## Central Community College, Las Madrugadoras donates to the school scholarship

Roberta Ricci spoke to the Los Madrugadoras CPI in March for Credit Education Month. CNM is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. This year's presentation reviewed the past 50 years of excellence CNM has delivered to the community of central New Mexico. The transition from TVI to CNM has been in response to both community and industry needs.

CNM began in the summer of 1965. Today, CNM has 7 campuses across central New Mexico, as well as the new STEMulus Center that is housed in Downtown Albuquerque. CNM offers over 100 certificate and degree programs. The average age of CNM students is 29 years old; 69% are part-time students and 57% are minorities.

CNM has worked hard to develop strong relationships with Albuquerque Public Schools, Rio Rancho Public Schools and the University of New Mexico, helping students transition from high school all the way through a four-year institution.

Since its inception, CNM has discontinued 47 programs and added 26 in order to adapt the changes in the workforce and educational initiatives. CNM is proud to say it helps transfer 3,000 students each year to UNM. We also serve over 2,000 students throughout the year that are enrolled in a 4-year institution, but prefer to take courses also at CNM.

There is a national trend of young individuals ages 18-24 that are not attending school, nor working. This is more prominent with our male students. This is a huge concern because 61% of jobs will require a certificate or degree by the year 2020. CNM has committed to graduate 20,000 students by 2020. For every dollar the average student invests in CNM, they receive a \$4.30 increase in their lifetime income. CNM Students graduate with less debt – 78% of CNM students graduate with no student loan debt.

CNM is now offering a fast-track business degree program as well as its first completely on-line liberal arts degree program.

Thank you again. We are grateful for your friendship and support of CNM.

Sincerely,

## **Roberta Ricci**

Director of Development CNM Foundation 525 Buena Vista Dr. SE Albuquerque, NM 87106 (505) 224-4641 - Direct (505) 224-4711 - Fax rricci1@cnm.edu