



**Health
Action**
NEW MEXICO



FamiliesUSA
The Voice for Health Care Consumers

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Report Reveals 36,400 New Mexico Children Diagnosed with Pre-Existing Health Conditions; 380,000 New Mexicans Under Age 65

These New Mexicans Will Gain Necessary Protections from the New Health Reform Law

ALBUQUERQUE - When fully implemented, the new health care reform law, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, will eliminate potential barriers to health coverage for approximately 380,000 New Mexicans by implementing more fair policies that hold insurance companies accountable for the unfair practice of denying coverage to those that need it the most.

A new Families USA report, scheduled for release on Thursday, May 27, 2010 reveals that New Mexicans of all age, racial, and income groups share the problem of pre-existing conditions and will benefit from reform.

The report, "Health Reform: Help for New Mexicans with Pre-Existing Conditions," reveals, with specific data:

- That every age group in New Mexico is affected by potential denial of coverage, and the problem grows as people age.
- That New Mexicans of every income level are affected, but the majority of those affected are middle-class and higher income New Mexicans.
- That every racial and ethnic group in New Mexico is affected.

A press conference for media will be held on Thursday, May 27, 2010, to discuss the new Families USA report.

WHAT: Press Conference - Release of Families USA Report, "Health Reform: Help for New Mexicans with Pre-Existing Conditions"

WHEN: 3 pm, Thursday, May 27, 2010

WHERE: PB & J Family Services, 1101 Lopez Rd. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87105

WHO: *Barbara Webber, Executive Director, Health Action New Mexico*
Dr. Ben Hoffman, President-elect, New Mexico Pediatric Society
Senator Dede Feldman, District 13 (Member, White House Working Group of State Legislators for Health Care Reform)
Jessica Perez, Office of Senator Jeff Bingaman