

# HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The New Mexico Human Rights Coalition (NMHRC) incorporated in April of 1996. This is not an organization, rather a coalition of organizations. Agencies who join together speak as one voice in advocating for human rights, human dignity, and equality of opportunities throughout the state of New Mexico.

## **The NMHRC operates within the framework of the following principles and commitments:**

- Universal human rights and equal opportunities
- Society and government have an obligation to make decisions, establish programs, and provide opportunities that enhance everyone's human dignity and fundamental freedoms
- Society and government must work together to promote individual equalities without regard to race, color, national origin or ancestry, citizenship status, language, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, or economic status
- Universal human rights and equal opportunity must include recognition of and respect for the differences among multiracial, multiethnic, multicultural, multilingual, and multireligious beliefs, all of which come together, blend and bind our state, our country, and our society as an American Culture
- Support and advocacy for human rights in our communities and our legal, social, and political institutions which must be achieved through peaceful, democratic means and within the American political system