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Aging & Long-Term Services Awarded Nearly \$800,000 Grant for Resource Center

The New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department on Friday was awarded a grant for \$798,900 to support the creation of a resource center that will provide streamlined access to in-home and other supports for seniors and people with disabilities.

The resource center exemplifies Governor Bill Richardson's principle of consolidating and reorganizing state government into a more efficient, easily accessible system.

The center, which will be open in July, will provide comprehensive information and assistance to seniors, people with disabilities and their families. A database of services available across the state is being developed and already contains more than 5,000 listings.

"In the past, people seeking care alternatives to nursing homes may have had to call five or six offices to find all of the services they needed," Aging and Long-Term Services Secretary Michelle Lujan Grisham said. "Our resource center will ease the strain of finding appropriate care and services. We will offer information and support to gain access to a wide variety of help for people throughout the state."

New Mexico was one of only 12 states that received grants from the federal Health and Human Services Department during this granting cycle. Twelve states received grants last year.