



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, May 19 is World Hepatitis Day; and

WHEREAS, hepatitis A, hepatitis B and hepatitis C are the most common types of viral hepatitis found in the United States, and there are approximately 5,000 people infected with hepatitis B and between 28,000 - 32,000 people infected with hepatitis C in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, although New Mexico leads the nation in mortality due to chronic liver disease, hepatitis A and hepatitis B are vaccine preventable diseases, and local public health offices provide free screening and hepatitis vaccine to infants and adolescents and to adults who engage in high risk activities; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Department of Health has developed partnerships with the New Mexico Corrections Department, the University of New Mexico, the New Mexico Primary Care Association, and the New Mexico Hepatitis C Alliance to provide hepatitis C education, intervention and chronic disease management services to eligible hepatitis C positive patients in New Mexico; and

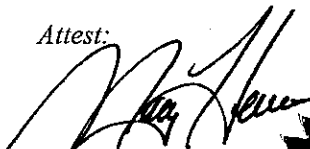
WHEREAS, by calling attention to the importance of viral hepatitis awareness, prevention and intervention, the New Mexico Department of Health hopes to improve the quality of life for all persons living in New Mexico;

NOW, THEREFORE I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim May 19, 2008 as:

"Hepatitis Awareness Day"


throughout the State of New Mexico and urge all citizens to recognize the importance of viral hepatitis prevention and education and the accomplishments that have been made to prevent and reduce the impact of this disease in New Mexico.

Attest:


Mary Herrera
Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this
24th day of April, 2008.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal
of the Great State of New Mexico


Bill Richardson
Governor