

Centers in New Mexico to Receive Almost \$5 Million in Recovery Funding, Centers Provide Care to Underserved Populations

Washington, DC – Today, Rep. Ben Ray Luján applauded the announcement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that community health centers in New Mexico's Third Congressional District will receive \$2,386,228 in Increased Demand for Services (IDS) grant funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Community centers in New Mexico are set to receive \$4,945,441. Nationally, \$338 million will be available for services offered at community health centers. The funding was made available by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

“Community health centers provide valuable health services for families in small communities,” said Rep. Luján. “These grants will help maintain and improve health services in communities where access to health care coverage is limited. Improving health care in New Mexico is a top priority, and it is encouraging that grants for community health centers through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act are already helping communities expand health services across the state.”

Grantees had submitted plans explaining how the Increased Demand for Services (IDS) funds would be used. Strategies to expand services may include, but are not limited to, adding new providers, expanding hours of operations, or expanding services.

The Increased Demand for Services (IDS) awards are the second set of health center grants provided through the Recovery Act. On March 2, President Obama announced grants worth \$155 million to establish 126 new health centers. Those grants will provide access to health center care for 750,000 people in 39 states and two territories.

According to the Human Resources and Services Administration, community health centers provide comprehensive, culturally competent, quality primary health care services to medically underserved communities and vulnerable populations. Health centers are community-based and patient-directed organizations that serve populations with limited access to health care. These include low income populations, the uninsured, those with limited English proficiency, migrant and seasonal farmworkers, individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and

those living in public housing.

To learn more about health centers, visit <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/> .

Community Health Centers Receiving Funding in the Third Congressional District

Las Clinicas del Norte, Inc., El Rito, \$226,110

El Centro Family Health, Espanola, \$312,441

Mora Valley Community Health Services, Inc., Mora, \$115,841

Pecos Valley Medical Center, Inc., Pecos, \$142,359

La Casa de Buena Salud, Inc., Portales, \$294,533

La Familia Medical Center, Santa Fe, \$353,411

Presbyterian Medical Services, Santa Fe, \$803,511

La Clinica del Pueblo de Rio Arriba, Tierra Amarilla, \$138,022

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