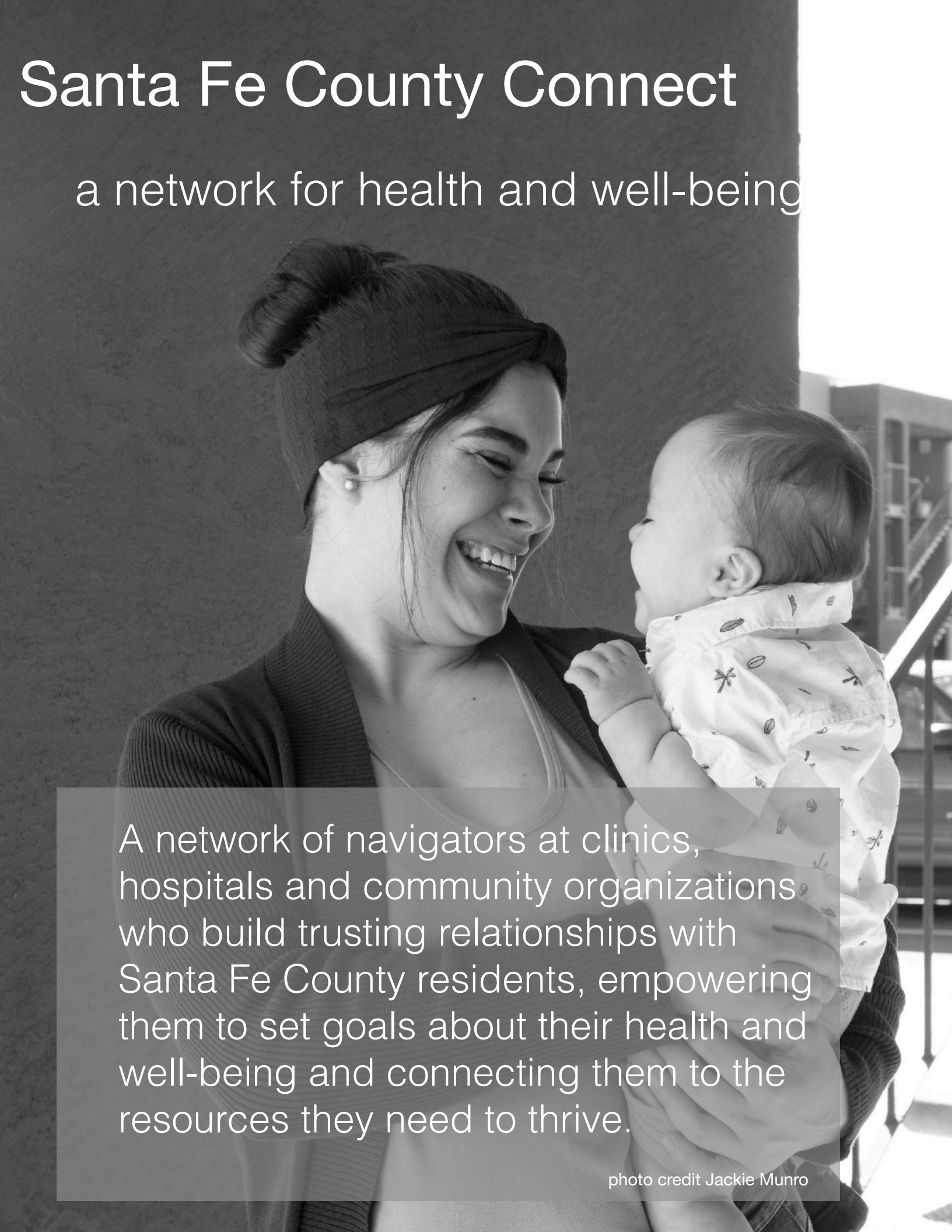


# Santa Fe County Connect

a network for health and well-being



A network of navigators at clinics, hospitals and community organizations who build trusting relationships with Santa Fe County residents, empowering them to set goals about their health and well-being and connecting them to the resources they need to thrive.

photo credit Jackie Munro

## SAYRA'S STORY

Before I became a mom, I was lost. Even though I “had it all,” an apartment, a job and independence, I still felt like something was missing. A new journey was waiting for me. I didn't realize I would meet the love of my life. La Familia Medical Center confirmed it. I was eight weeks pregnant and they recommended that I start taking prenatal vitamins right away. I lost my boyfriend, but nothing else mattered, only my baby. I joined the expecting mothers group at La Familia.

Giving birth is no easy task. At the end of those 36 hours I met my son. A little person I had so anticipated to meet, and now I was holding him in my arms. Ezequiel was born prematurely and literally had to fight for his life. He is my little warrior: I am strong for him and he is strong for me. Soon after bringing Ezequiel home, I became homeless. I was living with family, but it wasn't a safe environment for us, so I moved into a shelter. La Familia connected me with United Way. I enrolled in the First Born program and met my home visitor Thais and things started to change for me. Now I work with Annai, a navigator at United Way.



*I dealt with post-partum depression, and sometimes it felt like a storm was coming for me. Being a single mother is difficult but I'm sure that with all the support and love from Santa Fe County Connect, Ezequiel, and most importantly, God, I can do anything and accomplish my goals.*


-Sayra

photo credit Sayra



Thais and Annai have given me quality care and genuine support, building a professional relationship. I have their advice, encouragement, kindness and respect.

Annai connected me to Youth Shelters and they helped me get a safe apartment. Now my siblings spend a lot of time with us. My brother is such a good male role model for my son. Annai has also helped me in becoming more organized and setting and accomplishing goals. At the beginning, I was unsure of how to care for a baby with Down Syndrome. The ongoing services from Las Cumbres have supported me in being the best mom I can be.



*The ongoing services from  
Las Cumbres have  
supported me in being the  
best mom I can be.*

*-Sayra*

Sayra's story is one of resilience and hope. It also illustrates the vision of Santa Fe County Connect that all county residents regardless of income have access to high-quality health care and are linked to the resources they need for health and well-being.

The Story Telling Project tells the stories of three individuals with text, photos and short videos that capture their experiences with navigation services from organizations in the Santa Fe County Connect network. Focus groups of navigators and people who have experienced navigation services convened to review materials, messages and develop language they felt effectively captured the intent of Santa Fe County Connect.

Listening and learning have helped to shape the narrative and identity of Santa Fe County Connect. Community engagement has many forms and we look forward to integrating more opportunities for people who are enrolled in the program to influence and guide the program to better serve residents of Santa Fe County.



*We, or someone we know, are one circumstance away from benefiting from Santa Fe County Connect.*

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