



NEW MEXICO HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT
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Secretary-Designate Pamela Hyde Wants to Build a Better Human Services Department and Behavioral Health Services

Santa Fe, January 22, 2003 – Access, Quality, and Accountability. These are the three words repeated often by the newly appointed HSD Secretary-designate Pamela Hyde when she speaks with department employees. Hyde, a nationally recognized human services and health care consultant, hit the ground running on Jan. 2 after being appointed by Governor Bill Richardson as HSD Secretary-designate on Dec. 17, 2002.

Greater **Access** to programs, better **Quality** in customer services and improved **Accountability** are also watchwords when it comes to behavioral health services. "At any given time, eight to ten percent of the 258,000 New Mexican children enrolled in Medicaid are receiving critical behavior health services ranging from intensive inpatient care to outpatient counseling from mental health specialists," said Hyde. "Just as important as physical health, access to behavioral health services is critical to the overall well-being and the growth of children, and I want to explore options for making Medicaid's behavioral health services more community based and grounded in evidence-based practices."

Hyde has the background and experience to get the job done. Since 1996, she has worked in Santa Fe as a Senior Consultant for The Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc., a national, non-profit, housing, human services and health care consulting firm. From 1991 to 1993, she was the Director of Housing and Human Services for the City of Seattle, where she streamlined and consolidated the delivery of services for children, adults, and elderly individuals.

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Secretary-designate Pamela Hyde.....Add 1

In 1990 Ohio Governor Richard Celeste appointed Hyde as Director of the Ohio Department of Human Services, where Hyde distinguished herself by developing proposals for reforming Medicaid and child support enforcement. Hyde also served as the Ohio Director of Mental Health from 1983 to 1990, where she focused on community support, drug and alcohol treatment and behavioral health systems reform.

Hyde holds a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School and a B.A. from Southwest Missouri State University. She was presented the Award for Distinguished Service to State Government by the National Governor's Association and the Seattle Management Association Award for Excellence in Management.

The New Mexico Human Services Department helps New Mexicans improve their well being by offering a large array of social programs and support services. Each year, the department helps over 600,000 New Mexicans each month with financial aid, food programs, health care, child support enforcement, and work-readiness programs. The department employs 1,500 staff and has an annual budget of \$2.1 billion.