
20 Ways in 20 Days Way 11 Day



20 ways New Mexicans will be hurt by more budget cuts

Potential Cut: It took more than seven years to restore funding for childcare assistance eligibility to pre-2001 levels. Now those gains are in jeopardy with the prospect of deep budget cuts.

Potential Consequences: Parents must have childcare in order to work, but many working families find the cost—which is higher than college tuition—an overwhelming burden. Childcare assistance makes it possible for 22,000 children from low-income families to receive safe, quality care.¹ A nurturing, enriched environment helps build a child’s foundation for future success.

When it comes to childcare, quality matters, so the state has worked hard to get childcare centers to better educate their staff and improve their level of care. Deeper cuts could reverse this positive trend while leading to lowered eligibility for assistance or the creation of a waiting list.

A Better Choice: A balanced approach that includes raising revenues is the best strategy for weathering the recession.

Legislators have a clear choice: they can make deeper, more damaging cuts in the funding that provides care to our most vulnerable kids or they can choose a balanced approach—one that doesn’t lay all the sacrifice on working families *and* that offers a sensible, long-term solution.

We urge them to make the *Better Choice for New Mexico*.

First things First, New Mexico. Tell our Legislature: ***Don’t balance the budget on the backs of New Mexico’s working families.*** Instead, open the books on tax breaks for special interests, close the loopholes for out-of-state corporations, and rollback tax cuts for the wealthy.

Visit ***Better Choices New Mexico*** on facebook.com for more information about the group and specific revenue generators.

¹ Annual Report, CYFD, 2007. http://www.cyfd.org/uploads/images/annual_report_2007_web.pdf

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- AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES
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- AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS NEW MEXICO
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- CENTER FOR CIVIC POLICY
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- COMMUNITY ACTION NM
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- CONSERVATION VOTERS NM
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- COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA
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- DRUG POLICY ALLIANCE NM
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- FAMILIES AND YOUTH, INC.
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- HEALTH ACTION NEW MEXICO
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- INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS
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- LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NM
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- LUTHERAN ADVOCACY MINISTRY
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- NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION NEW MEXICO
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- NM ADULT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
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- NM CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
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- RESULTS – SANTA FE
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- SANTA FE ALLIANCE
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- SOUTHWEST ORGANIZING PROJECT