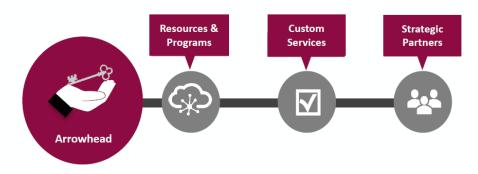
NM CONECT: NM CERG – Opportunities for New Employment in Clean Tech

Arrowhead Center (Arrowhead), along with the entire NMSU System (a Hispanic Serving Institution), has been actively taking steps to ensure DEI practices are at the forefront of planning, programming, and organizational evolution. While Arrowhead has a strong track record of serving diverse client bases (e.g., approximately 75% of participants in Sprint business accelerator cohorts are from groups historically underserved by entrepreneurial programming), leadership has dedicated effort in recent years to thoughtfully increasing the organization's DEI impact.

Arrowhead Mission:

To create economic opportunity through entrepreneurship & innovation



NM CONECT Team:

Lead: Dana Catron, Deputy Director of Arrowhead Center Del Mackey, Director of Innovation Development Stephanie Garcia, Program Specialist Aaron Stoddard, Program Manager

Partner: Dona Ana Community College

Project Summary

Arrowhead Center proposes **NM CONECT**, a statewide project that will leverage the combined strengths of New Mexico State University's Arrowhead Center (home of the **NM Clean Energy Resilience and Growth [NM CERG] Cluster**) and Doña Ana Community College to create and deploy pilot programming that focuses on training and certifying underserved groups (focusing on formerly incarcerated individuals first) for high-paying clean energy jobs.

Proposed Activities

Arrowhead will complete the following activities during Phase I:

- In-depth study of industry employment needs (including skills and certifications necessary) for clean energy ecosystem in NM
- Catalog current certification and degree offerings and crossreference against industry needs report
- Build clean energy certification framework specific to formerly incarcerated individuals
- Begin curriculum development



