



NEW MEXICO HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT
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For Immediate Release

The Human Services Department Schedules Children's Health Coverage Enrollment Fairs for Back to School

Free Back Pack filled with School Supplies for Every Completed *New Mexikids* or Premium Assistance for Kids Application

Santa Fe, August 6, 2007 – The New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD) will be encouraging New Mexico parents to enroll their children in no-cost or low-cost health coverage plans as they prepare to go back to school. “We want children to get the health coverage they need to be successful in the upcoming school year,” said Pamela Hyde, HSD Secretary.

Several enrollment fairs are scheduled for the month of August at Wal-Mart stores and First Nations Community Health Center in Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Española. They are being sponsored by HSD, Lovelace Community Health Plan, Molina Health Care, Presbyterian Health Plan and the Primary Care Association.

Once school begins, the fairs will move to school districts that have requested them during back to school Open Houses and other school events.

For every completed application, a free back pack filled with pencils, paper, pens and other school supplies will be given out. “While we hope the security of having health insurance for their children would be enough, we recognize that a back pack filled with school supplies might encourage more parents to complete an application and get their kids enrolled.”

“What is great about these plans is that they cover well-child checkups, including eye and ear exams,” said Carolyn Ingram, HSD Medical Assistance Division Director. “Getting children a checkup is a great way to be sure your child is healthy and ready for the school year to come.” Preventive physical exams and immunizations are also covered through the two programs.

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 18 with a sibling 12 or younger in families with higher incomes - will likely qualify.

<i>Family Size</i>	<i>New Mexikids – Maximum Monthly Income</i>
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

Eligibility workers will be on site at the enrollment fairs ready to enroll eligible children in a *New Mexikids* or PAK program for those whose parents bring the proper documents, which include:

- Proof of child's identity and citizenship,
 - Child's social security number,
 - Child's original birth certificate,
- Proof of family's past 4 weeks of income, and
- Proof of other health insurance you may have.

Five enrollment fairs are scheduled during the month of August.

1. August 11, 2007, 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. – Albuquerque Wal-Mart Supercenter, 3500 Coors Blvd. SW
2. August 12, 2007, 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. – Española Wal-Mart Supercenter, 1610 N. Riverside Dr.
3. August 18, 2007, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Albuquerque Wal-Mart Supercenter, 2550 Coors Blvd. NW
4. August 25, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – First Nations Community Health, 5608 Zuni SE, Albuquerque
5. August 26, 2007, 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. – Santa Fe Wal-Mart, 3251 Cerrillos

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

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