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## **New Mexico's Medicaid Director, Carolyn Ingram, Chosen for Inaugural *Medicaid Leadership Institute***

Institute Part of New National Initiative to Transform the Nation's Health Care System

**Santa Fe, New Mexico** – New Mexico's Medicaid Director, Carolyn Ingram, is one of six Medicaid Directors nationwide chosen by the Center for Health Care Strategies to participate in the inaugural class of the *Medicaid Leadership Institute*.

The Center for Health Care Strategies made the announcement today and describes this new national initiative as a unique opportunity for Medicaid directors to develop and enhance the skills and expertise necessary to enhance their state programs as well as maximize Medicaid's contributions to transform the nation's health care system.

"I am looking forward to participating in this very unique leadership institute especially during this exciting time of health care transformation," said Ingram. "New Mexico has always positioned itself as a leader for Medicaid coverage and will look for every opportunity to help us further that effort."

Medicaid directors competitively selected to participate in the 12-month leadership development program. The others are: Toby Douglas of California, MaryAnne Lindebald of Washington, Lynn Mitchell of Oklahoma, Carol Steckel of Alabama and Sandeep Wadhwa of Colorado.

"At a time when national health care reform decisions will greatly affect their programs and responsibilities, these six individuals form an exceptionally talented inaugural class for the Medicaid Leadership Institute," said Tommy Thompson, Former governor of Wisconsin, who chairs the program's National Advisory Committee. "These directors will be perfectly positioned to lead their states and the nation in achieving better quality for every taxpayer dollar invested in publicly financed health care."

The Center for Health Care Strategies is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality and cost effectiveness of publicly financed care. CHCH works with state and federal agencies, health plans, providers, and consumers to design programs that better serve high-need and high-cost populations. Its program priorities are: advancing high-quality, cost-effective health care, reducing racial and ethnic disparities, and integrating care for people with complex and special needs.

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