



HUMAN SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT

**Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor**  
**David R. Scrase, M.D., Secretary**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Jodi McGinnis Porter

[jodi.mcginis-porter@state.nm.us](mailto:jodi.mcginis-porter@state.nm.us)

505-476-7203 office; 505-670-4136 cell

July 9, 2019

**New Mexico Human Services Department reaches settlement  
with three behavioral health providers:  
Hogares, Inc; Valencia Counseling Services, Inc.; and The Counseling Center, Inc.**

Santa Fe, N.M. – The New Mexico Human Services Department has reached settlement agreements with three behavioral health organizations to whom Medicaid payments were frozen in 2013 by the Martinez administration. Settlement agreements were reached with:

1. Hogares, Inc;
2. Valencia Counseling Services, Inc.; and
3. The Counseling Center, Inc.

The agreements were made in the interest of amicably resolving all differences between them and to avoid the time, expense, delay and uncertainty of litigation in the lawsuits filed in the First Judicial District Court.

“We are encouraged by the progress made to resolve these cases, and we believe that these settlements are in the best interest of New Mexico and our behavioral health network,” said Secretary David Scrase, M.D. “We’ll continue to work with other behavioral health providers affected by the 2013 New Mexico Medicaid payment freeze and to rebuild this essential network of services that so many vulnerable New Mexicans need and rely on.”

Under the terms of all three agreements, the parties agree that the settlements are a compromise of the disputed matters and the representations and statements are not an admission of any liability or fault on the part of either party.

“We appreciate these providers stepping forward, so that we can focus on rebuilding the behavioral health network in New Mexico wisely, with integrity and focus, and ensure the people of New Mexico timely access to behavioral health services,” said Scrase.

###