Abel Covarrubias grew up in Arrey, New Mexico, in a family that emphasized giving back and education. His parents immigrated to the U.S. from Mexico with the dream of seeing their children go to college. Covarrubias realized this dream at NMSU, earning a BS in Biology in 1996 and a master’s degree in Special Education and Communication Disorders in 1998.

After gaining experience as a speech-language pathologist, Covarrubias recognized and responded to the need for better early interventions for children in New Mexico. He cofounded Aprendamos Intervention Team, PA in 2005, a therapist-run early intervention program in Doña Ana County. As the current Chief Executive Officer, he has led Aprendamos to success and expansion, including the establishment of programs for other critical needs in the region. These programs include the Esperanza Children’s Therapy Clinic, the Mariposa Autism Services Center and Alegria Family Counseling, among others.

While his work at Aprendamos reflects daily dedication to childhood development, Covarrubias also serves on several local boards and was selected to the board of directors for Zero to Three, a national non-profit focused on early childhood development advocacy.

Covarrubias’ philanthropy towards NMSU includes founding two endowed scholarships in the College of Education, serving on the College of Education Advisory Board and helping create the Tri-Unity Conference, which raises funds for an endowment benefiting students and faculty in the College of Education.

Covarrubias is the son of Antonia and the late Jose Covarrubias, and is married to Monica Covarrubias. They are parents to Alexa, Avery, and Nyla.