

STATE OF NEW MEXICO Human Services Department Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham

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\$10 million in financial assistance funds for New Mexico lowincome households

24,750 households to receive \$400

SANTA FE – This week 24,750 extremely low-income New Mexico households will receive a one-time payment of \$400 in economic relief assistance under an initiative administered by the New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD) in partnership with the Taxation and Revenue Department (Tax & Rev).

The funding for this effort was made possible through a \$10 million appropriation from the New Mexico Legislature. The one-time payment is for qualified New Mexico households who applied and have the lowest incomes. The total number of payments issued was based on available funding; therefore, denied applications will not be reevaluated.

"We are grateful to the New Mexico legislature, and Gov. Lujan Grisham for the funding to provide cash assistance to New Mexicans facing extreme financial hardship," said **David Scrase, M.D.** cabinet secretary for the New Mexico Human Services Secretary. "We know that many families are still struggling to meet their basic needs and this assistance will help them this holiday season."

Online applications were accepted via the YESNM Portal for a period of two weeks. To qualify for this financial payment individuals must be extremely low-income residents of New Mexico and are required to have a social security number, Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) or driver's license number.

Payments were issued **earlier this week** by the Taxation and Revenue Department via direct deposit or check. An email notice will be sent to those applicants who are **not** receiving a payment.

"We know many families are struggling, so it's nice to be able to help provide some much-needed relief in time for the holidays," said Taxation and Revenue Secretary **Stephanie Schardin Clarke**.

NM households selected to receive the \$400 payment were determined based on having the lowest income of those that applied.

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We talk, interpret and smile in all languages. We provide written information to our customers in both English and Spanish and interpretation services are available in 58 languages through our provider, <u>CTS Language Link</u>. For our hearing, and speech impaired customers, we utilize <u>Relay New Mexico</u>, a free 24-hour service that ensures equal communication access via the telephone to individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or speech disabled.

The Human Services Department provides services and benefits to 1,080,042 New Mexicans through several programs including: the Medicaid Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Child Support Program, and several Behavioral Health Services.