

# **New Mexico Agrarian Commons Values Statement**

## **The Commons**

The New Mexico Agrarian Commons (The Commons) will collectively practice the responsible stewardship of land, water, soil, and other material resources with an emphasis on regenerative, non-extractive practices. The governance of The Commons will reflect community control, transparency, and open source sharing of traditional and innovative knowledge. The Commons is committed to continued learning, creativity and collaboration.

The Commons seeks to establish the permanent decommodification of land within its trust, and will steward and protect its acquisitions from speculative markets in perpetuity.

The Commons understands that communities have been displaced due to the practices of colonialism, slavery, institutional racism, and patriarchal stratification, and that many people have been disenfranchised and disconnected from their relationship with land, nature, and opportunities for self-reliance.

The Commons recognizes the inherent benefit of land stewardship, and intends to create a mechanism to support restorative justice, mental wellbeing, food security, regenerative agriculture, and environmentalism.

## **Transparency**

The Commons will maintain clear, comprehensive documents, which will be kept safe, and reflective of The Commons' values of self-determination, equity, trust, and dignity. The Commons will be transparent in its intent, and maintain a legal organizational structure, while communicating with integrity and honesty, internally and externally.

## **Equity and Opportunity**

The New Mexico Agrarian Commons will exist to provide pathways to ensure the perpetual agrarian designation and use of land and property. The Commons will create access to land for historically displaced, disenfranchised or financially disadvantaged people with deference to indigenous communities, people of color, and women. The Commons will strive to create affordable access to land to support the opportunities—such as long term tenure and building of equity—that may result from the stewardship of land for agricultural purposes.

## **Right Relationship**

The Commons recognizes the need for right relationship between humans, animals, plants, and ecology. The Commons sees humans as part of nature and as such will demonstrate that it is possible to steward ecosystems while growing food. Management principles that center soil health and water conservation as well as natural habitat for wildlife and native species shall be centered. The Commons' management goals are to build resilience and mitigate climate change through carbon sequestration and rehydration of the land.