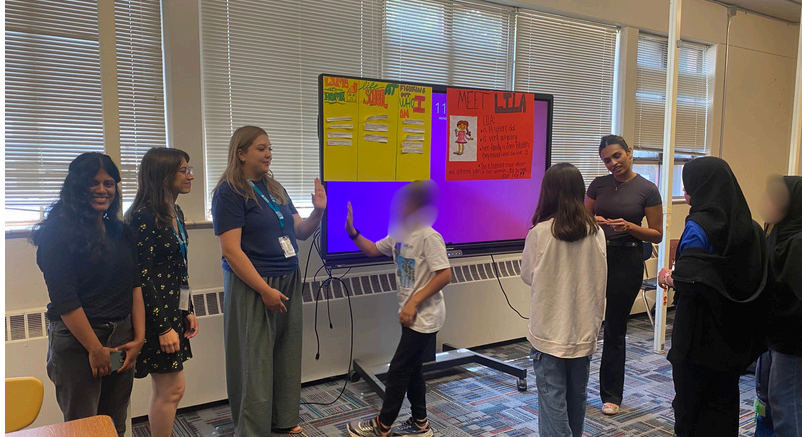


UVNR NEWSLETTER

Summer in Albuquerque is hot, just like our passion for supporting newcomers. This August, we've been busy making an impact in our community, from celebrating the success of the APS Newcomer Summer School graduation, to engaging with the media and strengthening partnerships through coalition meetings. We also hosted mental health training sessions to make sure our community is responsive and equipped to meet the needs of those we serve. Keep reading to learn more about these exciting initiatives and what's coming next!



**Donate
today and
make a
difference!**



UVNR in the Spotlight on KUNM!

We're proud to share that **Mariana Santos Lezama**, our Spanish Community Advocate, and **Danielle Parker**, Co-Executive Director, recently spoke on KUNM about advocacy for newcomer communities during the critical time.

Their conversation spotlighted community-led support, inclusive policy, and the need to spread knowledge, not fear.

Listen to the full interview at www.kunm.org by clicking the **UVNR and KUNM Interview** button below.



Discover the Real Albuquerque with Litzy Miranda, UVNR Spanish Community Advocate

Experience Albuquerque in 60 seconds through the voice of Litzy as she highlights a vibrant city that honors Native lands and uplifts community voices.

🎧 Watch now on One Albuquerque Media by clicking the **Discover the Real Albuquerque** button below!





REFRAME Coalition Meeting and Mental Health Training



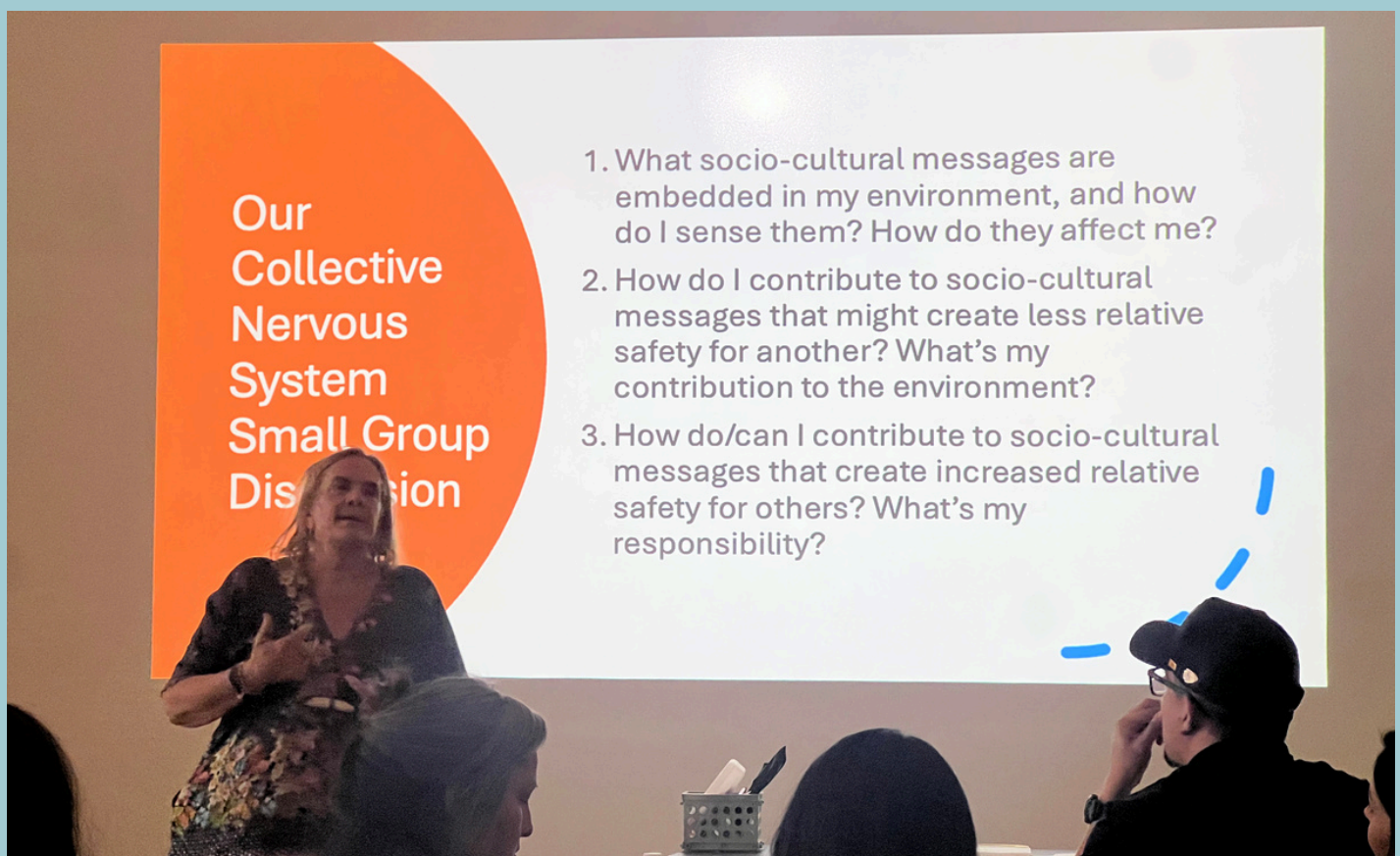
On July 18, UVNR gathered in partnership with Centro Savila and community members for a deeply grounding and interactive session focused on building resilience, connection, and care—both for ourselves and for the newcomer communities we support. As refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers continue to face uncertainty, we came together to explore how collective wisdom and community care can be a powerful response.

We were honored to have Dr. Amber Elizabeth Gray and Dr. Bill Wagner from Centro Savila share their knowledge and wisdom with us, enriching our conversation and deepening our practices.

Please stay tuned for our next coalition meeting on September 18th, 3:30 pm -5 pm, where we will gather in the community to share evaluation updates on our federal SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) grant focused on community healing and resilience. All are welcome, with more details to follow!

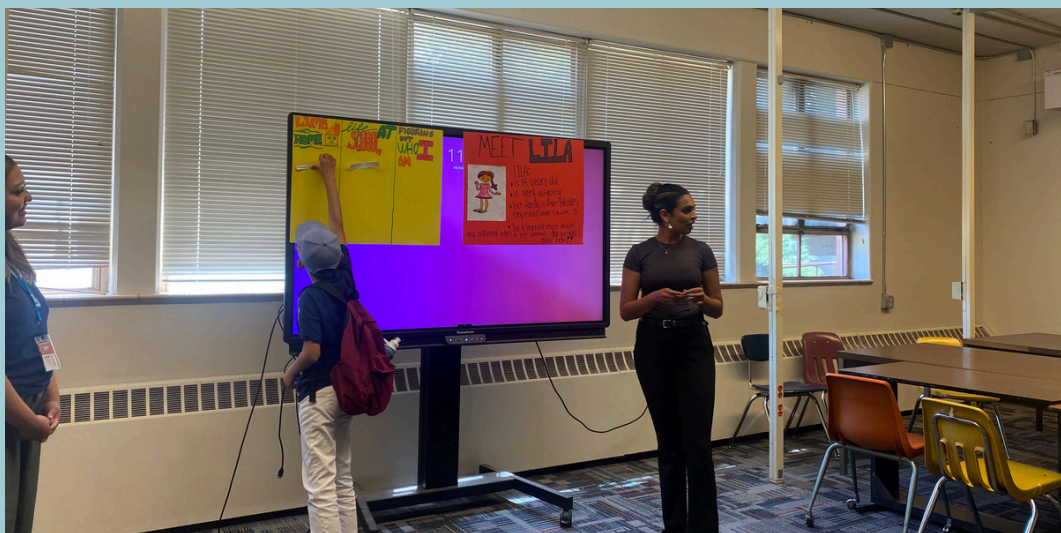
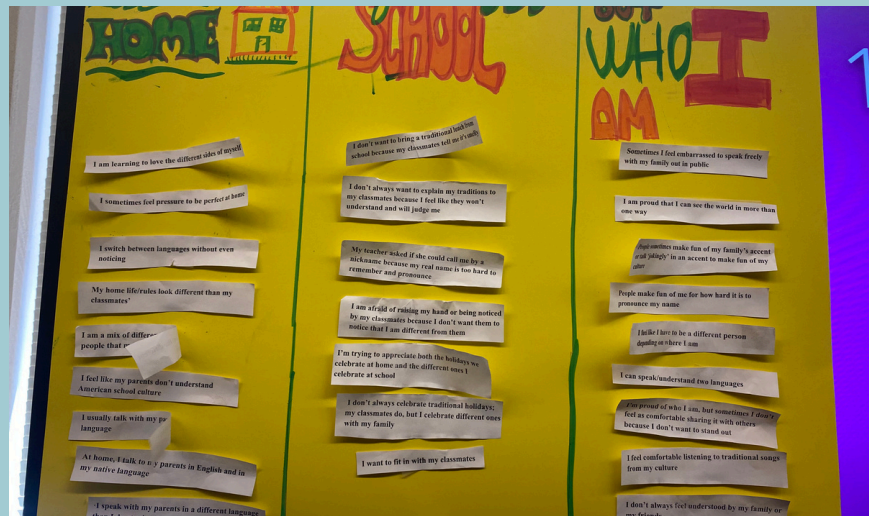
Key Highlights from the REFRAME Coalition meeting:

- Practicing self-regulation and co-regulation techniques
- Embracing our personal and cultural tools for mental health
- Building capacity to support one another through change
- Identifying resources in our communities and how to engage with them
- Understanding the barriers communities may face in reaching these resources
- Sharing how to feel prepared in your work setting to combat systemic fears



APS NEWCOMER SUMMER PROGRAM 2025 AND GRADUATION

This summer, APS newcomer students celebrated a joyful graduation after 6 weeks of learning and growth, sharing their achievements with family and friends. UVNR supported the program by leading sessions, partnering with community groups, and providing interpretation, especially during graduation. We helped create space for students to explore identity, self-esteem, and belonging. APS and its Refugee and Newcomer Supports Program (RNSP) are building a more inclusive future for all students. Learn more at the RNSP website.



YCAC Cohort 3 Recruitment

Our newcomer youth program, YCAC (Youth Community Advisory Council), will be up and running again!

📄 A flyer with full program details is available below.
(also available in: Dari, Pashto, Spanish, Arabic, Kinyarwanda, and Swahili)

✅ Scan the QR code on the flyer below
or click the **YCAC Registration Form**.

Let's build leadership and advocacy—together.



Youth Community Advisory Council Recruitment



- 12–24 years old
- Speak more than one language such as Arabic, Swahili, Dari, Pashto, Kirundi, Kinyarwanda, Spanish, and many more
- Can attend monthly meetings in person
- Have access to transportation to the program site

APPLY Here!



PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Completion and appreciation will be awarded at the end of the program
- Certificate of Participation
- Hands-on experience in leadership, advocacy, community organizing, and making new friends!

Are you a passionate young leader ready to uplift your community and inspire change?

Join YCAC a space for newcomer youth to lead conversations around mental health, cultural identity, and community improvement. Together, we'll grow, learn, and make a real difference!

DURATION
August 2025–
May 2026

PROGRAM DETAILS



When: Every 3rd Saturday of the month

Time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: Details will be shared upon acceptance

WHAT TO EXPECT IN OUR MONTHLY YCAC SESSIONS

- Cultural exchange & mutual learning
- Community service and Team building
- Fun engaging activities, speakers, snacks and much more!

APPLICATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 4, 2025

COMMUNITY PARTNER

Umoja ABQ



Umoja ABQ is a women-led grassroots group empowering refugee and immigrant women in Albuquerque through language classes, health workshops, and community support.

Their ESL classes with live interpretation and DRIVE Program remove barriers to mobility and employment, helping women build confidence and independence.

Umoja also offers culturally tailored health workshops, job training, leadership development, and trauma-informed mentorship. By centering refugee women's voices, Umoja strengthens the community.

🤝 UVNR is proud to partner with Umoja ABQ.

Learn more at umojaabq.org.

VENDOR SPOTLIGHT

El Chamo Arabe



El Chamo Arabe serves authentic Venezuelan and Mediterranean dishes—shawarma, arepas, falafel, baba ghanoush—in a warm, welcoming space.

A local favorite, it's a hub for Albuquerque's newcomer community, offering comfort, connection, and the taste of home.

📍 5017 Menaul Blvd NE
🌐 elchamoarabenm.com



APS International High School

Opening August, 2025

Now enrolling 9th & 10th Grade students for the 25-26 school year.

Our goal is for students to understand, speak, read and write English to be successful in college and careers.

Small School

Small Classes

Supportive Teachers

Multilingual Staff

Students Served: Recently-arrived Multilingual English Learners (ELs) from across the city.

Location: APS International is located in Downtown Albuquerque at 601 4th St. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

Buses: The school will provide regional buses with a few super stops in high enrollment neighborhoods.

Sports/Extracurricular: Students can participate in teams and activities at their local high school.

We have high expectations for ALL students with high levels of student support.

School Model

English Language Development Everyone learns English while learning math, science, social studies, and in other classes.	Hands-on Learning Classes are taught through hands-on projects that focus on solving real world problems.
Positive Community Culture A safe and caring space rooted in the strengths of multilingual cultures for students to be celebrated to grow and learn.	Community Based Learning Students learn in partnership with the community including community service, job shadows, internships and community change projects.
College and Career Guidance ALL students will be exposed to college and career options and guided through the process to meet their individual goals for life after high school.	Family Engagement and Services The APS International Welcome Center , co-located with the school, will have multilingual staff dedicated to assisting families with registration, resources and referrals while supporting family engagement.

To start student registration process, complete this form:

<https://bit.ly/APSInternationalHS>

For more information contact: Newcomer.Program@aps.edu





Escuela preparatoria internacional de APS

Abriendo agosto 2025

Inscribiendo estudiantes de 9º y 10º grados para el año escolar 25-26

Nuestro objetivo es que los estudiantes comprendan, hablen, lean y escriban inglés para tener éxito en la universidad y en sus carreras.

Escuela pequeña Clases pequeñas Maestros de apoyo Personal multilingüe

Estudiantes atendidos: Estudiantes multilingües recién llegados de toda la ciudad.

Ubicación: APS International está ubicado en el centro de Albuquerque, 601 4th St. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

Autobuses: La escuela proporcionará autobuses/camiones regionales.

Deportes/Extracurriculares: Los estudiantes pueden participar en equipos y actividades en su escuela preparatoria local.

Tenemos altas expectativas para TODOS los estudiantes con altos niveles de apoyo estudiantil.

Modelo de escuela

Desarrollo del idioma inglés Todos aprenden inglés mientras aprenden matemáticas, ciencias, estudios sociales y en otras clases.	Aprendizaje práctico Las clases se imparten a través de proyectos prácticos que se centran en resolver problemas del mundo real.
Cultura comunitaria positiva Un espacio seguro y solidario arraigado en las fortalezas de las culturas multilingües para que los estudiantes sean celebrados para crecer y aprender.	Aprendizaje basado en la comunidad Los estudiantes aprenden en asociación con la comunidad, incluido el servicio comunitario, observación laboral, pasantías y proyectos de cambio comunitario.
Orientación universitaria y profesional TODOS los estudiantes estarán expuestos a opciones universitarias y profesionales y serán guiados a través del proceso para alcanzar sus metas individuales para la vida después de la escuela secundaria.	Servicios y participación familiar El Centro de Bienvenida Internacional de APS, ubicado junto a la escuela, contará con personal multilingüe dedicado a ayudar a las familias con la inscripción, los recursos y las referencias, al mismo tiempo que apoya la participación familiar.

Para iniciar el proceso de inscripción de estudiantes, complete este formulario:

<https://bit.ly/APSInternationalHS>

Para más información contacte: Newcomer.Program@aps.edu

