now live sober lives. They stand in front of court-ordered attendees and tell the truth about where addiction took them and what recovery gave back. There is no substitute for that kind of message. "I've been there. Here's how it went. Here's how it is today."
- Outside the building, volunteers are at work, sweeping the sidewalk, picking up cigarette butts, cleaning around the dumpster corral, helping direct traffic, or pointing people toward the 24-hour meeting schedules available on the front porch for those who arrive at odd hours or are too nervous to walk in.

## Board Members

Mary S.	Scott F.
Franco S.	Pat D.
Lou T.	Alvaro L.
Chris G.	Carlo B.

## Newsletter Collaborators

Marcia R.	Sherm A.
Pat D.	Miranda F.
Mary S.	Clarissa S.

### Or the first contact with the Friendship Club may be over the telephone

- Calls come in from people looking for AA meetings while traveling. Others ask about classes, schedules, or recovery resources. Some callers are frightened or desperate. Some have years of sobriety and simply want fellowship. Those conversations happen in English and Spanish and may involve Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon, Gamblers Anonymous, or many other fellowships. In a world that often feels cold and clinical, volunteers answering those calls help people hear something different: *kindness, patience, and hope.*

# Resources

## Room Rentals

**Room 1:** 30' by 40', seats 80  
(with microphones and speakers)

**Room 2:** 23' by 33', seats 50  
(with projector and screen)

**Room 3:** 16' by 20', seats 25

**Room 4:** 14' by 16' (With permanent conference table and excellent zoom room capability)

All of the rooms have heating and air conditioning, and can be closed off from the rest of the building. Typical use is for 12 step and other recovery meetings, but we are also available to compatible uses, pending a meeting with staff to determine schedule and price. *Contact Sherm A. for a tour and/or to schedule a meeting or event:*



Room 1



Room 2



Room 3



Room 4

**The Zoom Room for hybrid meetings**



Podcast Studio

The highly acclaimed "High Desert Sobriety" podcast is recorded at the Friendship Club.

Now the cozy recording studio at the Club is available to rent for other recording projects.



## FRIENDSHIP CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Many people experience the Friendship Club through meetings or other recovery gatherings held within our walls. It's easy to assume that what happens in those rooms sustains the building, but in reality, the baskets passed in meetings support only a portion of the operational expenses of the Friendship Club.

The Club is a community center: a large, active facility with *five meeting rooms, four bathrooms, heating and air conditioning, insurance, staffing, and constant maintenance.* Keeping the doors open seven days a week, year-round also depends on membership. **Membership** simply means choosing to support this place and its mission, typically at \$100 per year or \$10 per month. These contributions make it possible for thousands of people to walk through our doors each year and find a safe, welcoming environment for recovery and connection.

Equally vital are our volunteers. Volunteering at the Friendship Club might look like taking a shift behind the coffee bar, serving coffee, selling snacks, or sometimes offering them freely when someone is in need. Far more important is the human presence, the friendly face at the front counter, especially for someone walking in for the very first time. Those first moments matter more than we can ever fully measure.

With the growth of recovery programs in our city like the TribaLights intensive outpatient group, *many people now arrive at the Club fresh from treatment, often at a vulnerable and uncertain point in their lives. The way they are greeted, the tone of voice, the sense of welcome, the simple act of being seen, can make the difference between continuing on the path of recovery or turning away. The stakes are real. Addiction is a family disease, affecting spouses, children, and entire communities. When someone finds stability and recovery, the ripple effects are profound.*

**We invite you to support our mission by becoming a member. Thank you!**

## MEETINGS

Click on links or go to [www.friendshipclubsantafe.org](http://www.friendshipclubsantafe.org)

[in person meetings](#)  
[online meetings](#)

### Our newest Meetings

**DA (Debtors Anonymous)**  
Thursdays at 6 p.m. in room

**Gamblers Anonymous**  
Mondays at 6 p.m. in room 3

**MA (Marijuana Anonymous)**  
Tuesdays at 6 p.m. in room 4

**Red Road Recovery**  
Thursdays at 6 p.m. in room 3

### Childcare Opportunities

AA Sunday Morning Group, 9 am.

Young People in AA (lighthouse group), Sunday, 6 pm

### Other Meetings added

NA (*narcotics anonymous*)  
Young People in AA (*lighthouse group*)  
Not Saints Men's Meeting  
Double Winners  
Happy Hour - LIVING SOBER  
CA (*cocaine anonymous*)

Free Thinkers AA  
Recovery Dharma  
AAA (*All Addicts Anonymous*)  
NA hybrid meeting Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in room 4

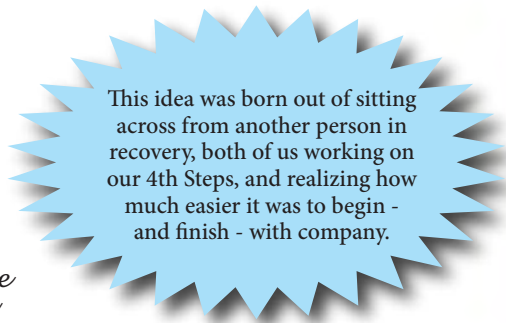
A SUPPORTIVE SPACE TO GET THINGS DONE TOGETHER.

**First Thursdays of the month**  
**1:15 - 3:15 p.m. in room 2**



*No pressure.  
No agenda.  
Just a shared space to take one small step forward.*

Whether it's step work, paperwork, budgeting, reading, homework, opening your mail, or whatever "life on life's terms" looks like right now, it can be easier to begin when we're not doing it alone.



This idea was born out of sitting across from another person in recovery, both of us working on our 4th Steps, and realizing how much easier it was to begin - and finish - with company.

## SPOTLIGHTS



### Service Animals at the Friendship Club



The Friendship Club's mission is "... to provide and maintain a multi-use community center" and "... provide an inviting, supportive environment where people can heal and help one another." This includes considering the needs of the majority of Club and community members who come to meetings and events or to enjoy a safe space and a friendly chat, brightening their day and keeping them on the road to healing.

Many of us have well-loved pets, animals we consider part of our family. They play a significant role in our lives, but not everyone sees them in that light, especially in a community space like the Friendship Club.

Some Friendship Club visitors have allergies that can be triggered by pets brought into the Club; others may have past traumas that make encounters with animals in the club frightening and create a situation where they no longer feel safe in a space that should feel safe for them. Also, pets at meetings can become a distraction to others or the pet may react to the noise and activity around them as stressful; and they may not be able to behave in a way that makes

them a welcome addition during FC activities. Some pets have bowel and bladder issues, resulting in accidents in the club – not a pleasant situation for anyone involved.

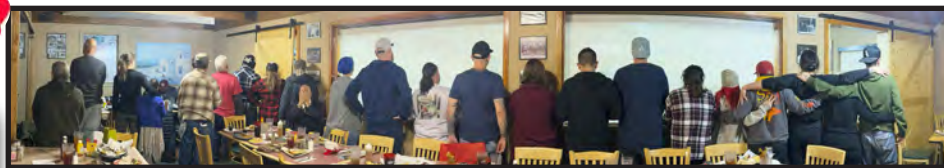
The Friendship Club always welcomes Service Animals, but not other pets. The Americans with Disabilities Act (the ADA) defines a Service Animal as a dog that has been individually trained to do work/perform tasks directly related to a specific person's disability. Emotional support, therapy, comfort, or companion animals are not considered Service Animals.

If you bring a trained Service Animal into the Friendship Club, please let us know by alerting a staff person, and remember you are responsible for supervising your Service Animal. Please be considerate of those club members who have allergies or find dogs frightening by managing your dog accordingly.

A Question-and-Answer Guide is available at the Coffee Bar, and we encourage you to take a look and talk to a staff person should you have questions or concerns.

*Thank you!*

# And More ..



**Want to VOLUNTEER?**  
 JOIN OUR COFFEE BAR TEAM!  
 Coffee Bar Shifts AVAILABLE!  
 SATURDAYS 6 PM  
 WEDNESDAYS 6 PM  
 If interested, speak to Clarissa or Miranda.



## VOLUNTEERS

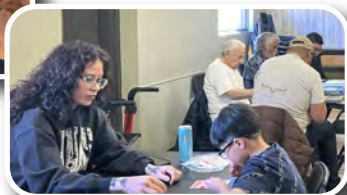
### WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A VOLUNTEER:

*"many hands make light work"*

#### Anyone can volunteer at the Friendship Club!

Most people in early recovery quickly learn the value of SERVICE work and its place in an individual's recovery program. The Friendship Club offers an opportunity and a safe space for people to get involved in service through volunteer work. Volunteer commitments at the Friendship Club can consist of working a coffee bar shift; helping to clean up and tidy around the club;

helping set up and tear down for special events; and several other roles and activities. We serve as an approved entity for those needing to complete mandated Community Service hours. If interested in earning those hours at the Friendship Club., see Volunteer Coordinators Miranda or Clarissa or Sherm A., Executive Director, for more information. 505.982.9040



## The Voice Project

The Friendship Club provides a spacious and safe space for the **Voice Project**, a series of free writing workshops for unhoused

*"This is precisely the time when artists go to work. There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity, no need for silence, no room for fear. We speak, we write, we do language. That is how civilizations heal."*  
 .....Toni Morrison

through the sharing of art and stories. The Voice Project has been honored by the city of Santa Fe and continues

writers. Led by Poet Laureate, Tommy Archuleta, and supported by the Academy of American Poets and local volunteers, the **Voice Project** participants come from Life Link, St. Elizabeth's Shelters, and Agape House, meeting weekly.

They receive supplies to assist in creating their writing and art. Group and individual feedback and encouragement creates a vibrant, interactive atmosphere, building community

to attract a myriad of creative people, who ordinarily would not have this opportunity.

In celebration of National Poetry Month, the Santa Fe Arts and Culture Department and Santa Fe Trails mounted a city-wide exhibition on Santa Fe City Buses, entitled **"Words on Wheels."** Other partners involved in bringing the moving exhibition to life include Swan Quill West, and The Gale Family Foundation.

**For more info:**  
[swanquillwest.com](http://swanquillwest.com)

## Newsletter Update

Our newsletter, now a regular feature of the FC, began with a spark, a fortuitous meeting at a FC Volunteer Appreciation event in the fall of 2024. Marcia R., a talented graphic artist, web designer, and photographer, sat next to Pat D., a retiree with experience writing newsletters. As they became better acquainted, they recognized a need they could achieve together, and the spark for a Friendship Club Newsletter ignited.

They received an enthusiastic response from Mary S. when she was presented with the idea. The first newsletter crew : Marcia R., Pat D., Mary S., and Mario S., met in December 2024 and put together the first issue. Published in January 2025, it received positive feedback from the community, as well as ideas and suggestions for future issues. It was so much fun publishing the first issue, the crew decided to keep going!

They published four more editions through the end of 2025, each one

providing a vivid picture of the daily life of a Club that serves as a center for its members including improvements to the building , ways to volunteer, pictures of fun events, room rental information, updates on new meetings, awards, and fundraisers, messages from the FC staff, jokes, lots of pictures, and acknowledgment of the generous supporters in the community that help keep our doors open.

This issue is Volume 2, Issue 2; we have started our second year! Two more "Newsletter Collaborators," Miranda F. and Clarissa S. joined us in our goal of publishing quarterly, with future plans to publish in Spanish. We enthusiastically invite feedback, questions, ideas, jokes, quotes - whatever you think would be of interest to the Friendship Club community.

And thank you for all the positive feedback. Our newsletter group keeps getting better and better, and it is a joy to work together.

## SPOTLIGHT

**RENACER CELEBRATED SOBRIETY ANNIVERSARIES**  
April 1, 2026 at The Friendship Club

**RENACER CELEBRA ANIVERSARIOS DE SOBRIEDAD**  
1 de abril del 2026

Folks came from Los Lunas to Espanola to celebrate AA Renacer members who had achieved one to five years of sobriety. From 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm sixty-eight exuberant people shared stories, ate, sang karaoke, danced, hugged, and cheered! Honored that night: Roberto/ 1 year; Alfredo/ 3 years; Jovan/ 4 years; Clarissa/ 4 years; and Alvaro/ 5 years. CONGRATULATIONS!

Through the efforts of Alvaro, Clarissa, and Miguel word has spread throughout District 17 that Renacer groups have wonderful celebrations at the Friendship Club to honor sobriety birthdays. Each birthday celebrant brings food (a lot!) expressing gratitude, and generously supplemented by additional contributions. The night started with heartfelt stories from honored speakers and continued with food, conversation, laughter, dancing, and music provided by DJ Jose Luis.

Clarissa S., essential and loved volunteer and organizer for Renacer and the Friendship Club, described the event as a symbol of the unity and support for and by members of Renacer groups in District 17. The place was packed with emotions and joy by those who think of Renacer as a 'second home.' The underlying message of the night was one of inclusion, family, motivation, keep going, you're not alone, and how to party in sobriety!

Renacer exemplifies the belief that the AA message can be passed on in any language, anywhere. The next celebration will be in June and everyone, no matter who you are or what language you speak, is always warmly welcomed at meetings and parties, which are held upstairs in the Friendship Club.

Thank you to everyone who showed up and made the night a roaring success, amid an atmosphere of caring and hope. *Happy twenty-four hours!*

Personas llegaron desde Los Lunas hasta Española para celebrar a los miembros de Renacer que alcanzaron de uno a cinco años de sobriedad. De 7:30 pm a 10:30 pm, sesenta y ocho personas llenas de alegría compartieron historias, comieron, cantaron karaoke, bailaron, se abrazaron y celebraron. Los homenajeados de esa noche fueron: Roberto/ 1 año; Alfredo/ 3 años; Jovan/ 4 años; Clarissa/ 4 años; y Álvaro/ 5 años. ¡FELICIDADES!

Gracias al esfuerzo de Álvaro, Clarissa y Miguel, se ha corrido la voz por todo el Distrito 17 de que los grupos Renacer realizan maravillosas celebraciones en el Friendship Club para honrar los aniversarios de sobriedad. Cada festejado trae comida (¡mucho!) como muestra de gratitud, complementada generosamente por contribuciones adicionales. La noche comenzó con conmovedoras historias de los oradores homenajeados y continuó con comida, conversación, risas, baile y música proporcionada por DJ Jose Luis.

Clarissa S., voluntaria y organizadora esencial y querida de Renacer y del Friendship Club, describió el evento como un símbolo de la unidad y el apoyo entre y para los miembros de los grupos Renacer del Distrito 17. El lugar estuvo lleno de emociones y alegría a por parte de quienes consideran a Renacer como un "segundo hogar." El mensaje principal de la noche fue de inclusión, familia, motivación, seguir adelante, no estás solo y ¡cómo divertirse en sobriedad!

Renacer ejemplifica la creencia de que el mensaje de AA puede transmitirse en cualquier idioma y en cualquier lugar. La próxima celebración será en junio y todos, sin importar quién seas o qué idioma hables, siempre son bienvenidos cálidamente a las reuniones y fiestas, las cuales se llevan a cabo en el piso de arriba del Friendship Club.

Gracias a todos los que asistieron e hicieron de la noche un éxito rotundo, en un ambiente de cariño y esperanza. ¡Felices veinticuatro horas!



# MESSAGES and UPDATES



**MARY S.,** Board President

I'm grateful to serve on the Board of the Friendship Club, a place that means so much to our community. Watching the Club grow and welcome newcomers has been a privilege, and I'm inspired by the volunteers, members, and attendees who make it feel like home.



**SHERMAN A.,**  
Executive Director  
We continue to thrive and grow, offering support to those in recovery.



**MIRANDA F.,** Friendship Club Champion and Superstar

I'm so happy for my new life of sobriety and the home I have at the club, that I'm able to help others,



**CLARISSA S.,** Aide-de-Camp (Go-To Person)

"I'm Mexican, I'll figure it out"

*Thank You!*



**Save the Date!** **SATURDAY**  
**SEPTEMBER 26**  
Recovery Day Celebration and the  
Friendship Club's 47th Anniversary



Stay tuned for the story of amethyst and sobriety

## Coming Soon!

### Jon Henry McDonald Concert



The Friendship Club of Santa Fe welcomes John Henry McDonald

"A Contemporary Will Rogers: Raconteur, comedian, old-timey blues-folk singer/songwriter with a plain-speaking honesty and self-effacing humor."

**Sunday • July 19**  
**3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

### Please Donate

**THANK YOU!**



The Friendship Club continues to need your donations. Please consider making a one time donation, or setting up a recurring donation by clicking the button above or go to our website: [www.friendshipclubsantafe.org](http://www.friendshipclubsantafe.org)

Tax ID 85-0324089.

Alternatively you can mail a check to: The Friendship Club of Santa Fe, PO Box 6723, Santa Fe, 87502.

## THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

CHRISTUS Fund  
Del Norte LOV Foundation  
Doris G. Walbridge Fund  
Enterprise Bank and Trust  
Evercore  
Century Bank  
Frost Foundation  
General Mailing  
and Shipping Systems, Inc.  
Hutton Broadcasting  
Manny Gallegos  
New Experiences  
Counseling & Consultation,  
Tiffany Wynn, PhD, LPCC

Nusenda  
Plaza Cafe  
Santa Fe Community Foundation  
St. Bede's Episcopal Church  
State Employees Credit Union  
The Church of Holy Faith  
The Pantry Dos  
The Ranch House  
Unity Church  
United Way Central NM  
**AND EVERY MEMBER of the FC**



# DID YOU KNOW ???

EVERY THIRD  
SATURDAY  
2 - 4 PM



**FUN! FRIENDS! PRIZES! SNACKS! and more!**



The Friendship Club is host of the *DWI Victim Impact Panel*, which is designed for individuals who are required to attend by court order, due to a DWI. Volunteers share their stories of how driving while impaired had a negative impact on their life. The purpose of the panel is to pre-

vent future DWI offenses – by creating awareness of the consequences of driving while impaired. We invite you to share your story about being involved in a DWI or how alcohol has impacted your life. Please reach out to Sherman, Mary, Miranda or Clarissa at the Friendship Club if you are willing to tell your story at a DWI Panel. Thank you!

### MEETING SCHEDULE

The English Panel is the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in room 4.

The Spanish Panel is the second Wednesday, bi-monthly, at 6:00 p.m. in room 4.

Attend in-person at The Friendship Club or virtually via ZOOM.

## REMEMBER TO VOTE



EVERY  
SATURDAY  
6:00 - 7:00 PM  
room 1



CALLING  
ALL  
ADDICTS!

Thank you for supporting our local recovery centers with safe and sustainable products

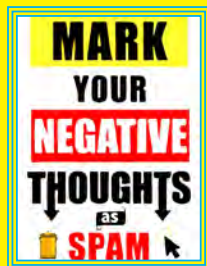
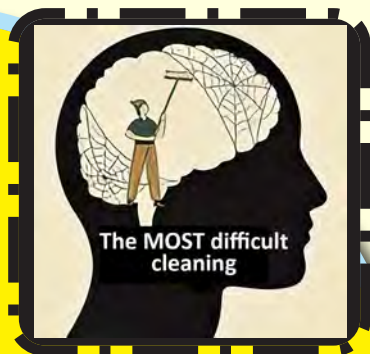
The Friendship Club  
Agape House  
Santa Fe Recovery Center



Wait...  
There's  
More!



Joining AA is like updating your software -admit you have bugs, then spend years trying to fix them.



The devil wouldn't be attacking you so hard if there wasn't something valuable inside of you. Thieves don't break into empty houses. Read that again.





**Newsletter**  
Volume 2 Issue 2  
**June**  
**2026**



Suicide Prevention Hotline  
**988**

Please use this number if needed  
and also pass on to others.

**Contact Us**

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**Our Mission**

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**YOU MATTER**

**In Memoriam**

“Those we love don’t go away; they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near; still loved, still missed and very dear.”



.... *anonymous*

**Look inside for resources and the latest news!**

If you would like to receive the Friendship Club newsletter via email please contact us with your request and email address:  
info@friendshipclubsantafe.org

**Questions, Ideas, and More?**

*We value your input*

We have Friendship Club shirts for volunteers working the coffee bar. People sometimes ask, “How much can I buy one for?” The answer is simple: you can’t buy one; it has to be earned. That shirt quietly says, “This person is doing the work.” Sometimes it even inspires others to step up and become part of the team themselves. If you are reading this newsletter, there is a very good chance that at some point, you have been the face of the Friendship Club for somebody else. How’s that going for you?



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Santa Fe, NM 87505



*Seven days a week, meetings are held (over 50 each week) ensuring that individuals in recovery and seeking recovery have access to support and companionship.*