



NEW MEXICO HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT
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For Immediate Release

Human Services Department to Train More Medicaid Eligibility Workers to Enroll Children in a Health Plan

Eligibility Workers are Essential in Reaching Uninsured Children During Summer Months

Santa Fe, June 8, 2007 – The New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD) is partnering with the City of Albuquerque to train 35 city staff in becoming *New Mexikids* or Medicaid eligibility determiners. The staff, mostly from city community centers, will learn how to enroll eligible children in a Medicaid program through presumptive eligibility, which allows the children coverage for two months. During that time follow-ups are made to enroll the children for a full year of coverage.

The eligibility training is taking place on Monday June 11 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Albuquerque Balloon Museum, 9201 Balloon Museum Dr. N.E. The 35 new determiners will add to the nearly 1,700 already trained statewide.

“Presumptive Eligibility (PE) is a tool New Mexico uses to get the process started for families that qualify for Medicaid coverage,” said Pamela Hyde, HSD Secretary. “The more PE workers we have in areas where children are spending their time over the summer month, the better chance we have of enrolling more uninsured children in a public-sponsored health care program.”

In New Mexico there is a health care plan that is either no cost or low-cost to parents and available to children up to age 12, and even up to age 19 with a sibling 12 or younger. “There is no reason a child to age 12 should be uninsured in New Mexico,” said Carolyn Ingram, HSD Medical Assistance Division Director. “We are pleased the City of Albuquerque recognizes the importance of health coverage and wants to do everything it can to get more Albuquerque children the coverage they deserve.”

Children in families with a wide range of incomes (see below) will likely qualify for a *New Mexikids* plan. If *New Mexikids* doesn't fit then the Premium Assistance for Kids or PAK program will. Under PAK children up to age 12, and even up to age 19 with a sibling 12 or younger in families with higher incomes, will likely qualify.

Family Size	<i>New Mexikids</i> – Maximum Monthly Income
2	Up to \$3,423
3	Up to \$4,293
4	Up to \$5,163
5	Up to \$6,033
6	Up to \$6,903
7	Up to \$7,773
8	Up to \$8,643

For more information about *New Mexikids* or any other *Insure New Mexico!* solutions, please call 1-888-997-2583.

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