

United States Senate

April 16, 2010

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services, Education, and Related
Agencies
Dirksen, Room 131
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services, Education, and Related
Agencies
Dirksen, Room 156
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin and Senator Cochran:

As the Subcommittee prepares to mark up the fiscal year 2011 appropriations bills, I respectfully request your attention to the following list of projects for New Mexico and the federal level. This list is ordered alphabetically and does not denote my priorities for funding.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Cerebral Cavernous Malformations CARE Center, University of NM **\$682,000**

Funding would support the University of New Mexico to develop a Cavernous Angioma CARE Center (Clinical, Advocacy, Research and Education) to provide primary care education and research.

Community Health Center in Silver City, New Mexico **\$1,324,000**

This funding would support the development and construction of a Hidalgo Medical Services primary care facility in Silver City.

Crisis Triage Center, Doña Ana County, New Mexico **\$1,646,000**

The requested funding will be used for the planning, design, and construction of a Crisis Triage Center, which will address the lack of medical infrastructure in the County in order to provide appropriate health services for the mentally ill. The Center will offer 24-hour staffing for coordinating a mental health crisis system for the County. It has been reported that between 27 percent and 33 percent of the people in the County detention center are receiving behavioral health services. Those serving in the detention center often have been involved in minor, nuisance issues. Law enforcement officers are forced to charge these individuals and house them with regular inmates at the County detention center, causing critical overcrowding issues in the detention center.

Crownpoint Wellness Center **\$1,000,000**

The requested funding will be used by Crownpoint Chapter of the Navajo Nation, in Crownpoint, New Mexico to complete construction of the Crownpoint Community Wellness Center. The Wellness Center will be a community facility that will focus on the physical and mental wellbeing of the native and non-native people within Crownpoint and the surrounding communities. The Crownpoint Chapter is a certified chapter of the Navajo Nation with vested authority to adopt local ordinances and to approve plans and take positions on matters of local concerns in the best interest of the local people.

Digital Mamography Unit for Gila Regional Medical Center **\$500,000**

Funding will be used to purchase a digital mammography unit for Gila Medical Center to offer technology in breast imaging to the patients within its service area. Digital mammography is an electronic imaging technology that records, displays, and transmits images of the breast via computer systems.

First Nations Community HealthSource Clinic Expansion **\$200,000**

First Nations Community HealthSource is New Mexico's urban Indian health center serving the 45,000 off-reservation American Indians in Albuquerque. Established in 1972, FNCH has served as a critical safety net provider to the Albuquerque Indian Health Center and UNMH. In 2009, FNCH provided much needed health, dental, behavioral health and other services to more 12,000 community members. The center is located in south east Albuquerque, the most economically depressed quadrant in Albuquerque with high rates of unemployment and no insurance. Due to the increased demand for services, FNCH needs additional funding to expand its facilities to serve more patients. Clinic expansion will allow for more of New Mexico's most vulnerable populations, including homeless individuals to be served. Clinic expansion will also result in additional jobs for providers, support staff and construction workers.

Full Circle Midwifery Birth & Health Center, Albuquerque **\$269,000**

Funding would support Full Circle to provide services for the only women's healthcare and birthing center in the Albuquerque area.

Gallup Indian Medical Center Replacement **\$1,000,000**

Funding will purchase property and design a new, joint-use IHS and VA hospital in McKinley County that will deliver a comprehensive package of medical services to our regional tribal and veteran constituents.

Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center **\$500,000**

Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center (GCRMC) is in the midst of a \$19,000,000 project to remodel and renovate their facilities to enhance both the facility and the equipment. As part of this

overall project, GCRMC needs to update a vital piece of their technology: the Computerized Tomography Scan or “CT.” In order to meet the demand for CT services at GCRMC, the Center requires a Siemens Somatom Definition Dual-Source CT. This technology will allow them to timely serve patient needs when encountering multiple requests at a single time and will make improvements in the health status of the citizens of Otero County and the surrounding communities. The benefits of this new CT are many: wait times will be significantly reduced, physicians will be able to make faster and more certain decisions in the care of the patient, more patients will be able to be diagnosed and treated at GCRMC instead of being transferred to a facility that is over 70 miles away. Currently, 26.2 percent of their patients have to be transferred if they have a cardiac complaint. The dual-source will allow GCRMC to quickly and effectively rule-out cardiac processes, thereby keeping the patient in the community where the patient can be effectively managed.

Hidalgo Accountable Health Plan

\$400,000

Funding will be used to model healthcare costs to support the development of a universal source of health insurance coverage in Hidalgo County and a new delivery system model through Hidalgo Medical Services. This demonstration project creates incentives in payments and delivery in order to focus on improving health outcomes. Hidalgo County is a frontier community with a population of 5,000 individuals of which 1,250 are uninsured. The model would determine the costs of including all residents of the county in the health system and a comprehensive coverage mechanism. Once accomplished all publicly-covered individuals and currently uninsured would be merged into a comprehensive payment system (i.e. per person / per month payment) that would ensure a core set of primary medical care supported by sub-specialty tele-medicine, dental, mental health and family support services as well as a full range of eligible sub-specialty and in-patient services. In addition, project funds would be used to establish baseline indicators in the following areas; patient health (diabetes, hypertension, obesity); community health (teen pregnancy, alcohol and drug abuse), high cost health (unnecessary ER / hospital admissions, rate of sub-specialty referral) and environmental issues (housing, employment, etc.). Health indicator goals would be established and financial incentives set. Risk would be calculated for increased systems costs and poor outcomes. Funds will be used to design the system, including cost, incentives and risk features. The model builds on successful implementation of federally funded grant programs at HMS that have reduced blood sugar levels in Hispanic people living with diabetes (reductions in HBA1c levels from 8.4 to 7.6), reduced recidivist teen pregnancies (state average 23% / HMS 7%) and improved high school graduation rates for teen mothers (state average 7% / HMS 89%) and contracts to manage high cost Medicaid patients (72% savings over 1.5 years).

Hoy Recovery Program

\$100,000

Funding will be used to support the Hoy Recovery Program Traditional Healing Project. Hoy Recovery Program is the only Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program in Northern New Mexico. In the last few years, residential programs in Northern New Mexico have closed and demand for services has increased. As a result of economic conditions, 5 behavioral health programs have closed with a reduction in force and the loss of close to 110 jobs. In order for treatment programs to establish better outcomes, Hoy Recovery Program would like to explore an alternative treatment approach involving traditional healing.

ISD2R/YES New Mexico Project**\$500,000**

The requested funding will be used by the New Mexico Human Services Department in Santa Fe, NM to replace the eligibility determination, benefit issuance and case maintenance system currently used by the State of New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD) to administer Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Medicaid and numerous state supported programs. In addition, the project will provide “one stop” online access tool to enable New Mexicans to screen for and apply for numerous social service programs administered across seven state agencies. HSD will use the funds to purchase a Storage Area Network (SAN) that will provide reliable data storage for ISD2R related applications.

La Familia Medical Center**\$110,000**

La Familia Medical Center’s Dental Department is moving to the Santa Fe Community College in the summer of 2010. Funding will be used to convert six dental exam rooms at the Alto Street clinic into seven new medical exam rooms as well as converting former dental records and dental lab space into behavioral health meeting rooms. The renovated spaces will become a third pod and allow LFMC medical and behavioral health providers additional space to treat more patients. The area being remodeled is approximately 2,000 square feet.

Los Lunas Family Health Commons**\$1,500,000**

Funding will be used to construct and equip a new First Choice Community Health Center. The Project will provide needed access to a primary care medical home and to after-hours health care coverage to the citizens of the Second Congressional District. I have been notified this project is “shovel ready.”

Luna County Healthy Start CHANCES Program**\$435,000**

In the past 15 months, over 1,000 pregnant women and women at risk of pregnancy have been screened for substance use at Luna County Healthy Start and local prenatal healthcare providers using a substance use screening instrument. In the first year of this program, 36.9% of the women screened positive for substance use. Requested funding will be used to implement a 3-year pilot program (\$145,000/year x 3 years), which is a gender-specific substance abuse treatment program for pregnant and women and women in their childbearing years at three Healthy Start sites in Deming, Columbus and Lordsburg, NM. The requested funding will be used to continue and to expand services within the Luna County CHANCES (Collaboration to Help Assure No Child is Exposed to Substances) program to identify and treat pregnant women and women in their childbearing years who are using alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs, and/or prescription drugs. Funding break down per year includes \$74,550 for staff salaries/benefits, \$13,600 for office-related expenses (rent, utilities, etc), \$7,000 for office equipment such as computers and printers, and \$32,500 for professional services (provider evaluation services and fees). The remainder of funding is directed towards educational programs and a contingency fee.

Mobile Native American Family-to-Family Health Information Center **\$800,000**

The requested funding will be used by Family Voices, Inc. in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for the following purpose: to establish a mobile Family-to-Family Health Information Center (F2F HIC) for the 19 Pueblo (or village) tribes, divided into four service areas in the state of New Mexico. This center will assist Indian families in navigating the health system to secure health care for children, youth and young adults with special health care needs (CYSHCN) and/or disabilities. The F2F HIC will be run by a Native American tribal non-profit. Funds will be used to create and run a mobile F2F HIC serving the 19 Pueblos, including purchasing equipment, printing necessary materials to be distributed, paying for communication expenses, and hiring staff.

New Mexico Community Health Councils **\$370,000**

I have been notified that the New Mexico Community Health Councils serve the state's entire population by mobilizing communities to meet high priority community public health needs through planning, coordination, and resource development. The New Mexico Department of Health (DOH) has funded health councils under the Maternal and Child Health Plan Act since 1992. Now, 37 councils (32 county-based and 5 tribally-based) have completed comprehensive community health assessments and 4-year Community Health Plans that address local and state health priorities, including: access to care, obesity prevention, diabetes, substance abuse, teen pregnancy prevention, emergency preparedness, and others. Because of declining resources, the state has drastically reduced funding for the health councils in order to preserve essential clinical services. Requested funding will be divided equally among participating Councils to enable them to implement the goals and objectives in their individual Community Health Plans. This will include work to address the above health priorities using community-wide strategies: implementing programs, developing local and regional policies to promote health, building coalitions around priority areas, and leveraging funds through additional grant and contract funding. It will also serve as a means to leverage additional grant and contract funding.

New Mexico Home Visiting Services **\$500,000**

These funds would increase Home Visiting services to areas of New Mexico where services are limited or no services exist. Home visiting services work to promote optimal physical and mental health and well-being, while supporting families to address any stressors/risks that may be impacting the well-being of their family, including their infant/young child.

New Mexico Mission of Mercy Dental Services **\$161,000**

The New Mexico Mission of Mercy Program is a new initiative of the non-profit New Mexico Foundation for Dental Health, Research and Education. The Foundation has organized the Donated Dental Service program in New Mexico since 2005. The Mission of Mercy Program builds on the success of this program through an expanded effort to bring free oral healthcare services to more populations in need. The inaugural two-day event will be held in Albuquerque in October 2010 and will serve between 1200 and 1400 poor and elderly patients. Dentists, dental hygienists and other healthcare professionals will volunteer their services and donate dental supplies. The Foundation plan

calls for 120 dental chairs being staffed all day long for two days by two to three hundred dentists, hygienists and assistants from all over the state. Anyone living in New Mexico who has gone without dental care because they can't afford it will be able to be treated at the New Mexico Mission of Mercy event. Cleanings, fillings, x-rays, extractions, root canals, simple temporary partials and education will be provided on a first-come first-served basis in an environment operated, organized and staffed to provide quality treatment and care, safety and comfort. All of the necessary amenities to support the needs of both the patients and volunteers during the long hours of the extended two day event will be provided. Several hundred lay volunteers will deliver the many required support services and help the project partners. A projected budget of \$160,560 is needed for the project in 2011, to take the program out to underserved areas in the northern or southern part of the state. Funds will be used to transport all the dental equipment and lab supplies, underwrite all the set-up, dismantle and logistics costs, and fund program coordination and promotion for the event. The portable dental stations and dental screenings and services are provided at no charge. However, all other expenses associated with the production and execution of the two-day program require external support.

New Mexico State University Southwest Institute for Health Disparities Research \$450,000

Requested funding will be used to conduct health disparities research in southern New Mexico. This region, and the U.S.-Mexico border region generally, have extremely high rates of deaths due to chronic health conditions such as diabetes, and leads the nation in the number of children living in poverty. New Mexico consistently ranks among the top three states in teen pregnancy, and rates in New Mexico are highest in border counties. Southwest Institute for Health Disparities Research (SIHDR) will focus on: adolescent health promotion – developing and testing interventions to reduce teen pregnancy drug use, obesity, and promote physical activity and healthy eating; and prevention and management of chronic disease – especially diabetes. Hispanics are the fastest growing minority and have the highest rate of births to teens. The health, social, and economic consequences of this too early childbearing are enormous. An effective intervention will result in fewer teen pregnancies, increased high school graduation rates, reduced expenditures on social programs for teen mothers and their children and improved quality of life for young. A second project will be the implementation of an initiative for the prevention of obesity and related diseases. The prevalence of obesity has more than tripled over the last 20 years among persons 2-19 years of age, and the rate of obesity is 21% higher among Hispanics as compared to Caucasians. The development of effective interventions will save money in the form of reduced health care costs, result in a reduced risk of diabetes and heart disease, and improve quality of life. Funds for the SIHDR will go toward the support of faculty and staff salaries, educational materials and supplies, professional travel, as well as training and evaluation activities. Approximately 7,500 people are expected to participate in these programs initiated by the SIHDR.

Pecos Valley Medical Center, Inc. \$250,000

The requested funding will be used by Pecos Valley Medical Center, Inc. (PVMC) in Pecos, NM to supplement funding needed to build a new integrated medical, dental and behavioral health center for this 500 square mile service area. PVMC is a not-for-profit, Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and has been serving this rural to frontier area for nearly 30 years. This new facility has been in the planning and fund raising mode since June 2008. PVMC applied for project funding through

the USDA-RD Community-Facility Development Office out of Albuquerque for loan and grant funding, but at this time is committed to raising an additional \$900,000 of the \$6.6 million cost estimate for the 15,000 square foot building from other sources.

Presbyterian Medical Services-Esperanza Family Health Center Project **\$100,000**

The requested funding would be used to purchase equipment and furniture for Presbyterian Medical Services Esperanza Family Health Center. Through a partnership between Torrance County and Presbyterian Medical Services, this rural clinic will complete construction on a 1,600 square foot expansion this year. This funding would provide the funds to purchase equipment needed for the expansion, specifically dentistry, medical, and behavioral support. As the sole dental provider in Torrance County, this clinic will serve a rural county that has limited access to medical services and hospitals. Total financing for the clinic includes the following funds already secured: \$475,000 from a Community Development Block Grant, and \$37,000 from the county.

Public Inebriate Response, City of Farmington **\$225,000**

It is reported that more than 600 people who are currently homeless and have chronic problems related to alcoholism, drug use, and co-occurring mental health disorders are residing in the City of Farmington. In partnership with local courts and law enforcement, San Juan County, Presbyterian Medical Services, Totah Behavioral Health Authority, Four Winds Recovery Center, and the community, the City has proposed a unified system of crisis response and recovery support. This approach includes intervention, detoxification, and diversion to residential and/or an intensive outpatient treatment program. This system of care incorporates the concepts of Assertive Community Treatment, Community Reinforcement Approach, and Motivational Interviewing, all well-researched evidence based practices. A majority of the population served is Native American; as such, all programs will hold cultural competence and sensitivity as a major priority. Federal funding will allow the City and its partners to actively treat and further extend the recovery support program services for the target population.

Pueblo of Sandia-Phase II Health Center Addition / Behavioral Health Services **\$326,656**

The requested funding would be used to expand and construct the Pueblo of Sandia Behavioral Health Services Center. The expansion and construction would improve the Behavioral Health Services Center by providing the space and ability to deliver family counseling and support, mental and substance abuse services, and anger management services. This behavioral specialty center would be open to all Native Americans in the region.

Rain Cloud Local Collaborative **\$25,000**

First Nations Community HealthSource has requested funding to support the Rain Cloud Local Collaborative, a community-based local behavioral health collaborative comprised of 100 off-reservation American Indians. The Rain Cloud LC provides advocates for behavioral health needs and services for the off-reservation community, now estimated at 45,000 in Albuquerque. The number of off-reservation American Indians continues to grow with ensuing behavioral health needs. In 2010,

Rain Cloud LC funding will cease. The requested \$25,000 will support training, conference, and meeting opportunities for the off-reservation community to empower them with the necessary education and resources so they can address their behavioral health needs. Funding will also allow the collaborative to continue its monthly meetings which require the help of a .30 FTE staff assistant.

Santa Clara Pueblo Regional Adult Day Care Program **\$112,500**

The requested funding will be used by Santa Clara Pueblo in Espanola, New Mexico for operation of the Santa Clara Pueblo Regional Adult Day Care Program. The Pueblo has constructed through State of New Mexico Tribal Infrastructure Funds a 10,800 square foot facility to provide critical Services to elders in the northern New Mexico region. The funding will be used to furnish the building with equipment such as medical beds; kitchen, living and dining room furniture, computers, transportation vehicle, office equipment and work stations, and exercise equipment. The intent of the program is to provide a secure environment for elders to engage in stimulating activities that promote optimal physical and mental health. By providing these services, the program is intended to delay or prevent nursing home placement of our elders and diminish the incidents of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Through the use of trained staff, the adult day care program also will to monitor the health of the participants, direct them to professionals who can provide timely care and potentially reduce the cost of health care.

University of New Mexico Clinical and Translational Sciences Center **\$534,000**

A national consortium of medical research institutions, funded by NIH through the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSAs), is promoting clinical and translational research across the nation. As part of this growing movement, the University of New Mexico has established, and NIH has designated, an academic center in clinical and translational science to accelerate laboratory discoveries into treatments for patients, to engage communities in clinical research and to train clinical and translational researchers. In order to participate in this consortium, the University of New Mexico Health Science Center will need to fully modernized its biomedical research facilities. The goal of the UNM Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) is to accelerate the translation of scientific discovery to improved health. Requested funding will be used to renovate one laboratory in a forty-year-old biomedical research building. This laboratory will support the conduct of collaborative scientific research at the University of New Mexico CTSC.

UNM Health Sciences Center Interprofessional Health Education Facility **\$1,000,000**

Requested funding will be used by the University of New Mexico (UNM) to create an Interprofessional Health Science Education Facility that will be constructed on UNM property adjacent to the proposed Sandoval Regional Medical Center (SRMC), Medical Office building, and UNM-Rio Rancho facility. The proposed facility will provide integrated teaching and support space including simulated in-patient and pharmacy facilities, and high-fidelity simulation labs.

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration

New Mexico Corrections Department Opiate Treatment Program **\$500,000**

The requested funding will establish a Medication-Assisted Opiate Treatment Program to be implemented prior to parole, and continued in the community. The program is designed to diminish heroin-related crime, recidivism, number of overdoses, and to enhance community safety in New Mexico. In 2008, 75 percent of all New Mexico drug overdoses were caused by heroin and/or prescription opioids, opiate overdoses increased 37% from 2007 to 2008, and Hispanic overdose deaths increased (from 15.1 to 18.8 per 100,000). Imprisoned heroin addicts do not currently receive medication-assisted Opiate Treatment and often quickly reestablish a pattern of heroin addiction upon release to parole. The proposed program will target heroin addicted offenders returning to counties with a high number of heroin overdoses resulting in death, Rio Arriba (52.2 per 100,000), Guadalupe (45.8 per 100,000), and Bernalillo (24.0 per 100,000). The requested funds will be used for medication-assisted treatment, and (4) staff including (3) case managers and (1) job development specialist. Program goals include a 40% reduction in recidivism rates for the target population over one year, a 50% program completion rate, and a first year employment rate of 50%.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Healthy Communities by Design Initiative **\$350,000**

McKinley County requests funding to implement the Healthy Communities by Design initiative, which aims at reducing obesity and diabetes in our communities through expanding wellness and active living resources and access to healthy food. Funding will be used to implement a community action plan and prevention strategies aimed at increasing physical activity and access to affordable healthy foods and nutrition.

Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women's Health

Breast Institute of Santa Fe, NM **\$200,000**

Funding will support Christus St. Vincent as it creates the first breast center that will treat minority, low-income, uninsured and underserved women in northern New Mexico. .

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Adelante

\$750,000

ACCENT incorporates school-to-work transition, creates and supports additional jobs in the business community and creates and supports additional jobs through related businesses for people with mental illness and other disabilities.

Community Against Violence Renovations

\$520,000

This request would fund the construction of a jobs training center, office and shelter security upgrades, a counseling wing, and all necessary equipment. The new complex will expand and improve the quantity and quality of community services, principally for persons of low and moderate income, which are essential for sound community development and for the development of viable urban communities.

New Mexico Youth Entrepreneurship Network

\$105,000

Youth entrepreneurship education is a tool to teach children how to compete in the 21st century global economy and leads to new business start-ups. The positive educational and economic development impacts will be in the taxpayers' interest.

Northern New Mexico Network Facilitation Initiative

\$104,900

Requesting funding will provide technical and financial assistance to a regional network of community-based Network Facilitation projects. The projects located in Espanola, Las Vegas, Santa Fe, and Taos provide free, confidential outreach and consultative support to entrepreneurs. The positive community and economic development impacts will be in the taxpayers' interest.

Project Verde - Green Jobs Initiative

\$605,000

Funding would provide green job training, basic literacy skills and career paths for residents living in poverty. The Green Jobs Initiative will prepare workers in Bernalillo/Sandoval counties for careers in the energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors in New Mexico by implementing a coordinated community based program through which green job training, education, and career paths will be developed and provided to community residents.

San Juan College Regional Fire Sciences Training Center

\$2,000,000

Funds will support San Juan College in Farmington: phase I – including the training center strategic business plan, a fire tower and water tank for the College property being leased through the Bureau of Land Management

Transitional Living Program for At-Risk Women Veterans with Children **\$450,000**

With funding, YWCA Middle Rio Grande will be able to achieve optimal staffing levels and provide a comprehensive transitional living program for up to 20 at-risk women veterans and their children, a program which does not currently exist in New Mexico for this specific population. The program will provide skills assessment and referral to education and/or other programming that will prepare women for a successful entry into the workforce.

WNMU Emerging Biofuels Industry Curriculum Development, Training and Job Placement **\$250,000**

Funding will be used by Western New Mexico University to develop curriculum, provide training and place students in jobs resulting from significant federal investment in algal biofuels projects now underway in Southern New Mexico. This effort will include close coordination and involvement of the biofuels industry in student training leading to greater economic stability and opportunities in the region.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Fund for the Improvement of Education

Albuquerque Public Schools Extended Day Learning Program **\$250,000**

The requested funding will be used for extended day courses for students at each of 13 comprehensive high schools in the district. The funding will allow each school to offer an additional two courses, allowing these schools to remain open an additional two hours each day.

AMIGOS in the Schools **\$250,000**

Funding would support Semos Unlimited, Inc to develop Hispanic learning materials for students and train teachers in New Mexico Hispanic history and culture across the state.

Bernalillo Public Schools **\$250,000**

The requested funding will be used to install a fiber network for five schools in the district. There are seven Native American communities that send children to our district. Some students travel a total of 50-70 miles per day to attend school at Bernalillo High School. New Mexico is requiring high school students to take at least one online course in order to graduate. The district has limited broadband to support distance learning.

Elev8 New Mexico **\$250,000**

The requested funding will be used for extended day learning programs in five New Mexico middle schools who serve primarily disadvantaged minority students. Sites include traditional public schools in Albuquerque (Grant Middle School and Wilson Middle School) and Anthony (Gadsden Middle

School); a charter school in Albuquerque (Native American Community Academy); and a tribal school (Laguna Middle School at the Pueblo of Laguna). Each school would utilize \$50,000 to provide after school and summer programs that include tutoring and educational programs that reinforce school curriculum and physical activities.

ENLACE New Mexico **\$250,000**

The requested funding will be used to develop and sustain academic programs designed to engage Latino students in the learning process for successful completion. Funding will be used to expand a parent ambassadors program, as well as to expand and maintain a mentoring and tutoring program. ENLACE will split the funds between five regions in the state.

Innovate-Educate New Mexico **\$255,000**

This requested funding will be used to establish a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) Innovation Network of which a key component will be teacher professional development and research of STEM projects in New Mexico. This network will involve key partners that have been working on STEM in New Mexico including: Los Alamos National lab, Sandia National Laboratories, NM Public Education Department (Math and Science Bureau), NM FIRST, Intel Corporation, NM Math and Science Advisory Council, STEM programs throughout New Mexico and NM Higher Education Institutions.

KNME-TV **\$100,000**

The requested funding will be used to expand early childhood literacy programs, *Ready To Learn* and *Sesame Street Healthy Habits*, into five previously unserved areas of the state. The requested funding will also provide the literacy programs to the other two public television stations in New Mexico, KRWG in Las Cruces and KENW in Portales. These two stations currently do not have education departments and are unable to provide educational services.

Las Cruces Public Schools and Raven Tales Productions **\$250,000**

The requested funding would promote the teaching of traditional American history in elementary schools both in New Mexico and nationwide in partnership with the *Smithsonian Institution* and the *National Museum of the American Indian*. This program would specifically target the history of Native American tribes in the United States and their stories. In addition, this request will provide a proven elementary curriculum for literacy attainment based on the same subject matter. This request will also be used to improve the quality of history instruction by supporting professional development for teachers of American history.

Los Lunas Schools **\$510,000**

The requested funding will be used to create agricultural and biotechnological scientists of tomorrow. Biotechnology in agriculture will lead to higher crop yields and insect- and disease-resistant crops. Funding would allow for expanding the current agricultural farm to create opportunities for students

in a variety of fields.

New Mexico Centennial Foundation **\$368,000**

The requested funding will be used to acquire 500 high-quality, refurbished desktop computers, 500 high-quality, refurbished liquid crystal display multimedia projectors and corresponding packages of multimedia education content for deployment as integrated hardware/software sets throughout New Mexico public schools serving disadvantaged communities.

New Mexico MESA Online Webinar Workshops and Services **\$275,000**

The requested funding will support New Mexico Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement, Inc (NM MESA) to provide funds to expand the online math, science and engineering programs and classes.

Pojoaque Valley High School Natural Helpers Program, Pojoaque Pueblo **\$170,000**

The requested funding will be used to improve mental health and academic success with a peer support program to prevent youth suicide, bullying and drug and alcohol abuse.

Rio Rancho Public Schools **\$475,000**

The requested funding will be used to implement the New Tech High program at the Career Tech and Early College Center. This Center is an alternative high school setting slated to open in the 2010-2011 school year, with the intention of promoting a rigorous curriculum with college-level courses, self-directed learning, peer collaboration, and 21st Century technology integration. The funds would be used to implement the new Tech program, to pay for the New Technology Network franchise fee which provides member schools with access to the project-based learning platform, staff development and training, site visits from program experts, and access to the Collaborative Learning environment website. Funds would also be used to purchase laptop computers for students, and for other instructional materials.

Save the Children **\$500,000**

The requested funding will be used to continue efforts in implementing literacy programs. Specifically, funds will be dedicated towards curriculum and assessment materials, computers and technological equipment, and ongoing training and technical assistance needs. Additionally, funding will be devoted towards equipment and supplies for a physical activity and healthy snack component of the afterschool program. Save the Children will provide a match of \$500,000 through its own funds, any state funding, and grants.

San Juan College Renewable Energy Program Expansion, Farmington **\$250,000**

The requested funding is for San Juan College to develop an online program for courses for their Renewable Energy Program and certificate programs in green technologies.

Tohatchi Area of Opportunity & Services: Weatherization Project **\$150,000**

The requested funding will be used to purchase the needed certified and approved weatherization equipment, green building material, trailer and all necessary supplies to fully weatherize homes on the Navajo Nation. I have been notified that no other organization or business provides this extensive or certified weatherization project on the Navajo Nation. The program outcomes sought by the requesters are: the placement of 20 trainees into long term employment and 15 trainees into short-term employment each year, as well as reduce all homes utility bills by 80%.

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education

Eastern New Mexico University **\$400,000**

The requested funding will be used to upgrade computers in instructional labs used by ENMU students and to install an uninterruptable power supply (UPS) for the university's critical systems. The instructional technology requested will benefit over 4,000 students at a Hispanic-Serving Institution in rural New Mexico.

Hispanic College Fund, Inc. **\$100,000**

The requested funding will be to support the participation of 100 students in the New Mexico Hispanic Youth Institute from Summer 2011 through May 2012. The Hispanic College Fund will recruit students and provide for their needs at the program; develop program curricula and outreach materials; hold information sessions for volunteers and parents of students; and prepare the educational space for community organizations and businesses to gather and present to students. During the program, the students will interact with 40 "Hispanic Hero" professional mentors; improve their networking skills and understanding of professional etiquette; explore careers in business and STEM; learn how to prepare for, apply to, and pay for college; attend a college, career, and community fair; compete for \$10,500 in scholarships; and much more.

New Mexico State University Early College High School Curriculum **\$750,000**

The requested funding will be used to design an early college high school curriculum resulting in students who graduate high school, college and career ready, provide professional development and certification for the academic teaching teams, and fund courses and materials necessary to support technical career learning. NMSU will partner with Dona Ana Community College, the Las Cruces Public Schools and The Bridge, a business partnership for this project. A strong high school and university curriculum committee will work to combine the best in technical career education with challenging academic learning and the application of that learning in authentic work settings. All staff will become certified as distance education and STEM teachers and will, after two years, be able to create on-line courses in the STEM field for high-school students.

**New Mexico State University-
Mathematically Connected Communities** **\$250,000**

The requested funding will be used for summer math academies. The funds will pay for teacher participant stipends and for consultant fees for educators that are helping provide these K-12 summer math academies. This program addresses teacher retention concerns by providing teachers with learning opportunities.

Northern New Mexico College **\$250,000**

The requested funds will be used to continue our work in providing in-school tutoring in the Cuba, Gallina, Chama and Espanola school districts in Northern New Mexico along with career and academic advisement and a six week summer academic residential program in El Rito to meet the social/academic/career needs of these identified students so they will finish high school and enter post-secondary education. We also work with high school counselors and parents.

Santa Fe Community College Sustainable Technologies Center **\$1,000,000**

Funding would support Santa Fe Community College for renewable energy infrastructure and equipment for training labs for the Sustainable Technologies Center.

University of New Mexico **\$952,000**

The requested funding will be used for education programs, including equipment. The University of New Mexico-Valencia (UNM-V) and the University of New Mexico-Los Alamos (UNM-LA) are two-year public colleges that are branch campuses of UNM, but that function as regional community colleges. Both campuses have identified methods to improve student access and success by offering online teaching and support. This project will support these methods: increasing online courses, tutoring, and advising; providing faculty development in online teaching, active learning, and adaptive technologies; creating an innovative degree in simulation design; and increasing technology and advising to support the needs of learning disabled, hearing, and visually disabled students.

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Truchas Community Library **\$50,000**

The requested funding will support library services, literacy training, homework aid, and computer and internet programs at the Truchas Community Library.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration - \$120 million

The Community Based Collaborative Care Network (CBCCN) Program

The Community Based Collaborative Care Network (CBCCN) Program was recently authorized by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide grants to consortia of health care providers with joint governance and who provide comprehensive, coordinated and integrated health care services for low-income populations. CBCCNs may play a role in health reform by preparing the safety-net for large scale expansion in 2014 while achieving cost effectiveness through collaborative best practices and improved quality. Over the long-term, I have been notified that CBCCNs may help improve access and lower costs by reducing unnecessary ER use, improving outcomes, and providing greater access to primary and preventive care. Depending on the size and scope of grants provided by HRSA, this funding may allow as many as 100 or more urban and rural collaboratives to receive funding in 2011 to begin work immediately on a range of activities including assisting low income individuals with: accessing and appropriately using health services, enrolling in health coverage programs and obtaining a regular primary care provider. CBCCNs also may use this funding to ensure improved access to and continuity of care by performing health outreach, providing transportation, expanding safety net capacity through after-hours and urgent care, and providing direct patient care services. CBCCN investments might range in size and scope from several multi-million dollar grants to large urban networks, to many smaller – less than \$1 million – grants for smaller collaboratives.

Suggested report language:

“The Committee urges the Health Resources and Services Administration to provide grants of varying amounts to eligible Community Based Collaborative Care Networks (CBCCNs) depending on the needs of the different types of communities to be served and the size, scope and capabilities of the networks. HRSA should distribute funds in a way that ensures that high quality grant proposals have equitable opportunity for funding consistent with the eligibility, priorities and uses described in the law. HRSA should also ensure that adequate funding is set aside for technical assistance to grantees and applicants.”

U.S. Department of Education, Fund for the Improvement of Education - \$27 million
Project GRAD USA

Project GRAD serves more than 135,000 students and their families in 13 economically disadvantaged communities nationwide. Project GRAD is particularly interested in expanding its work into New Mexico, particularly in Albuquerque and rural communities. GRAD is especially successful in working in low-income Hispanic communities, such as Los Angeles, Houston, and Brownsville. At these sites, GRAD has had a dramatic impact on high school graduation rates, as well as college attendance and completion rates. Project GRAD matches every federal dollar invested on a 1 to 1 basis. The requested funding will be used for high school graduation and college access and completion programs nationwide.

U.S. Department of Education, Fund for the Improvement of Education - \$16.7 million
Teach For America, Inc.

The requested funding will be used to grow Teach For America's impact in its current Native regions (New Mexico, South Dakota and Hawai'i) and open two new Native sites. The funding will be used to grow to scale in current sites serving Native students, recruit more Native Americans into the corps, identify and select new Native regions for growth, build partnerships with external groups and modify training to accommodate the needs of Native communities.

U.S. Department of Education, Fund for the Improvement of Education - \$10 million
Reach Out and Read

Reach Out and Read (ROR) is a widely respected national program that promotes literacy and language development in infants and young children. ROR has become a powerful and effective program for promoting early language, literacy and school readiness, filling the crucial gap before children have access to traditional early childhood programs. It engages pediatricians and other health providers in guiding and encouraging parents to read aloud to their children from the earliest years of life, and send children home from each doctor visit with a prescription to read aloud together. ROR programs are located in more than 4,535 hospitals and health centers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Innovation and Improvement

U.S. Department of Education, Fund for the Improvement of Education - \$26.2 million
National Writing Project

The National Writing Project provides support for a national infrastructure of more than 200 writing projects sites that serve their local schools and teaching communities with high-quality teacher professional development in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

U.S. Department of Education, Fund for the Improvement of Education - \$10 million
Best Buddies Program

The requested funding will be used to support national expansion of Best Buddies programs. In New Mexico, \$150,000 will be used to support 20 school-based programs located on middle school, high school, and college campuses, each of which will pair students with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities with one-on-one mentoring friendships.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in congressionally directed spending items that I have requested, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. I further certify that I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification.

Let me conclude by saying how much I appreciate all of the hard work and attention you have always given to the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations process. If you have any questions about these programs, please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Frederick Isasi (224-0164) on health issues and Peter Zamora (224-0163) on education issues.

Sincerely,



Jeff Bingaman
United States Senator