What We Do

The APEL team commits to assisting communities and organizations in planning and achieving their programmatic goals and contributing to the health and social well-being of communities throughout New Mexico.

We provide expertise to develop sound interventions and conduct community assessment and program evaluation projects that rely on participatory research, integrate community perspectives and inform practical programmatic decisions.
The UNM College of Population Health (COPH) Assessment, Planning and Evaluation Lab (APEL) team consists of practitioners and researchers with expertise in health assessment, program planning and evaluation, community-based participatory research, research design, qualitative and quantitative methods, and reporting and dissemination through both scientific and non-scientific venues.

The COPH academic program includes the Bachelor of Science in Population Health and the Master in Public Health. Both programs emphasize practical, service learning experiences. Undergraduate and graduate students are available to assist with contractual requirements.

Consistent with the mission of the UNM College of Population Health, the APEL team commits to assist communities and organizations in planning and achieving their programmatic goals, and to contribute to the health and social wellbeing of communities throughout New Mexico.

We have extensive experience in collaborating with both Hispanic/Latino and Native American communities, and working with a variety of state, local, and tribal agencies and organizations.

Expertise

- Developing multilevel, socio-ecological perspectives that consider historical, cultural, and other contextual factors.
- Implementing participatory, context-specific approaches, methodologies and tools that build organizational capacity and ensure data quality.
- Integrating logic and planning models and theoretical frameworks that provide sound structure to interventions and facilitate evaluation.
- Identifying primary and secondary data sources and reliable indicators at the process, impact, and outcome levels.
- Adhering to ethical standards that ensure professional and research integrity and protect the rights of participants and stakeholders.
- Producing high quality reports that include specific recommendations for stakeholders.
- Developing scientific manuscripts suitable for peer-reviewed publications.

Training & Mentorship

Aligning academic goals with practice, students have the opportunity to work collaboratively with faculty on public health research and evaluation projects. Research assistantships offer opportunities to develop qualitative and quantitative knowledge and technical skills including trained on commonly used data collection tools such as RedCap.