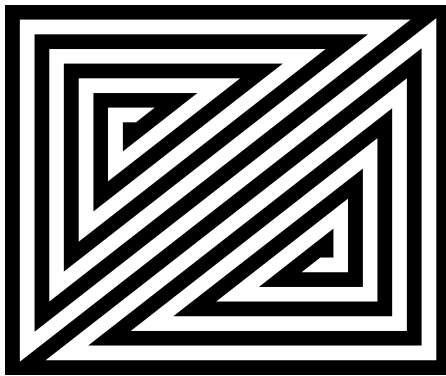


Stepping Up to Care for a Child



Services and Support for
Grandparents and Other Caregivers

Introduction

Many children and youth in New Mexico are being raised by their grandparents, other relatives, and even family friends. This is often because the parent has a substance abuse or other problem and can't take care of the child. Sometimes it is because the young person is a runaway or a "throwaway" who cannot or will not go home. Whatever the reason, a caregiver has stepped up to care for that child or young person.

Any person raising children worries about meeting the children's needs, making sure they have enough to eat, get the health care they need, or get a good education. If you are a grandparent, a relative, or another caregiver raising a child – or children – you may need help, and you may not be sure where to go to get that help.

This booklet is meant to point out some places you could start, whether you need money, health care, child care, or other help.

What information is in this booklet?

You will find descriptions of several different programs and services which are available in New Mexico. Phone numbers and websites are provided whenever they are available. This booklet looks at:

- Money: Cash Assistance & Other Financial Benefits (page 4)
- Health: Medicaid, Public Health, & Other Resources (page 8)
- Behavioral Health (page 10)
- Developmental Disabilities (page 11)
- School (page 13)
- Transportation (page 14)
- Day Care & Family Services (page 15)
- Legal Assistance (page 16)
- The Aging & Long Term Services Department (page 17)
- Other Services & Resources (page 18)

What information is NOT in this booklet?

This booklet focuses on services that are provided by state agencies or other programs which are available anywhere in New Mexico. There are many other resources which are not statewide, but which might be available in your community. Check with your city government, senior center, church or temple, or other community groups to see what might be available to you locally. There is space at the back of this booklet for you to list other resources.

Before we begin...

Legal Issues

If you are not the child's legal guardian, you may need some form of proof that the child is living with you in order to qualify for financial assistance. You may also need permission from the parent in order to make medical decisions, sign the children up for sports, and so forth. If you don't want to go to court and become the legal guardian, you could ask the parent to sign a **Power of Attorney**. This is basically a "permission slip" from the parent. Or you could fill out a **Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit**. This is a legal paper that allows you to make decisions about the child.

Children who are living away from a parent or legal guardian have certain educational rights under the law. If you are having trouble enrolling a child in school because you are not the legal guardian, ask to speak with the school district liaison for homeless children.

There is a booklet which will help with these legal issues. It's called *Away from Home: Children & Youth Living Apart from their Parents – Guardianship and Other Options for Family & Friends Caring for Children & Youth*. Call the Administrative Office of the Courts at 505-827-4800 to request a copy of the booklet.

Using the Internet

You can get more information about most of the resources included in this booklet by using the internet. You will see URLs – internet "addresses" – for many organizations and services. If you don't have a computer in your home, go to your nearest public library. They have computers you can use. They will even help you search the internet.



Money

NM Human Services Department Income Support Division

The Income Support Division of the New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD) is an important source of cash assistance and other financial benefits, including food stamps and help with utility bills. You can get general information by calling toll-free 1-800-432-6217 or going to the HSD website (www.state.nm.us/hsd). For your local Income Support Division field office, check the State Government section of your local phone book under the Human Services Department.



HSD Income Support Division Local Field Office

Address: _____

Phone: _____

What Will I Need to Take When I Apply?

When you apply for assistance from HSD Income Support Division programs, you will need to provide several kinds of documentation – depending on the specific program. If there is more than one family member, some of the documentation below may be required for them as well. Among the documentation you should expect to provide are:

- √ your driver's license or some other form of identification
- √ your birth certificate
- √ your Social Security number
- √ your Green Card or other immigration documents if you are not a U.S. citizen
- √ proof of your income (paycheck stubs, tax returns, etc.)
- √ copies of recent utility bills
- √ a rent receipt or lease agreement

Assistance That May Be Available from the HSD Income Support Division

Cash Assistance

Relatives: The Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program provides temporary cash assistance on a monthly basis to help needy families with children under the age of 18 in the home. If you are a *relative* caring for a child and you are not the child's legal guardian, you can choose to apply for TANF benefits *only* for the child. Your income will not be calculated in determining eligibility. However, if you are the legal guardian, or if you want to be considered part of the "benefit group," your income will be considered. There is a five year (60 month) limit for receiving TANF funds for adults, and, for many TANF recipients, there is a federal work requirement.

Non-Relatives: If you are caring for a child and you are not a relative, you may qualify for General Assistance, which is a limited source of state money. Under General Assistance provisions, your income must be included in the determination of eligibility.

Food Stamps

The HSD Income Support Division will determine whether or not you qualify for Food Stamps. Whether you qualify and the amount you can receive each month depends on the size of your family, your monthly income, and your assets. If you receive Food Stamps and another child comes to live in your home, you should notify your Income Support Division worker immediately. Even if you are not the child's legal guardian, another child in your home may increase the amount of Food Stamps you can receive.

Utility Assistance

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is another benefit program administered by the HSD Income Support Division. This program assists eligible persons and families with their heating or cooling costs once a year. If you apply, you will need to present identification and proof of income, as well as receipts and other records for your gas, electric, propane, or wood purchases. For emergency service, you may also need to present a disconnect notice, if you have received one. If you need to start utility service at your home, you will need a statement of the cost from the utility provider.

Assistance That May Be Available from Other Sources

Housing Assistance

If you need help finding or paying for housing, there may be assistance available through your local Housing Authority. If you have children living in the home more than 50% of the time, and if your income is within certain limits, you may qualify for public housing or for the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8). For additional information or to find out the location of your local Housing Authority, call toll-free 1-877-483-2489.

**Local Housing
Authority**

Address: _____
Phone: _____

Social Security

You may be able to collect Social Security assistance on behalf of a child who is living with you, apart from his/her parents, if the child has disabilities, his/her parent receives disability benefits, or the child qualifies for survivor's benefits. You do not have to be a legal guardian, but you must be able to show that you are responsible for the child's care. For additional information or to find out the number of your local Social Security office, call toll-free 1-800-772-1213, or go to their website www.socialsecurity.gov.

**Local Social
Security Office**

Address: _____
Phone: _____

Child Support

As a child's caregiver, you may be able to collect child support from the child's parent, even if you're not the legal guardian and even if the child has never lived with that parent. If the child is receiving TANF, the state will automatically open a case with the Child Support Enforcement Division. If the child is not receiving TANF, then you may apply to the Child Support Enforcement Division for assistance. You may submit an application on-line at <http://childsupport.hsd.state.nm.us>. For more information, call toll-free 1-800-288-7207.



NM Child Support Enforcement Division

<http://childsupport.hsd.state.nm.us>; 1-800-288-7207

Tax Credits and Tax Rebates

The federal **Earned Income Tax Credit** (EITC) is a refundable tax credit for individuals and families with more than one qualifying child (an adopted child, grandchild, great-grandchild, step-child or eligible foster child) under age 19, who lived with you for more than half of the tax year. To qualify for EITC, you must get paid for work you do and you must earn less than \$33,692. If you qualify, the credit would reduce the amount of tax you owe and may be returned to you in the form of a refund. Eligibility requirements are subject to change. For more information, call the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) toll-free 1-800-829-3676. Or visit the IRS website, www.irs.gov, click on [Information for Individuals](#), and go to [Earned Income Tax Credit](#).



U.S. Internal Revenue Service 1-800-829-3676
www.irs.gov

N.M. Department of Taxation & Revenue 1-800-829-3676
www.state.nm.us.tax

The New Mexico **Low-Income Comprehensive Tax Rebate** (LICTR) is for New Mexico residents whose modified gross income is \$22,000 or less who also meet other qualifications. There may be other tax breaks offered to retirees. For example, depending on income level, taxpayers who are 65 years old or older may be eligible for a deduction from taxable income of up to \$8,000 each. Low-income taxpayers may also qualify for a property tax rebate even if they rent their primary residence. For more information, call the New Mexico Department of Taxation and Revenue, 505-827-0700, or go to their website, www.state.nm.us.tax.

If you are not sure what benefits or financial assistance you might be eligible for, you can go to The National Council on the Aging's Benefits Check Up website - www.benefitscheckup.com. This website will search for programs that may pay for some of the costs of prescription drugs, health care, utilities, and other items or services for people 55 and over.

Health

Medicaid and Salud!

Medicaid is a program that pays for health care for eligible New Mexicans. The managed care Medicaid program in New Mexico is called Salud! All children who have been living apart from their parents for more than 30 days qualify for Medicaid, and any caregiver can apply, even if you are not the legal guardian. A child may also qualify for Medicaid if the caregiver’s household qualifies as low income under the Medicaid guidelines and the caregiver is a relative of the child. The caregiver may also qualify.

Medicaid provides complete medical, behavioral health, and dental insurance for the child until age 19. Medicaid pays for regular check-ups, doctor visits, dental visits, hospital care, prescriptions, glasses and hearing and vision exams. Other services may be covered, including care coordination, if they are medically necessary.

Applications for Medicaid can be made at your local Income Support Division (ISD) office. When you enroll the child in Medicaid, you will need proof that the child is in fact living in your household. (If you are not a legal guardian, you can use a Power of Attorney from the parent, a Caregiver’s Affidavit, or a letter from the child’s school administrator, a probation officer, a social worker, or anyone else who has come to your house and knows that the child is living with you.)



For more information, call toll-free, 1-888-997-2583

ISD Local Field Office:

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Child’s Salud! MCO: _____

Once the child is enrolled in Medicaid, one of three managed care organizations (MCOs) will be assigned to his/her care. They are:

- Cimarron 1-800-580-2811
- Presbyterian 1-800-356-2219
- Lovelace 1-888-232-2750

New Mexico Department of Health Public Health Division



The **Public Health Division** of the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) has public health offices in every county in New Mexico. Some of the services available through the public health offices include Families FIRST case management, birth certificates, assistance with access to Medicaid services, childhood immunizations and immunizations for vaccine-preventable diseases, family planning, Children’s Medical Services (CMS) for children with special health care needs, and disease prevention for sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, HIV, and hepatitis.

There is no cost for most of the services provided at the public health offices, including immunizations, but for some services you must meet income eligibility requirements and/or pay a fee based on a sliding scale. Most of the public health offices require an appointment for services. However, many offices offer “walk-in” hours for some services, such as immunizations. For a list of all the public health offices in the state, go to the NMDOH website, www.health.state.nm.us. Toward the bottom of the page, under “How Can We Help You,” click on Public Health Office.

NMDOH Public Health Division: 1-866-867-3124	
Immunization Information: http://www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/	
WIC Information: http://www.health.state.nm.us/phd/wic/index.html	
Local Public Health Office:	
Phone:	_____
Address:	_____

Women, Infant, and Children Program (WIC)

NMDOH’s Public Health Division also administers the Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC). WIC safeguards the health of pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women, infants, and children under five years of age. WIC provides supplemental food, nutrition education, and health and social service referrals. You can apply for WIC at your local public health office or any other WIC clinics. You must be a resident of New Mexico and meet income and nutritional risk guidelines. If you qualify for Food Stamps, Medicaid, or TANF, you probably meet those guidelines. For more information, call toll-free 1-866-867-3124.

Behavioral Health

NMDOH Behavioral Health Services Division

The **Behavioral Health Services Division** (BHSD) of the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) supports a range of behavioral health and substance abuse services for adults throughout the state. There are **community mental health centers** in many parts of New Mexico. These centers accept clients on a sliding scale.

To find out about service providers in your area, go to BHSD's website, www.nmcares.org, and click on Providers. For example, if you are looking for outpatient mental health services for your child, you would go to the BHSD website and click on Providers. You will then see the Provider Directory. Under #1 (Please select a service category), select mental health. Under #2 (Please select a service), select outpatient - children. Then type in your city or your zip code for a list of providers in your area.



**NMDOH Behavioral Health Services Division
On-Line Resource Directory**

Go to www.nmcares.org Click on "Providers."

The resource directory on BHSD's website also includes a variety of social services to help meet the basic needs of individuals and families. Go to www.nmcares.org and click on Providers. Then under #1 (Please select a service category), select social services. Under #2 (Please select a service), you will see many options, including education, employment, housing, immigration, income assistance, utility transportation, and more.

Select the service you need from this list. Then type in your city or zip code for a list of providers in your area.

Developmental Disabilities

NMDOH Long Term Services Division

The NMDOH **Long Term Services Division (LTSD)** provides community-based services to individuals living with a variety of disabilities, including individuals with developmental disabilities and medically fragile children. In addition, the Long Term Services Division provides services to families of children with, or at risk for, developmental delays.



NMDOH Long Term Services Division
www.health.state.nm.us/ltsd/index.html
1-800-283-5548 or 505-827-2597

Medicaid Waivers

The Long Term Services Division administers the Developmental Disability (DD) and Medically Fragile Medicaid Waivers. These waivers allow qualified individuals to receive home and community-based care as an alternative to institutionalization. Go to the LTSD website and click on [Medicaid Waiver Services](#) for more information.

Family/Infant/Toddler (FIT) Program

Through the Department of Health's Family Infant Toddler (FIT) Program, early intervention services are available to help families who have concerns about the development of their young child (birth to three). For more information on Early Intervention & Children's Services, please call the Family Infant Toddler Program at 505-827-2578 or toll-free at 1-877-696-1472. Or go to the LTSD website and click on [Family Infant Toddler Home](#) for more information.

Respite Care and Adult Services

A state funded program is available for individuals waiting for or who do not qualify for the DD Waiver program, but who have a developmental disability. Services include respite care, which is a flexible family support service. Respite Care staff help the family by providing relief, allowing periods of time away from the caregiver's duties. Respite Care staff also help the individual in activities of daily living to promote the individual's health and safety, as well as maintain a clean and safe environment. Respite will be arranged by the family, in collaboration with the contractor. Go to the LTSD website and click on [Respite Services Children & Adults](#) for more information.

Other Resources for People with Disabilities

The **ARC of New Mexico**, with eight local chapters across the state, has worked with families and state officials to develop educational, work, and residential services and support to allow citizens with developmental disabilities to live and work in the community. The core programs of the ARC fall into three areas: Personal Representation, Empowerment and Community Building, and Public Policy and Systems Advocacy. For more information, call toll-free 1-800-358-6493 or go to the ARC's website, www.arcnm.org.

Easter Seals New Mexico provides services for adults and children with disabilities, including adult day services for the elderly and summer camps for children and adults. Easter Seals also provides the temporary loan of medical equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, and shower chairs. A small fee is charged depending on the item. For more information, call toll-free 1-800-279-5261 or go to <http://nm.easterseals.com>.

Parents for Behaviorally Different Children is a statewide family organization in New Mexico that provides information, support, training, advocacy, and case management services for youth ages 0-21 who have a neurobiological, emotional, or behavioral differences. Call 505-265-0430 for more information.

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) is a statewide non-profit organization that focuses on working with caregivers to promote healthy families. Founded in 1981 by families who had children with special health and developmental needs, Parents Reaching Out expanded its scope in 1998 to include all families and children. PRO's services include workshops for families; networking and support through Parent to Parent connections; a Resource Center and free lending library offering information and materials about the programs and systems families use; and encouragement, problem solving and information to help parents make informed decisions. For more information, call toll-free 1-800-524-5176 or go to <http://www.parentsreachingout.org>.

The **Yellow Pages for Kids with Disabilities** is an on-line resource providing people with information about services and other support available in New Mexico. New Mexico's Yellow Pages includes evaluators, educational consultants, tutors, advocates, attorneys, health care providers, and others who help parents and caregiver get services for their children. Go to the website at <http://www.yellowpagesforkids.com/help/nm.htm>

School

As the caregiver, you are responsible for your child’s education. If you are not the legal guardian, you may need to obtain a Power of Attorney or Caregiver’s Affidavit to enroll the child in school and make education-related decisions. Many services could be available to you and your child through the public schools, including counseling, coordination of services with outside agencies, evaluation, therapy, and special education. Check with your child’s school to be sure your child is getting all the help he or she needs.

Special Education

Each child who is in special education must have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) designed especially for that child. As the caregiver, you have the right to participate in the development of your child’s IEP. You can meet with the teachers and other school staff to look closely at your child’s unique needs. The IEP you develop as a team will guide the special education supports and services your child receives. You should be given a copy of the IEP. The school makes sure that the child’s IEP is being carried out as it was written. Each of the child’s teachers and service providers knows what his or her specific responsibilities are for carrying out the IEP.

For more information on the IEP process, call the Special Education Office of the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED) in Santa Fe, 505-827-6541, or go to their website, <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/seo/index.htm>. For more information about school-based services in your area, call your local public school district.



Public Education Department Special Education Office: 505-827-6541

Your Child’s School – Phone No. _____

School District – Phone: _____

Transportation

Transportation to Medical & Dental Appointments

If you or a child you are taking care of are Medicaid clients, and you need non-emergency transportation to a medical or dental appointment, call Safe Ride Services, toll-free 1-888-633-1002. They may be able to arrange free transportation for you. You may also be able to request reimbursement from the Client Medical Transportation (CMT) fund through your local Income Support Division office for money you spend on transportation and related expenses. You must apply for reimbursement within 30 calendar days of the appointment.

Safe Ride Services

Call toll-free:
1-888-633-1002



Many local taxi and bus companies offer free and low-cost transportation to low-income persons and the elderly. Call your local taxi or bus company to ask about eligibility and availability.

Car Seats

Did you know that 8 out of every 10 car seats are currently installed in a manner that they will not protect a child in an accident? Many agencies have set up **free programs** that will install **car seats** for you and help you learn the safety measures that should be taken to keep a child safe in the car. Click on the website below and then on “New Mexico” to find child safety seat check points and inspection stations.

<http://babyproducts.about.com/od/carseatsboosterseats/f/freeseat.htm>

Day Care & Family Services

Child Care – New Mexico Children, Youth & Families Department

Depending on your household size and income, you may be able to get subsidized or even free child care as well as assistance with after-school programs if the child is age 0-12. If you can show that the child's parent is not able to care for the child, the required co-pay may be waived. If you are eligible for TANF, you probably qualify for subsidized day care. Applications for child care assistance can be made through the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD), Family Services Child Care Services Bureau. You will need paycheck stubs for the past month, birth verification for the children, social security cards, school schedules, verification of other income, and verification of residency (lease, mortgage, utility bills, etc.) You also need to have identified a child care provider.

For more information, call toll-free 1-800-610-7610. Or go to the New Mexico Kids website, www.newmexicokids.org/family. If you click on [Child Care Centers](#), you will be able to find a list of centers all over New Mexico. If you click on [CYFD Early Care Bureaus](#) and then [Child Care Services Bureau](#), you will find a list of phone numbers for Child Care Assistance Offices all over the state.



New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department
Child Care Information - 1-800-610-7610
www.newmexicokids.org/family

Other CYFD Family Services

Other CYFD Family Services *Early Care* services include the Office of Child Development and the Family Nutrition Bureau. For information, go to the New Mexico Kids website (www.newmexicokids.org/family) and click on [CYFD Early Care Bureaus](#).

The New Mexico Kids website also includes a list of Head Start programs around the state. Just go to the New Mexico Kids website and click on [Head Start Programs](#).

At that same website, you can find all kinds of resources available in each county in New Mexico, including Protective Services offices, health care resources, homeless shelters, parenting support groups, help with food, housing, and more. Go to the New Mexico Kids website and click on [County Resources](#).

Legal Assistance

If you are a grandparent, other relative, or another adult caring for a child, you may need help with legal questions – especially if you want to become the child’s legal guardian. Call the Administrative Office of the Courts, 505-827-4800, for a copy of a booklet that will help, *Away from Home: Children and Youth Living Apart from their Parents*.

The **New Mexico State Bar** offers two services which might be helpful:

- The **Lawyer Referral for the Elderly Program** (LREP) provides legal information, advice, brief services, and referrals to New Mexicans aged 55 and older. Helpline consultations with LREP staff attorneys are free. Referrals to private attorneys are made on a free, reduced, deferred, or full-fee basis. For more information, call 505-797-6005 or toll-free 1-800-876-6657.
- The **Lawyers Care Referral Program** offers a 30 minute consultation with a private attorney for a reduced fee. During this consultation, you will receive legal advice, have documents reviewed and have questions answered by an attorney. For more information, call 505-797-6066 or toll-free 1-800-876-6227.

New Mexico Legal Aid is a non-profit law office providing free legal representation in civil cases to poor people throughout New Mexico (except San Juan County) to increase access to the justice system and preserve basic legal rights including safety, financial stability and shelter. For more information, call 505-243-7871.

DNA-People’s Legal Services, Inc. is a non-profit law firm providing free legal services in civil matters to qualified low-income residents on and near the Navajo Nation. For more information call 928-871-4151.

If you live in Albuquerque and the surrounding area, you may be able to get help from:

- The Advocacy Inc. Guardianship Project provides affordable, sliding fee scale legal services to grandparents and other caregivers in uncontested guardianship cases in which the parents are deceased, unavailable, or unable to care for the child. Call 505-256-9369.
- Pegasus Legal Services for Children provides free and sliding fee scale legal services on civil cases involving children, including legal assistance in contested guardianship cases and cases that involve health care access, education and special education, teen pregnancy, and emancipation issues. For more information, call 505-244-1101.
- The Senior Citizens Law Office is a non-profit organization that provides free legal services to seniors over age 60 in Bernalillo County, including assistance with guardianship of grandchildren, powers of attorney, access to benefits, Medicaid and Medicare, and housing issues. For more information, call 505-265-2300.

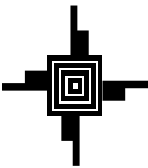


New Mexico Aging & Long-Term Services Department

The Aging & Long-Term Services Department has several services that might help you as a caregiver, especially if you are a senior.

- *Resource Center:* Beginning in the summer of 2004, a statewide information and assistance call-in center will be available for seniors, people with disabilities, and their families. Requests will be handled by trained staff and volunteers who will provide information and referrals on insurance benefits, transportation, legal services, care coordination, caregiver resources, etc.
- *Aging Network:* The Aging Network includes agencies, organizations, senior centers, and individuals who help seniors. There are over 200 Senior Centers in New Mexico; they should be your first point of contact for information about resources and opportunities.

More information about services available from the Aging & Long-Term Services Department is available from the Area Agency on Aging for your part of the state. There are six Area Agencies on Aging in the state, including one for the Navajo Nation and one for the Pueblos and the Apache Tribes. For more information, call toll-free 1-800-432-2080 or visit the Department's website at www.nmaging.state.nm.us.



NM Aging & Long-Term Services Department
Resource Center Help Line
1-800-432-2080

Other Services & Resources

New Mexico Kids Warmline

If you have questions regarding your child's health, development, or child care, call the New Mexico Kids Warmline, toll-free 1-800-691-9067. This is a free service for parents, caregivers, or child care providers that puts you in touch with qualified staff members at the University of New Mexico who can help answer your questions.

AARP

The national AARP website (<http://www.aarp.org/life/grandparents>) offers numerous resources for grandparent caretakers, including the Grandparent Information Center (GIC). The GIC provides national and local level information and referrals. Through the website, consumers can access booklets in English and Spanish, a free quarterly newsletter, research about grandparenting, information about joining and/or starting a support group, and more.

Some features of the website include:

- Finding Health Insurance for Grandchildren: AARP educates grandparents about Medicaid, SHIP and SCHIP programs.
- Finding Help with Raising a Grandchild: AARP helps grandparents who are raising grandchildren address their legal, financial, education, health and support challenges.
- Support Groups for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: AARP offers tips about finding and starting support groups for grandparents raising grandchildren.

AARP of New Mexico

The AARP of New Mexico hosts forums around the state for grandparents and relative caregivers who raise grandchildren. The forums connect grandparents and relative caregivers with youth and senior organizations that provide services in local communities. Topics cover financial, health, legal, and counseling needs. Free childcare is usually available for children ages 2-13. The AARP Tax-Aide program provides free tax counseling and preparation services for low and middle income taxpayers. For more information, call the AARP-NM Information Center 505-830-3096 or 830-3097.

AARP Website: <http://www.aarp.org/life/grandparents>

AARP-NM Information Center: 505-830-3096 or 3097.

And still more...

The American Red Cross provides shelter, food, welfare inquiries, and other basic emergency needs, whether the emergency involves a single family or an entire community. They also provide CPR, first aid, and water safety classes. Call your local American Red Cross for more information.

Community Health Centers and Community Mental Health Centers throughout New Mexico provide health and behavioral health services at reduced fees or on a sliding scale. Check your local phone book to find the center closest to you. Or, for more information about primary care and dental care clinics, go to the New Mexico Primary Care Association's website, www.nmpca.org. The Behavioral Health Services Division's New Mexico Cares website, www.nmcares.org, will give you a list of mental health and substance services.

Easter Seals New Mexico provides transportation for children and adults with disabilities. Clients contract with Easter Seals and pay monthly fees. Easter Seals also provides child car seats and training on their proper use. Call 505- 888-3811 for more information



Qwest might be able to help you with your phone service. If you qualify for Medicaid or Medicare, you may also qualify for a discount on your phone service provided by Qwest. Call toll-free 1-800-244-1111 for more information.

The Salvation Army's Good Neighbor Fund, if they have funds available through the help of PNM, may be able to help if you have received a past-due or cut-off notice on your winter utilities. The Salvation Army may also be able to provide discounted furniture and clothing. Call your local Salvation Army for information.

Veterans Assistance: If either a parent or a guardian is a veteran receiving veteran's benefits, there may be benefits available for the child. Call the Veteran's Association Health Benefits Service Center for more information. Call toll-free, 1-877-222-VETS.

Caregiver's Support Group

Meeting date & time: _____

Location: _____

Phone: _____

Senior Center

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Other contacts



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State of New Mexico – Administrative Office of the Courts
Pegasus Legal Services for Children

For further information about the New Mexico Supreme Court's
Court Improvement Project Task Force, contact the
Administrative Office of the Courts, 505-827-4800