



NEW MEXICO HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
P.O. Box 2348  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2348

**Bill Richardson**  
*Governor*

**Pamela S. Hyde, J.D.**  
*Secretary*

Contact *Betina Gonzales McCracken* 505 827-6245 or 505 690-2675  
For Immediate Release

## **Otero, Lincoln County Residents to Benefit from New Child Support Enforcement Office**

Child Support Agency is Co-located with Human Services Department's Income Support Office in Alamogordo, at 2000 Juniper Drive

*Santa Fe, June 19, 2007* – The New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD) has opened a new child support enforcement office in Alamogordo to meet the demands of the growing southern part of the state. “Four years ago our Las Cruces child support office served most of the people living in the southern part of the state, but with soaring population growth adjustments were required,” said Pamela Hyde, HSD Secretary. “This new office, opened last week, will serve both Lincoln and Otero counties, allowing the Las Cruces child support office to focus on residents living in Doña Ana and Sierra counties.”

The 2,291 Otero and Lincoln county residents using child support enforcement services previously had to travel to Las Cruces for help. Now they will all use the new Alamogordo child support enforcement office. “We believe that even more parents will decide to use our child support enforcement services now that we have a fulltime presence in Alamogordo,” said Cathi Valdes, acting Child Support Enforcement Division (CSED) Director. “In all, 13 staff will be assigned to this new office.”

Child support enforcement services include paternity establishment, locating absent parents and establishing and enforcing child support/medical court orders. People interested in learning more about the services offered through CSED are encouraged to call the CSED Customer Service Center at 1-800-288-7207.

The Alamogordo and Ruidoso HSD Income Support Division (ISD) offices will continue to provide the following low-income programs for people living in their respective counties:

- Food stamps,
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP),
- Medicaid,
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), among others.

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**Media notice: News media are invited to visit the new Alamogordo child support office and speak with Cathi Valdes, acting CSED director from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 20. The office is located at 2000 Juniper.**