

20 Ways in 20 Days  
Way 9 Day



20 ways New Mexicans will be hurt by more budget cuts

**Potential Cut:** Funding for 56 of New Mexico’s school-based health centers.

**Potential Consequences:** School-based health centers (SBHCs) are primary care centers located in schools that provide students with the physical, behavioral and oral health care they are often otherwise unable to access. Many of the children served by these health centers are at high risk for health problems and are not covered by insurance. The need for SBHCs is particularly critical to children living in rural areas.

Of the more than 80 SBHCs in New Mexico, the state’s Department of Health helps fund 56.<sup>1</sup> In 2008, this funding allowed 20,000 students to receive care. Continued reductions in funding threaten closure or cutbacks in services at what, for some children, are their only sources for health care.

**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 helps keep our school children healthy 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 businesses, 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.

- AMERICA VOTES EDUCATION AND ACTION FUND
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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 CENTER ON LAW AND POVERTY
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- NM CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
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- NM COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS
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- NM CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES
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- NM EARLY CHILDHOOD ALLIANCE
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- NEW MEXICO SOLUTIONS
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- NM VOICES FOR CHILDREN
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- NM YOUTH PROVIDERS ALLIANCE
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- RESULTS – SANTA FE
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- SANTA FE ALLIANCE
- 
- SOUTHWEST ORGANIZING PROJECT

<sup>1</sup> NM Department of Health, Office of School and Adolescent Health