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Comments:

Hello County Commissioners. I have received a copy of your letter to Mr. Patrick Torres dated May 11, 2020 proposing a budget cut of 30% for the Sandoval County Extension Service.

I am the child of a former Santa Fe County Extension Home Agent and was a 4-H member myself. I learned firsthand the benefits of participating in 4-H programs, as well as the benefits my Mother brought to her Extension Club members.

I learned how to multitask; became a junior leader for my 4-H Club; planned, prepared, and set up window displays for National 4-H Club Week in a local department store. I enjoyed the benefit of attending a Citizenship short course at the National 4-H Foundation Center in Washington D.C. and reinforced what it means to be a US citizen.

During the current troubling times of societal exclusions, the proposed budget cut would affect 14% of our County population who are Native Americans. A reduction to the County Extension Service programs would significantly reduce their opportunities to learn and grow, as well as impose a direct negative impact to the Jemez Valley economy through their canning service.

4-H helps youth develop a sense of responsibility and service to community. Life skills are built into 4-H projects, activities and events helping these young people become contributing, productive, self-directed members of this great nation.

I have actively engaged in volunteering time to 4-H events for the last seven years. This has been a great pleasure to carry on my Mother's legacy. It can only be accomplished with full funding. Please reconsider the proposed budget cut.

Respectfully,
Gloria Brooks

