

Meet New Mexico's USDA Rural Development Military Veterans



Joseph Castillo served 22 years in the United States Air Force, where he was responsible for maintaining all necessary aircraft exit equipment such as ejection seats, hatches, canopies and ensuring pilot' safety.

Joseph works from Rural Development's Las Cruces office as a Community Programs Loan Assistant. This program provides funds to install water and wastewater systems in rural New Mexico. He also works with the community facilities program which provides funds for the purchase of vital equipment such as medical equipment and police cars.



Carlos Contreras served nine years in the Army/Army Reserves where he helped build bunkers for Patriot Missile sites, perimeter and transport security, to POW Camps.

Carlos works from Rural Development's state office in Albuquerque as a loan specialist where he oversees the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) which provides funds to install alternative energy systems such as solar energy to small businesses and ag-producers.



Mireya Lomas served five and a half years in the United States Navy where she was an X-ray Technician and Corpsman Medic (Vocational Nurse) providing medical help to numerous military personnel.

Mireya also works at Rural Development's Las Cruces office in the Community Program as a Loan Assistant. She has worked on projects such as the Canada de Los Alamos water association located in Santa Fe County which provided funds to dig a new water well. She also worked with the city of Socorro to purchase a new ambulance for that community.