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New Rules Strengthen Civil Rights for People with Developmental Disabilities

Albuquerque, NM: New rules from the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services strengthen the rights of people receiving waiver services. These new rules will be explained to people on the Developmental Disabilities (DD), Mi Via, or Medically Fragile Waivers, Family Members, Advocates, and Guardians at nine “Know Your Rights” Town Hall Meetings.

“This campaign and the rule changes that come with it are about the ideas that the focus should be the person who gets the services and making it possible, practical, and real in the everyday lives of those people,” said Daniel Ekman, Program Manager, Center for Self Advocacy at the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council.

The new rules will help people on waivers:

- Be part of the community where they live and work,
- Choose where they live, who they live with, and how they live,
- Decide how to spend their days and who to spend their days with, and
- Determine who provides services.

Presentations and conversations about the new rules will be in:

Albuquerque: February 1st, 1:30-4 PM and 5-7:30 PM, Center for Development and Disability, 2300 Menaul Boulevard NE

Santa Fe: February 9th, 3:30-6 PM, Main Public Library, 145 Washington Avenue

Las Cruces: February 16th, 5-7:30 PM, NM Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road

Taos: February 28th, 5-7:30 PM, Agricultural Center, 202 Chamisa Road

Roswell: March 7th, 5-7:30 PM, Roswell School Pueblo Auditorium, 300 North Kentucky

Gallup: March 14th, 5-7:30 PM, Educational Development Center, 1000 East Aztec

Farmington: March 29th, 5-7:30 PM, San Juan Center for Independence, 1204 San Juan Blvd.

Silver City: April 3rd, 5-7:30 PM, Hidalgo Medical Services Community Health Center,

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1007 N. Pope Street

Hosted by the Know Your Rights Campaign Steering Committee:

New Mexico Allies for Advocacy Inc., The ARC of New Mexico, Case Management Action and Advocacy Council, New Mexico Autism Society, Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, Disability Rights New Mexico, Developmental Disabilities Supports Division, Governor's Commission on Disability, Human Services Department, Parents Reaching Out, San Juan Center for Independence, Association of Developmental Disabilities Community Providers, Family Living Provider Association, and UNM's Center for Development and Disability.

Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) (505) 475-8974

<http://actnewmexico.org/cms-final-rule.html>

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