

Chancellor Weekly Brief – 9.24.2020

Dr. James Malm

SMALL BUSINESS CHAMPIONS.

The quality of life we enjoy in Gallup is directly impacted by the hundreds of small businesses in our city--and the over 30 million small businesses nationally--that provide the services and products we enjoy. Perhaps more than ever before, it is so important to celebrate and acknowledge the essential contributions small business owners make to our community each day.

Here at UNM-Gallup, we proudly join with our Small Business Development Center (SBDC) in celebrating the 2020 National Small Business Week that concludes this Saturday. As part of this celebration, I encourage you to support our business community this weekend and throughout the year by shopping local.

Also, our congratulations go out to Cyndi Jarvison and the SBDC at UNM-Gallup. This past Tuesday, Cyndi was named as the 2020 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year during the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) award celebration. Our SBDC was also recognized with the Small Business Development Center Excellence and Innovation award. We are so proud of the work Cyndi and our SBDC does on behalf of our local community each day—and these awards truly speak to the level of support and innovation provided to small business owners in our area who critically need assistance during this pandemic.

Since joining the SBDC in 2015, Cyndi has focused her outreach to serve groups that are more specialized. Veterans, women, and minority-owned businesses are just a few that she has focused her outreach efforts on to ensure that they are aware of how to access valuable resources and capital. Cyndi has also taken many businesses to federal, state, and local government procurement levels with the guiding principle that entrepreneurship will lead many within our region out of poverty. Her dedication to helping small businesses succeed, improving lives, and creating jobs locally is to be admired by all.

Our kudos are also extended to John Warren--owner of Navajo In Sight Technology--who received the 2020 Minority-Owned Small Business of the Year award. John was born in Gallup, raised in Phoenix, and returned home over 25 years ago with the intention of bringing the knowledge he acquired in the fiber optics field to our area. He started Navajo In Sight Technology in 2015 with the help of the SBDC at UNM-Gallup.

I truly believe that our SBDC is among the critical pillars we have at UNM-Gallup to teach and develop a great workforce for our community. It also helps fulfill our mission to prepare people to achieve their educational and professional goals--with respect for the traditions and values of the many groups we serve.

Our congratulations, once again, to Cyndi, John, and our SBDC for the wonderful recognition during this special week. And, to our UNM-Gallup community: Please stay safe and be well.

Best Regards,



Office of the Chancellor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Malm'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

Dr. James R. Malm, Chancellor
Professor of Business