



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS TEACHER SURPRISED WITH \$1,000 CHECK

LOS LUNAS, NM – A group of Los Lunas High School students presented Sundance Elementary 6th grade teacher, Kit Atencio, with \$1,000. The check is from the Ving Project, which provides teenagers an opportunity to give an individual in need an encouraging boost. They surprised Mrs. Atencio in her classroom. One of the students, now a sophomore, is one of her former students.

“I know she’s had a rough couple of months,” explained A.S. “She was a really good teacher to me and she is so loved by the community.”

“I’m really just speechless. I am just so thankful,” expressed Mrs. Atencio. “When your students leave you – you really don’t know if you’ve had an impact on them. You would like to think that you do, but to know that you actually have is reward enough.”

The students are from John Walker’s Criminal Law class at Los Lunas High School. He uses the Ving Project as a community service project for his students. Once they select individuals from the community, they send their nominations to Ving, which then chooses the recipient and provides them with the check.

“Ving requires that the nominees are at least 18 years old, be a U.S. citizen, and have a financial hardship,” explained Mr. Walker. “Ving is looking for the students to be able to voice that and express how the \$1,000 will help that person.”

Mr. Walker’s students had 14 other nominees selected for the generous check and are from across Valencia County. He is working with Ving to surprise additional community members in the Spring.

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