



October 22, 2014

Michael Hely, Staff Attorney
New Mexico Legislative Council Service
State Capitol #411
490 Old Santa Fe Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Mr. Michael Hely:

Thank you again for the opportunity to present monthly updates on the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange (NMHIX). The on-going dialogue between the legislature and NMHIX is an important one to ensure that we continue to carry out our mission as set-forth by our enabling legislation.

I am writing this letter to follow-up on a very important question that was raised by the Committee in September regarding the use of New Mexico vendors to perform Exchange functions.

First, as I expressed when we last met, it is a core principle of NMHIX to actively seek out local expertise and resources whenever possible that understand New Mexico's unique cultural makeup and have the expertise necessary to support an exchange that best serves the residents and businesses of the New Mexico. Since my arrival in New Mexico just a few months ago, I have been so impressed with the amazing talent and expertise that is right here in our own state.

At the same time, we do also recognize that some exchange functions, such as the development of our technology solution are highly specialized and do require expertise from out-of-state vendors. Even in those cases, we continue to encourage our vendors to find local resources to support their team.

I am very pleased to let you know that between January 1, 2013 and August 31, 2014, 34%, or approximately \$14.3 million of NMHIX funds, were paid to New Mexico vendors.

As we head into this open enrollment period, I am very excited to announce that after a highly competitive bidding process, we have selected several additional New Mexico vendors to fill vital roles on our outreach, marketing, communications and enrollment entity teams. The local insight will be vital to helping NMHIX reaching as many New Mexicans as possible to educate them on what the exchange can provide them and their family.

NMHIX is excited to further develop its strategic partnerships to provide all New Mexicans with the information they need to sign up for insurance, ensure that those eligible for tax credits receive them, and prepare us for our next open enrollment period beginning November 15th, all in a cost-effective manner that helps grow New Mexico's local economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Amy Dowd'.

Amy Dowd
Chief Executive Officer
New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange

