

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: Marty Eckert (505) 670-1683

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For Immediate Release

Human Services Department to Open New Income Support and Child Support Enforcement Offices in Santa Fe

Thousands of Santa Feans Will Benefit From Modern, HSD Customer Services Center

Santa Fe, New Mexico – Beginning today, Santa Fe County Human Services Department staff are relocating to new offices at 39 Plaza La Prensa. During the move, which continues through Wednesday, Oct. 22, there will be limited income support and child support services for Santa Fe County residents. Then on Thursday, Oct. 23, the Santa Fe County HSD office will open to the public during regular work hours.

The Income Support Division (ISD) staff serves families receiving Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (NMWorks), the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, or LIHEAP, and Medicaid health coverage. About 10,000 Santa Fe-area families use these programs each month. Sixty ISD and New Mexico Works staff will move to their new location beginning today. Income support clients needing immediate assistance may call the new office's telephone and/or facsimile numbers: (505) 476-9200 and (505) 476-6287, respectively. NMWorks clients needing immediate assistance should call (505) 476-6279.

The Santa Fe County Child Support Enforcement office serves about 4,000 families, most of whom have court orders established for child support payments. People needing immediate help from this agency should continue to call toll free 1 800 288-7207.

"The new Santa Fe County HSD office is 12,000 lease able square feet larger than the old office," said Pamela Hyde, Human Services Department Secretary. "The new building features more parking, a larger reception area with space for children to play and more privacy for our clients."

"Our goal is to continue to provide excellent customer service as we welcome our existing customers and encourage others to visit our new facility to learn more about the programs we offer," said Hyde.

Since January 2003, the Human Services Department (HSD) has moved into or opened 19 new offices statewide. Over the next two years, the department is scheduled to move into eight new offices. Overall, the department has 52 field offices serving the public statewide. Besides administering large child support, income support and Medicaid health care programs, the HSD also administers behavioral health services for adults and, overall, serves about one in three New Mexicans.