

## **2002 Annual Report Executive Summary**

### **La Jicarita Enterprise Community**

La Jicarita Enterprise Community (LJEC) exists and believes in una vida buena y sana, by creating positive change and self-sufficiency to enhance the quality of life for the community members of Mora, Rio Arriba, and Taos counties. (LJEC's new mission statement.) LJEC is a nonprofit community-based organization federally designated and funded Enterprise Community (under the Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community (EZ/EC) Initiative) designed to spur and support economic development and business in rural Mora, Rio Arriba, and Taos counties.

Since its inception 1994, LJEC has leveraged the federal designation with state agencies, federal agencies, corporate and private foundations, and individual community members and have successfully garnered/raised over \$18 million dollars for direct services to northern New Mexico communities. Our rural communities continue to develop strategies that insure autonomy in planning and implementation concerning initiatives that directly impact them and the effect their communities in the region. Our rural communities have demonstrated their individual commitments to sense of place and independence towards the goals and objectives of providing an environment of a wholesome and healthy life-style both for themselves and their families. In providing services to our customers the residents of La Jicarita Enterprise Community (LJEC), we are continuing to provide the opportunity for individuals, groups, organizations, such as, entrepreneurs and small business owners from the Enterprise Community to make choices in the areas of social, economic and educational development. Our communities are realizing the effectiveness of strategic planning, technological development, leadership and collaborative production of measurable outcomes associated with community development projects.

In 2002, LJEC is in the business of strategically reviewing and implementing our initiatives (benchmarks) while also looking to re-create ourselves and planning our own destiny. La Jicarita Enterprise Community intends to become a self-sustaining socio-economic development entity in North Central New Mexico. This summary report provides a glimpse of our extensive accomplishments and success.