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# STATE OF HEALTH CARE

JANUARY 25, 2024

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# TOPICS

- Public Health Emergency Unwinding
- Turquoise Care
- Health Care Authority (HCA) Reorganization
- HCA FY25 Executive Budget Recommendation
- HCA FY26 Budget Request



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## MISSION

*We ensure New Mexicans attain their highest level of health by providing whole-person, cost-effective, accessible, and high-quality health care and safety-net services.*

## VISION

*Every New Mexican has access to affordable health care coverage through a coordinated and seamless health care system.*

## GOALS



**LEVERAGE** purchasing power and partnerships to create innovative policies and models of comprehensive health care coverage that improve the health and well-being of New Mexicans and the workforce.



**BUILD** the best team in state government by supporting employees' continuous growth and wellness.



**ACHIEVE** health equity by addressing poverty, discrimination, and lack of resources, building a New Mexico where everyone thrives.



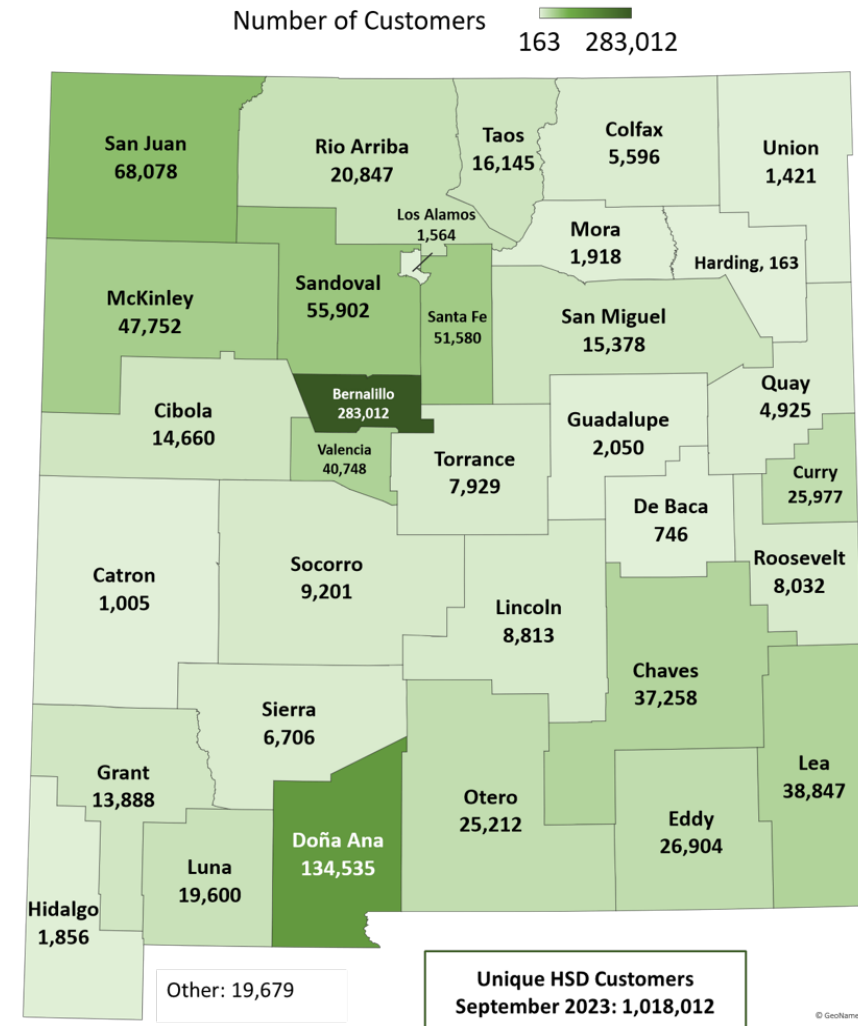
**IMPLEMENT** innovative technology and data-driven decision-making to provide unparalleled, convenient access to services and information.



# HSD MEDICAID AND SNAP UNWINDING GOALS

- New Mexico's unwinding goals are to:
  - Successfully implement a **return to pre-pandemic routine operations** for Medicaid and SNAP renewals; and
  - **Keep New Mexicans covered** by retaining eligible New Mexicans on Medicaid and seamlessly transitioning ineligible New Mexicans to other coverage.
- HSD has prioritized:
  - Data: <https://sites.google.com/view/nmhdscorecard/PHE>
  - Ensuring a sufficient workforce to enable timely case processing.
  - Communication with customers and stakeholders.

Unique HSD Customers, September 2023



Source: <https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/>



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# PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY UNWINDING TIMELINE

## HSD MUST COMPLETE ALL MEDICAID RENEWALS FROM APRIL 2023 TO APRIL 2024

April–July 2023

- Complete renewals for ~110,000 New Mexicans who no longer meet Medicaid income eligibility requirements (loss of coverage begins in the month of May).

August 2023–  
January 2024

- Complete renewals for Medicaid customers who according to our data will continue to be eligible.
- SNAP & Medicaid renewals aligned as much as possible – Medicaid to be completed with SNAP

February–March  
2024

- Complete renewals for Medicaid customers receiving institutional and/or home and community-based care. (Allowing more time to reach out to this population and facilitate transitions).

April 2024

- Medicaid unwinding complete.

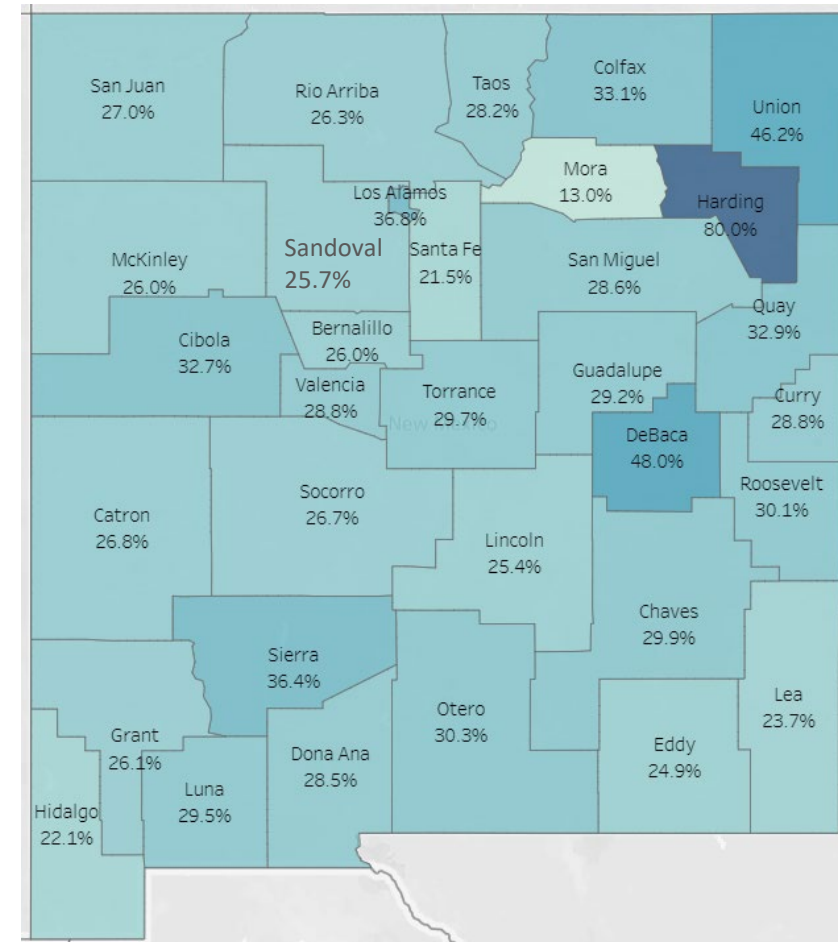


# HSD IS WORKING WITH CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS) TO EASE MEDICAID RENEWALS

- HSD implementing continuous eligibility for children up to age 6 beginning 1/1/24 (currently 92,842 children).
- HSD will automatically re-enroll eligible children into Medicaid who have lost coverage during the unwinding, pending CMS approval (up to 44,635 children).
- HSD automatically renewed or reinstated Medicaid coverage for 100,234 New Mexicans who had renewal dates between 4/23–11/23 2023 and incomes up to 100% of Federal Poverty Level (\$14,580/yr. family of 1; \$30,000/yr. family of 4).
  - Estimated 100,000+ additional automatic renewals will occur between 12/23–4/24.
- HSD seeking federal approval to automatically approve renewals for DD waiver participants.

## Medicaid Renewals Received as Percent of Renewals Sent, Nov. 2023

Statewide average: 27.0%



Source: <https://sites.google.com/view/nmhsdscorecard/PHE>



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# TURQUOISE CARE GOALS

**Vision:** Every New Mexico Medicaid member has high-quality, well-integrated, person-centered care to achieve their personally defined health and wellness goals.

## Goal 1

Build a New Mexico health care delivery system where **every** Medicaid member has a dedicated health care team that is accessible for both preventive and emergency care that supports the whole person – ***their physical, behavioral, and social drivers of health.***



## Goal 2

**Strengthen** the New Mexico health care delivery system through the expansion and implementation of **innovative** payment reforms and value-based initiatives.



## Goal 3

Identify groups that have been historically and intentionally **disenfranchised** and address health disparities through strategic program changes to enable an **equitable** chance at living healthy lives.





# OUR FOCUS

Turquoise Care will target initiatives focused on the following populations

- 1**  
Prenatal, postpartum and members parenting children, including children in state custody
- 2**  
Seniors and members with long-term services and supports (LTSS) needs
- 3**  
Members with behavioral health conditions
- 4**  
Native American members
- 5**  
Justice-involved individuals





# TURQUOISE CARE LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS BENEFITS

## COMMUNITY BENEFIT

1. Expand HCBS Community Benefit enrollment opportunities through additional waiver slots.
2. Increase Community Benefit program limit for: 1) environmental modifications; and, 2) transitional services.
3. Permit legally responsible individuals as providers of community benefit services.

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS

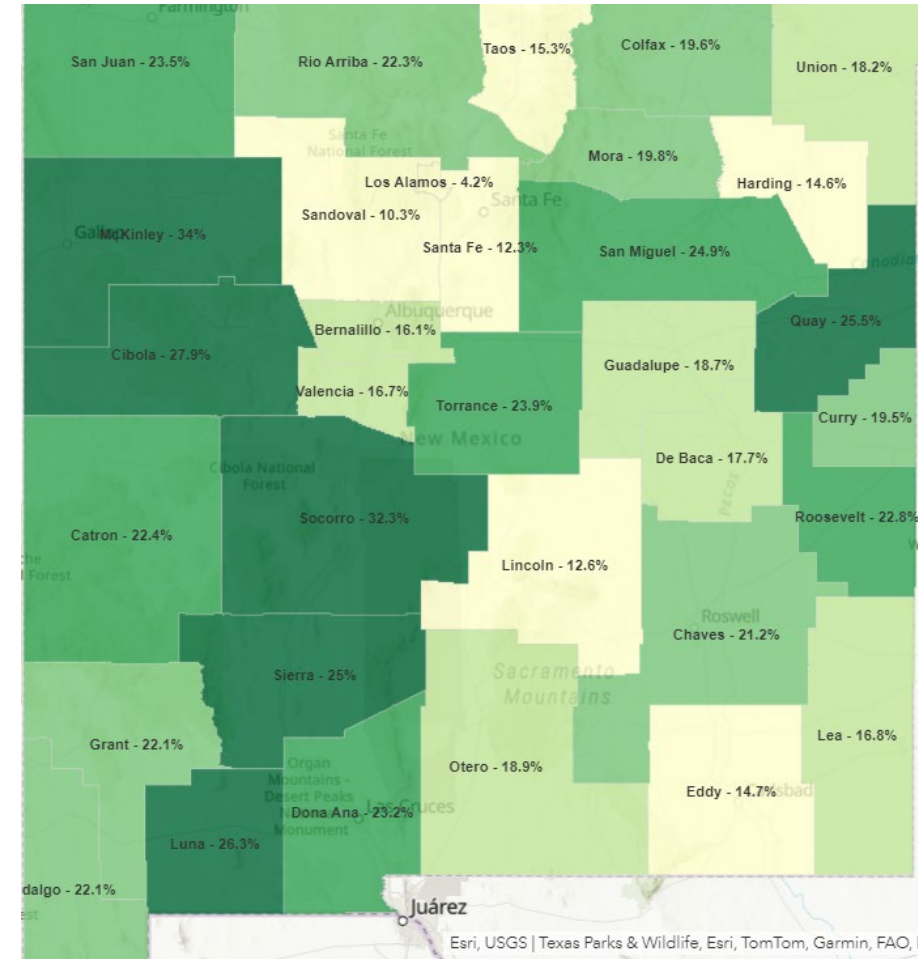
1. Pilot small-Home Assisted Living and Nursing Facility.
2. Allow Medicaid funding for room and board payments to Assisted Living Facilities.
3. Launch statewide Closed-Loop Referral Service, which will allow providers and organizations to refer a patient to medical and nonmedical resources with continuous communication and follow-up to ensure patient receives care and referring provider remains informed of the outcomes.
4. Implement medical respite for Medicaid members experiencing homelessness.
5. Pilot Medicaid-reimbursable home-delivered meals program.



# BETTER TOGETHER: HCA WILL SERVE 50% OF NEW MEXICANS

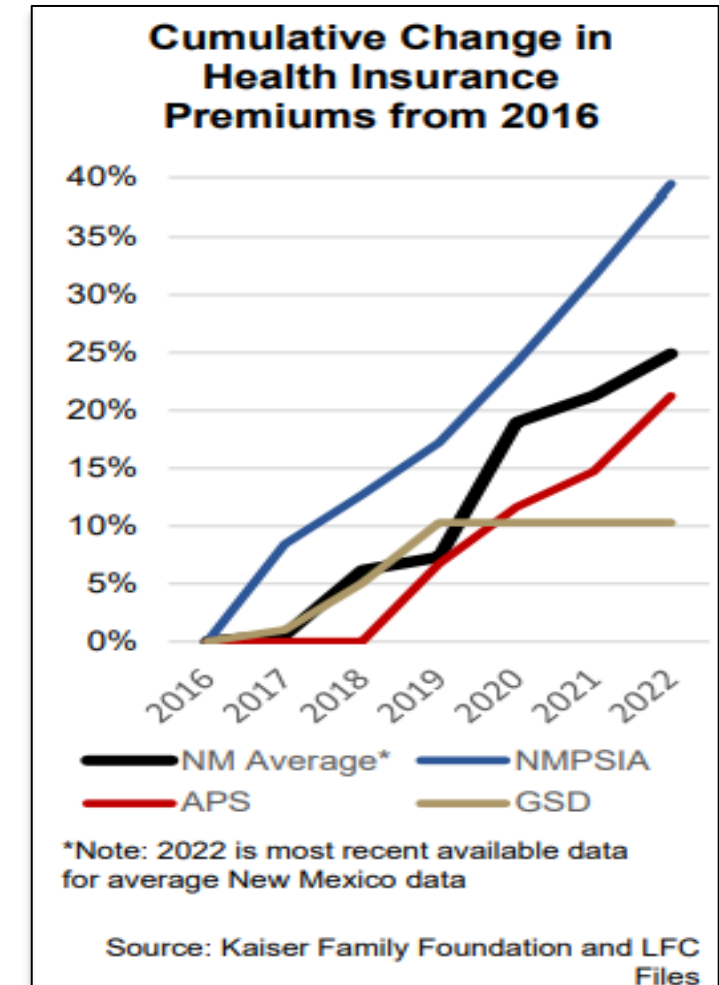
- HCA will continue to serve all 981,259 HSD customers as well as:
  - 123,000 New Mexicans enrolled in public school or retiree health plans.
  - 57,375 New Mexicans enrolled in a state employee or local public body health plans.
  - 7,319 New Mexicans enrolled in a Medicaid Developmental Disability waiver program.
  - New Mexicans who receive care at a licensed health facility or from a Medicaid Home and Community-Based Waiver provider.

**2021 Poverty Rate by County**  
Statewide average: 18.4%



# HCA PARTNERSHIPS WILL IMPROVE PURCHASING POWER<sup>11</sup>

- **Executive Order** requesting HCA, NM Public Schools Insurance Authority, NM Retiree Health Care Authority, and other Interagency Benefits Advisory Committee (IBAC) agencies develop a coordinated purchasing plan for health care benefits to be implemented by 7/1/25.
- **Health Care Authority Proposed legislation will:**
  - Require the IBAC to make purchasing recommendations to HCA Secretary for final decision-making;
  - Move Health Care Affordability Fund and coverage team from Office of Superintendent of Insurance to HCA effective July 1, 2024.
  - Change statutory references from HSD to HCA.



Source:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/ALFC%20092723%20Item%2017%20Health%20Insurance%20and%20Risk%20Rates.pdf>;

Public School Insurance Authority (NMPSIA), Albuquerque Public Schools (APS), General Services Department (GSD)



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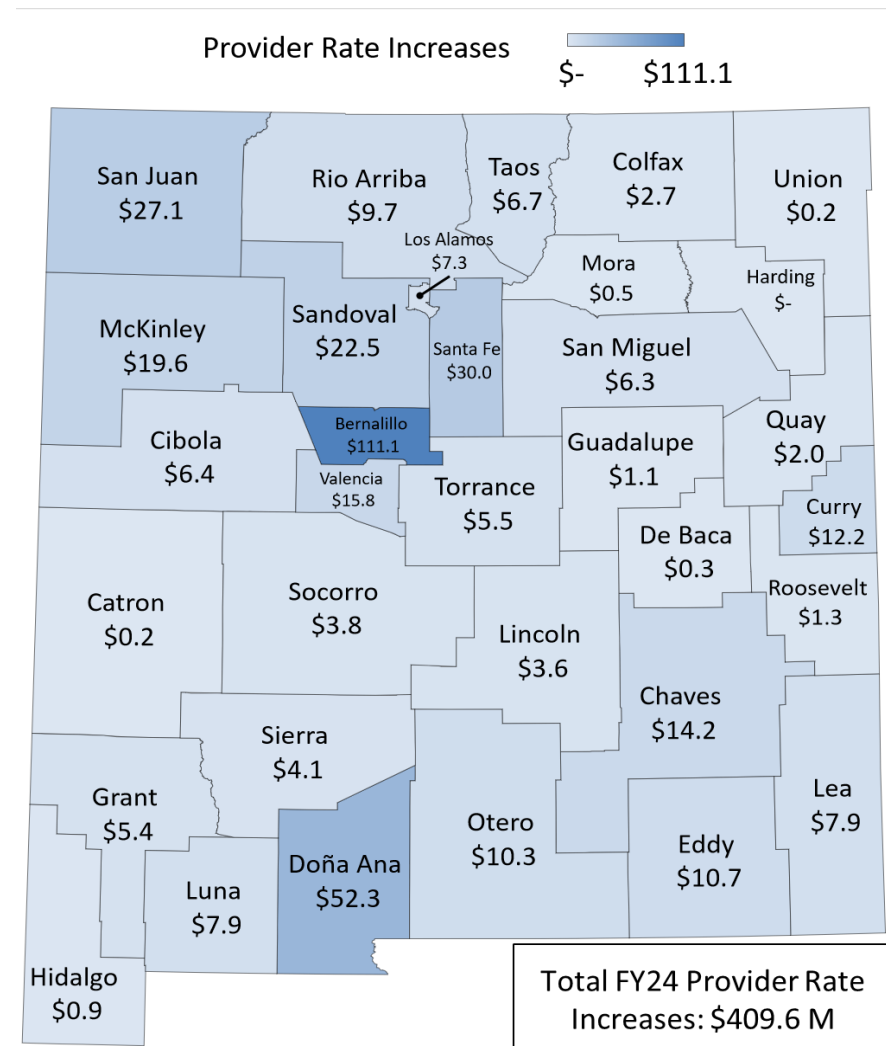
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# HCA FY25 EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

*FY25 request optimizes General Funds & Federal Funds that address drivers of intergenerational poverty by prioritizing:*

1. Medicaid coverage and workforce innovations; ➡
2. Creating a more effective safety net; and,
3. Setting up the HCA for success.

**FY24 HB2 Medicaid Provider Rate Increases (Millions), Pro-Rated by County Member Months**



# HCA FY25 EXECUTIVE PRIORITIES FOR OLDER ADULTS & PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

## MEDICAID

1. Additional rate increases for nursing facilities.
2. Raise primary care and behavioral health rates from 120% to 150% of Medicare.
3. Maintain all other rate increases at 100%.
4. DD waiver provider rate increases and funding to sustain program growth.
5. Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) rate increases.
6. Pay parity for mid-level providers.
7. Add vision benefit for all eligible adults over 21.
8. Add silver diamine fluoride treatment as covered benefit.

## SNAP


1. Raise Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for older adults and people with disabilities from \$25 to \$150 per month.
2. Launch SNAP grandparent/kin monthly benefit.
3. Launch SNAP restaurant meals benefit for older adults and people with disabilities.





# HCA FY26 BUDGET REQUEST TIMELINE

- March-May: HCA leaders pitch FY26 new budget requests
- June & July: HCA staff prepare budget request
- August: HCA budget request vetted internally.
- Sept. 1: HCA submits budget request to Governor's Office and Legislature



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## 4 Ways Nursing Homes Can Promote Substance Use Recovery

**Nursing facilities are admitting an increasing number of residents with Substance Use Disorders (SUD).<sup>1</sup> Facility staff can support residents and promote their recovery in the following ways:**

OPTION 1

Provide space in the nursing facility for peer-led support group meetings. Peer-run groups are widely recognized as a valuable resource for individuals with a SUD or a history of substance use and can help with their recovery. Peer leaders can be identified through local support groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) or Narcotics Anonymous (NA).

Having space in nursing facilities for these groups eliminates transportation barriers and provides an opportunity for residents with SUDs to obtain support without leaving the facility.

OPTION 3

Provide access to online virtual recovery support group meetings. [Virtual meetings](#) eliminate the need for transportation and allow residents flexibility in participation.

OPTION 2

Coordinate with a resident's family member or friend to provide transportation to a local [recovery support group meeting](#).

OPTION 4

Coordinate with activity services to provide leisure outlets that support wellness in the recovery process, such as meditation, yoga, exercise, reading, journaling, and/or art activities. These activities provide meaningful outlets for residents.

**Nursing facilities have an opportunity to provide a safe space for residents as they continue their recovery process.**




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[nursinghomebehavioralhealth.org](http://nursinghomebehavioralhealth.org)



Thank  
You



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# QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

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