

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

June 12, 2008

For Immediate Release

Human Services Department Opens New Child Support Enforcement and Income Support Office in Sandoval County

Nearly 20,000 Sandoval County Families Using HSD's Services Will Benefit From a Larger Office

Santa Fe, New Mexico – Beginning Monday, Sandoval County residents will visit a new Human Services Department income support and child support enforcement office located at 4363 Jager Drive, in Rio Rancho. The new income support office moves from its old location in the town of Bernalillo. This is the first child support office to be located in Sandoval County.

Families receiving Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, or LIHEAP, and Medicaid health coverage will have their cases transferred from the old office to the new office tomorrow. The Bernalillo office will remain open during the move. Child support enforcement staff is already serving customers at their new location.

"The new building features more parking, a larger reception area with space for children to play and more privacy for our clients," said Pamela Hyde, Human Services Department Secretary.

"We believe Sandoval County residents will find their new office more conveniently located, both for Rio Rancho residents and those living in the rural parts of the county, including the five Sandoval County Pueblos," said Hyde. "Also clients using both income support and child support enforcement services can now visit just one office for both services."

Additionally 200 clients receiving financial assistance and work readiness training through the TANF/NMSU Works programs will have their cases transferred to the new location. The new telephone number for all income support clients is 505 383-6300 (fax 505 383-6307) or toll free 800 926-9425. The new NMSU Works Program telephone number is 505 383-6350. Child support enforcement clients will continue to call 1 800 288-7207.

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.