New Mexico receives innovative data, technology improvement grant

Written by gallupsun Monday, 19 April 2021 11:32

Project will streamline enrollment in WIC and SNAP programs, help reduce childhood hunger

SANTA FE – New Mexico along with five other states was selected by No Kid Hungry and the A merican Public Human Services Association

to receive an innovative technology project grant that will help reduce childhood hunger. The project leverages data and improves technology to enhance the interfaces and webservices for the New Mexico Humans Services Department's

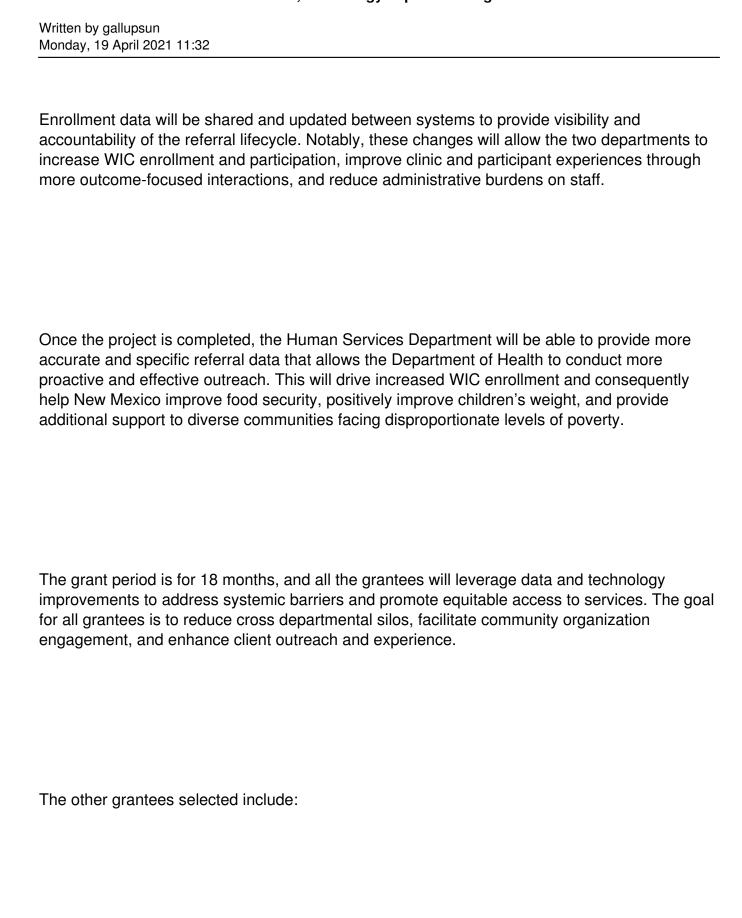
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) formerly known as food stamps and the Department of Health's Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

Ultimately the project will make it possible to bidirectionally exchange participant data to help streamline and maximize program enrollment.

"No child in New Mexico should go hungry but, the pandemic has created hardships for many New Mexico families," Deputy Secretary Angela Medrano said. "This grant will assist us by enabling two computer systems from separate departments to talk to each other and help us identify individuals in need."

New Mexico Humans Services Department's eligibility system will connect with Department of Health's Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children's system. To execute the project, new business rules will be enforced in HSD's system to create a more accurate universe of potentially WIC-eligible participants. Links between heads of households and families will also be added to both departments systems to enable future synchronicity and reevaluation of potential eligibility as circumstances change.

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- Hawaii Department of Human Services
- Kansas Department for Children and Families & Kansas Department of Health and Environment

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- Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services, North Carolina
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- New Jersey Department of Human Services

The Human Services Department provides services and benefits to 1,022,395 New Mexicans through several programs including: the Medicaid Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Child Support

Program, and several Behavioral Health Services.