

New Mexico to deliver \$10.9 million in utility assistance

Written by Staff Reports

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SANTA FE – The New Mexico Human Services Department announced on Sept. 19 that a second supplemental payment was issued on Sept. 16 to New Mexicans who were approved for the Low Income Home Energy Program between Oct. 1, 2021, and Aug. 31, 2022.

HSD received \$22 million from the Federal American Rescue Plan as additional funding for LIHEAP, a program that provides qualified, low-income families with one yearly payment to assist with home heating and cooling costs. Payments are directly made to the HSD LIHEAP customer's utility vendor.

"This assistance will help New Mexico families alleviate the stress of the additional burden by the rising utility costs," Deputy Secretary for the New Mexico Human Services Department, Angela Melrado, said. "We are grateful to our federal partners for working with the state to help New Mexicans facing financial hardship."

Payments will be made directly to the customers' existing utility vendor, and no application process or further action from the customer is needed.

For questions or additional assistance, call the HSD Consolidated Customer Service Center at 1-800-283-4465 Monday–Friday, 7 am - 5 pm.

HSD is urging all customers to make sure the department has their latest contact information on file to ensure that written communication about their benefits is delivered to them in a timely manner. If customers have recently changed their phone number, they should provide their new contact information on the YESNM website:www.yes.state.nm.us. Customers can simply and

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easily update their address using the chat functionality there.

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