



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
Governor

DR. TRACIE C. COLLINS, M.D.
Cabinet Secretary

Immediate Release

April 14, 2021

Department of Health Secretary Dr. Tracie Collins to testify before U.S. Senate subcommittee

*Hearing focused on New Mexico's efforts to share accurate, timely information
about vaccine safety & encourage vaccinations*

Santa Fe--On Thursday, April 15th, at 8:00 am Mountain Time, New Mexico Secretary of Health Dr. Tracie Collins will testify before the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation, Subcommittee on Communications, Media, and Broadband. The hearing is entitled "Shot of Truth: Communicating Trusted Vaccine Information" and can be viewed [here](#).

Dr. Collins will discuss New Mexico's efforts to disseminate accurate, timely information about vaccine safety to rural areas and communities of color - as well as to encourage more New Mexicans to get vaccinated.

"In New Mexico currently, more than 55% of the population has received at least one shot, and approximately 36% are fully vaccinated. Thanks to our state's vaccine equity plan, this includes high proportions of minority and socially vulnerable communities," said Dr. Collins.

"A key component to our success is involving the voices of New Mexicans from across the state. We understand that persuasion is built on trust - and that trust is often built on shared experiences. During the past year, we held numerous virtual town hall events and launched our [Trusted Voices](#) campaign, which proved essential to continuing honest dialogue within our communities. These programs,

coupled with translating COVID-19 materials into many languages at appropriate health literacy levels, are invaluable in building vaccine confidence.”

For more information, please visit the [committee's website](#).

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