Reaching Rural STEM-H Students ($R^2S^2$) is a 4.9 million grant funded by the U.S. Department Of Education to serve Hispanic and low income students from rural areas to achieve advancement in STEM-H fields of study.

Grant Components:

- Transfer to NMTECH, UNM-Main, and NMSU
- Undergraduate research program
- STEM-H industry internships and K-12 outreach programming
- Tutoring and supplemental instruction
- Professional development for faculty
- Improvement of college classroom technology
- Financial literacy project study
- STEM-H Advisory Board

Grant Goals:

- **Goal 1:** Increase the number, persistence, and success of full-time Hispanic and low-income students majoring in STEM-H degree programs.

*Goal 2:* a) Increase the number of Hispanic and low-income students graduating with an associates degree or certificate in STEM-H and b) Increase the number of Hispanic and low-income students retained in STEM-H degrees at 4-year institutions after transfer.

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**Project accomplishments**

- Agriculture articulation agreement in place
- Financial Literacy Project study underway
- Outreach to College Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, NMSU Program
- Transition and training to expand tutoring services - Supplemental Instruction (SI)
- Established lab, well, and greenhouse facilities
- NM Tech & UNM main ambassador program, helps students transition from 2yr to a 4yr institution

**Next Step Grant Development:**

**Transfer Program**
- Expand-transfer ambassador project to NMSU, specifically in agriculture
- Track student progress after transfer to 4 year institution

**Expand Undergraduate Research experience**
- Continue developing interest and research opportunities. Ongoing use of dedicated research lab, green house, and well

**K-12 Outreach**
- Develop k-12 outreach programing to encourage students to consider STEM-H career fields

**Internships**
- Placing students in STEM-H experiential internships, preferably paid or for class credit

**Offer UNM-Valencia Agriculture Certificate Program**

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