



I would be honored to serve on the Santa Fe Veterans Advisory Board. Supporting veterans after military service matters deeply to me, especially in the day-to-day realities of civilian life. In Santa Fe, many veterans are navigating both the transition out of service and retirement, often on fixed incomes, while facing rising living costs and social isolation. I speak to these issues not only as an advocate, but as a veteran myself. I served as a sergeant in Unit 846 of the IDF, a combat intelligence unit responsible for frontline operational support, and experienced combat firsthand. Having served in a society where military service is compulsory and tightly woven into civilian life, I bring a perspective shaped by systems where the responsibility of caring for veterans is understood as a shared, societal obligation. Like many veterans, I faced real challenges adjusting to civilian life and spent years doing the work required to regain balance and clarity through therapy and personal growth. Over more than a decade, I have built practical experience, strong relationships, and connections to veteran resources across New Mexico, and I currently lead a nonprofit focused on community-based support for veterans. I chose to make Santa Fe my home after living in many places because of its diverse, interconnected community and the way different cultures coexist and support one another. I would welcome the opportunity to share that experience, help identify practical solutions, and contribute to recognizing the meaningful contributions local veterans have made to this community.

**Ari Jontry** | Executive Director, Argos Academy  
484.467.7633 | [ari@argosacademy.org](mailto:ari@argosacademy.org)