



NEW MEXICO HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
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**For Immediate Release**

## **Chaves, Lincoln and Lea Counties to Receive Better Services with New Community Action Agency**

*Santa Fe, March 9, 2004* – The State Human Services Department (HSD) is ensuring better services for low-income residents in Chaves, Lincoln and Lea counties with a new partnership for services in those counties through the Southeast New Mexico Community Action Agency (CAA).

The CAA provides services to families through the Federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program for Eddy and Otero counties and will begin offering services in Chaves, Lincoln and Lea counties beginning in April. “The goal of the CSBG program is to reduce poverty and revitalize low-income communities by helping individuals become fully self sufficient, particularly families who are attempting to transition off of the state Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program,” said Katie Falls, HSD’s Income Support Division (ISD) Director.

Services offered by the CAA include emergency assistance, nutrition services, housing assistance, education services, including Head Start and adult education, and help in filling out income tax returns.

The Board of Directors of the Chaves County Community Action Program (CAP), which serviced Chaves, Lincoln and Lea county residents, dissolved the agency last month. The Southeast New Mexico CAA will begin offering services in April. In the meantime, residents can call their local ISD office for referral and assistance.

- Chaves County-Roswell ISD office (505) 625-3000
- Lincoln County-Ruidoso ISD office (505) 257-6165
- Lea County-Hobbs ISD office (505) 397-3400

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