



For Immediate Release

Date: 8-25-04

Contact: Kate Chapek
Phone: 505-982-2291

Moving America Forward breaks 100,000 New Registered Voters, and Still Going Strong

Albuquerque- Moving America Forward founded by New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, today announced that they have registered over 100,000 new Hispanic and Native American voters in five key battleground states, New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado and Florida.

366 votes decided the presidential election in New Mexico in 2000. Since MAF began in New Mexico on May 1, 2004, it has registered 16,000 new voters. MAF has registered 10,070 Democrats, 2,535 Republicans, and 3,454 "Other, "Decline to State" and Independent voters. MAF will register 10,000 additional new voters by October. 65 organizers are canvassing daily statewide.

Hispanics are the largest growing voting block and could have been the difference in 2000. New Mexico has the highest number of Hispanics per capita than any other state in the country and is prime territory to increase Hispanic voter participation. Only 239,000 of the 426,000 citizen-age population were registered to vote. Moving America Forward was formed in April 2003, to empower Hispanic and Native American voters by voter registration, education, and protection.

MAF has increased voter registration significantly since 2002 in New Mexico. In Bernalillo there are 8,650 new democrats registered. 6,389 of them were registered by MAF. MAF registered 2,208 new democrats of the 4,250 that have registered in Santa Fe this year. And of the 1,612 new democrats in Dona Ana County, MAF registered 1,325 of them.

MAF is comprised of professional and dedicated organizers that abide by the election code and the laws set forward by the state of New Mexico. No complaints have been made regarding voter registration and MAF.

According to Bernalillo County MAF Director, Jason Loera:

"In an election this close, every voter should exercise their right. The work that Moving America Forward is doing could make the difference in battle ground states like New Mexico."

####