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**For Immediate Release**

## **NM Human Services Department Selects Finalist for Statewide New Mexico Works Program Provider**

**Santa Fe** – Today the New Mexico Human Services Department has announced that it has selected a finalist for the next contractor to provide services for the New Mexico Works Program after an extensive review of the four proposals received by the department.

HSD is currently in contract negotiations with SL Start to provide New Mexico Works (NMW) Program services to families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program assistance. The NM Works Program is an employment and training program established by the New Mexico Works Act to help needy families achieve self-sufficiency through employment with benefits and wages that will enable them to support their families.

Award of the contract is contingent upon the completion of negotiations. Once a contract has been finalized and signed, SL Start will begin providing services August 1<sup>st</sup>. SL Start has been successfully providing TANF services throughout the country for over 13 years. They have extensive expertise in delivering services in rural areas.

The company will give all current outgoing NMW staff interviewing preference, maintain an administrative office in New Mexico, and pay the state approximately \$535,672 in gross receipts taxes.

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