



New Mexico Department of  
Finance & Administration

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 7, 2021

**DFA Appoints Shanna Sasser as Rural & Frontier Ombudsman for the State of  
New Mexico**

*Will optimize opportunities for our rural and frontier communities*

SANTA FE – The Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) on Tuesday announced the appointment of Shanna Sasser as the Rural & Frontier Ombudsman for the State of New Mexico. Ms. Sasser’s main objectives will be to foster relationships and partner with all communities, state and federal agencies, legislature, Council of Government, Association of Counties, New Mexico Municipal League, and key stakeholders on addressing the challenges and optimizing the opportunities for our rural and frontier communities.

“Secretary Romero and myself look forward to working with Shanna on our continued efforts to improve the rural and frontier communities. Ms. Sasser brings with her an abundance of knowledge that will positively impact the members of our community,” said DFA Local Government Division Director Donnie Quintana.

With years of experience working with under-served and diverse student populations, Sasser has built up her knowledge of how to successfully advocate for those within rural communities. Sasser will continue utilizing her positive working relationships to foster all upcoming collaborative initiatives to benefit rural and frontier communities.

Sasser holds a Doctorate in Higher Education Leadership from New Mexico State University, as well as a Master of Arts in Higher Education Administration from the University of Hawaii and a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from the University of West Florida.

##

Baylee Rawson, DFA Public Information Officer, [baylee.rawson1@state.nm.us](mailto:baylee.rawson1@state.nm.us)