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Department of Health Receives \$300,000 toward Public Health Improvement Programs for Systems and Infrastructure

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Secretary Catherine Torres, M.D.

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The New Mexico Department of Health has received an award of \$300,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This funding aims to make fundamental changes and enhancements in health department organizations and their practices to help to improve the delivery and impact of public health services. This funding is made possible through the Prevention and Public Health Fund and administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support.

“We look forward to using these funds as we implement initiatives that will help us achieve the elimination of health disparities across our state,” said New Mexico Department of Health Cabinet Secretary, Dr. Catherine Torres.

The Prevention and Public Health Fund is designed to increase state health departments’ efficiencies of program operations to ensure seamless and coordinated services, readiness to apply and achieve accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board, and participation in the national network of performance improvement managers (a system of sharing and utilizing evidence-based policies and practices for improving the public health system).

The money will be distributed through the year 2 of a 5-year cooperative agreement program known as the National Public Health Improvement Initiative (NPHII) *Strengthening Public Health Infrastructure for Improved Health Outcomes*. New Mexico’s priorities include:

- Achieving Public Health Accreditation for the department
- Establishing a Performance Management System for the department and its partners in communities statewide
- Conducting collaborative health improvement planning and measuring progress on the implementation of health improvement strategies statewide

For more information on this funding, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/ostlts/nphii/>.

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