



SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Invited to Help Shape the Future of Southwestern College

Public invited to interactive “Data Walk” to engage community voices in an exploration of regional needs, opportunities, and impact.

Santa Fe, NM — Southwestern College (SWC) is inviting its Santa Fe neighbors, behavioral health, education, and nonprofit professionals; elected officials, and all interested area residents to its campus on Santa Fe’s Southside to participate in a Community Data Walk on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, from 5:30–7:30 p.m. in the Art Therapy Classroom Building, 3960 San Felipe Road.

This interactive, drop-in event offers a unique opportunity to engage with real data about behavioral health, higher education, and community needs in Northern New Mexico and to offer your voice and ideas to help shape SWC’s future direction. The college is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its founding throughout 2026, and now, with behavioral health workforce shortages in New Mexico, your input is critical.

All are welcome. Guests may arrive and depart at any time during the event.

RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/SWCDDataWalk> or thomchesney@swc.edu

What is a Data Walk?

A Data Walk transforms complex information into an engaging, experiential, visual experience with facilitated dialogue. Participants will move through a series of stations presenting key insights about Southwestern College, Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the broader landscape of behavioral health and higher education. Participants will explore questions such as:

- How and with whom can Southwestern College deepen its community partnerships and impact across its 6.5-acre campus, much of which is undeveloped?
- What opportunities exist to better serve unmet behavioral health and educational needs for our city and state?
- What barriers to educational access, affordability, and attainment should SWC address?

Why This Matters

A consciousness-centered, nationally accredited graduate institution, Southwestern College prepares professionals in counseling, art therapy, and transformational leadership—fields essential to addressing national mental health and societal needs. Through its education offerings and community-based counseling center, Tierra Nueva, SWC serves individuals across Northern New Mexico, including those who might otherwise not have access to care. The public’s voice can help ensure Southwestern’s future aligns with the region’s evolving needs and will inform campus development, program expansion, and partnerships.

What Participants Can Expect

- A welcoming, informal environment with guided reflection prompts
- Visual displays highlighting local and regional data, trends, and institutional priorities
- Opportunities to share insights individually and in small groups
- Conversations about equity, access, partnerships, and the future of higher education and behavioral health

Event Details

Community Data Walk

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

5:30–7:30 p.m. (drop-in format)

Southwestern College, Art Therapy Classroom Building

3960 San Felipe Rd., Santa Fe, NM 87507

Free parking is available onsite and next door at Tierra Nueva Counseling Center.

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About Southwestern College

Southwestern College (SWC) is a consciousness-based graduate school in Santa Fe, NM, offering Master of Arts degrees and a Doctoral program. SWC offers professional certificate programs accredited by the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) to provide Continuing Education for clinical counselors and operates a public behavioral healthcare agency, Tierra Nueva Counseling Center, serving individuals, families, and groups in the Santa Fe community. Founded in 1976, Southwestern College is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC); additionally, its two Art Therapy degrees, the MA in Art Therapy/ Counseling and the MA in Art Therapy for Clinical Professionals, are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).

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