

## PARTICIPANT CORNER

### Participant Corner

Daithan loves Cos Play! Here he is as: Hamburglar, Lord Licorice, The Eraser and Big Boss



### Your Talent is in Demand!

Are you a poet, storyteller, artist or just want to share a picture of yourself doing a favorite activity or maybe some great news? Please submit pictures of your original artwork, short stories, or poems. Submissions to be featured in an upcoming Mi Via Newsletter. Submissions can be sent to: [rachel.gonzales@hca.nm.gov](mailto:rachel.gonzales@hca.nm.gov)

### Shining Star Employees of the Month

Do you have a Direct Support Professional (DSP) that you would like to spotlight and allow to shine? DDSD would like to recognize our DSPs who provide above and beyond support to Mi Via Participants. DDSD Mi Via Unit will feature Shining Stars in the Mi Via Newsletter monthly. Submit a brief note of why you would like to recognize your staff. Submissions can be sent to: [rachel.gonzales@hca.nm.gov](mailto:rachel.gonzales@hca.nm.gov)

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Participant Corner
- Shining Star Employee of the Month
- Mi Via Waiver Renewal Feedback Link
- Positive Thoughts
- Service Highlight
- Developmental Disabilities and Support Division (DDSD) and Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ)
- Just for Laughs
- Community Resources
- Activities in Your Community
- Circle of Support
- Fun Easy Recipes
- Dates to Remember

## FMA-Conduent Contact Information:

Phone: 1-800-283-4465

Toll-free Fax: 1-866-302-6787

E-mail for Form Submission:

[docprocessing@conduent.com](mailto:docprocessing@conduent.com)

Physical Address:

1720-A Randolph Rd SE

Albuquerque, NM 87106



July 2024

## Mi Via Waiver Renewal Feedback Link

The Developmental Disabilities Support Division (DDSD) and Mi Via/Medical Assistance Division (MAD) are currently reviewing the Mi Via Waiver Service Standard.

You can provide suggestions NOW!!!

Below is a link to provide your suggestions for the Mi Via Waiver renewal:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/a4832f2de8804b3eb4b22118821a3bf1>

The Mi Via Unit will be holding town hall meetings throughout the New Mexico Dates, times, and locations for town hall meetings will be announced soon.

If you have any questions, please contact Elaine Hill with DDSD/MV Unit Supervisor:

[elaine.hill@hca.gov.nm](mailto:elaine.hill@hca.gov.nm)

## POSITIVE THOUGHTS

Don't follow your dreams, chase them!

Wherever you go, no matter the weather,  
always bring your own sunshine.

A positive attitude is not a destination. It  
is a way of life.

"Keep looking up... that's the secret of  
life." - Charlie Brown

## Service Highlight:

### PROPERLY STORING SERVICE RECORDS

As an EOR it is important to keep records that show that services have been provided. EORs must keep records for a minimum of six (6) years from the first date of service.

Important documents to keep include but are not limited to:

- Approved SSP and Budget
- Copies of signed Employee and Vendor Agreements
- Copies of invoices, VPRs, mileage sheets, or timesheets
- Receipts for goods purchased
- Daily progress notes
- Attendance logs

These documents are needed to complete EOR responsibilities and may also be requested by the Health Care Authority (HCA) Mi Via/Medical Assistance Division (MAD) or Developmental Disabilities and Support Division (DDSD) during program audits. In addition, the EOR must protect employee's privacy and confidentiality. The EOR must have a secure place to store paper and electronic files and keep them available in case they are audited.



July 2024

## Developmental Disabilities and Support Division (DDSD) and Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ)

The Advisory Council on Quality Supports for People with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (ACQ) guides DDSD on the systems guiding the running of services and supports that help people with IDD of all ages and their families to be fully included in New Mexico communities. The duties and responsibilities of the ACQ includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Conduct meetings every other month.
- Advise and assist the Department in reviewing outcomes regarding the quality assurance system for people with I/DD and their support networks.
- Provide information and feedback about service availability and current needs with regard to people with I/DD and their support networks.
- Participate in any statewide needs assessment processes.
- Recommend priorities for the development, modification, and expansion of services to meet the needs of people with I/DD.
- Advise and assist the Division in planning for services to people with I/DD.
- Promote collaboration efforts among state agencies and community-based programs serving people with I/DD.
- Advocate for system change to improve on the quality of services addressing the specialized and individual needs of people with I/DD; and
- Advise the Division on policy changes and policy development.

The next public ACQ meeting will be held 8/8/2024 at 9am-1pm via Zoom.

**Check website for zoom invite info/link**

For additional information please visit this link:  
<https://www.nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/coco/acq/>

Contact Wendy Corry, DDSD ACQ Admin. at  
[wendy@corryconsulting.com](mailto:wendy@corryconsulting.com)

### JUST FOR LAUGHS

What is the easiest way to get straight A's?

*Use a ruler.*

What do you get from a pampered cow?

*Spoiled milk.*

Where do beef burgers go to dance?

*The meatball.*



July 2024

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Links to New Mexico parks with trails with minimal obstacles and/or wheelchair accessible:

[https://www.accessiblenature.info/?page\\_id=382](https://www.accessiblenature.info/?page_id=382)

<https://www.traillink.com/stateactivity/nm-wheelchair-accessible-trails/>

<https://www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/accessible-city-park-recreation-facilities>

<https://www.discoverruidoso.com/accessible-travel-ruidoso>

<https://rrnm.gov/2710/A-Park-Above>

<https://destinationaccessibility.com/abq/>

<https://news-bulletin.com/accessible-fishing-and-overcoming-disability/>

<https://www.gounlimited.org/fishing/>

<https://www.adaptivesportsprogram.org/#1097693830>

## DON'T FORGET TO SUBMIT

Your artwork

Your poetry

Your stories

Your Shining Stars

Best of all share you and your good memories

Send submissions to:

Rachel.gonzales@hca.nm.gov

## ACTIVITIES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- Lowrider Day on the Plaza 2024 7/6 @2pm, Santa Fe Plaza, 63 Lincoln Ave, Santa Fe
- Fiesta de los Ninos 7/20-7/21, El Rancho de las Golondrinas, 1334 Los Pinos, Santa Fe
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival Party in the Park 7/4 Chaparral Park, 1005 S Commercial St, Lovington
- Route 66 Summerfest 7/20 @5-10, Nob Hill Main Street, 3901 Georgia St NE, Albuquerque
- Roswell UFO Festival 7/5-7/7, 426 N Main St, Roswell
- Ponderosa Grove Under a Mountain Sky 7/12 @6pm, Wingfield Park Pavilion, 300 Center St., Ruidoso
- Wildthing Championship Bull Riding 7/12-7/13, Red Rock Park, 825 Outlaw Rd, Gallup
- 2024 Fiesta de Taos 7/19-7/21, Kit Carson Memorial Park, 211 Paseo Del Pueblo Norte, Taos
- 2024 International Santa Fe Trail Balloon Rally 7/5-7/7, Raton MainStreet, 145 S. 1st Street, Raton
- 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Exceptional Kids Rodeo 7/20@9am, Rodeo de Santa Fe, 3237 Rodeo Rd, Santa Fe
- San Miguel Sheriff's Posse Rodeo 7/6-7/7, SM CSP Pecos Arena, 63 Main St., Pecos



July 2024

### Mi Via Circle of Support

MI VIA HCA Website: <https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/pgsv/sdw>

Consultant Agency Name	Contact Name	Phone	E-mail	Regions(s)
<b>Active Advocates of New Mexico</b>	Alicia Sisneros	505-353-1778	<a href="mailto:AliciaS@ActiveAdvocatesNM.com">AliciaS@ActiveAdvocatesNM.com</a>	All of New Mexico
<b>CNRAG, Inc. (Care Network Resource Assistance Group)</b>	Fallon Vincell	575-621-3645	<a href="mailto:fvincell@cnragusa.com">fvincell@cnragusa.com</a>	Metro, SE & SW
<b>Consumer Direct Personal Care (CDPC)</b>	Margarita Chavez-Sanchez	505-344-8182 x3535	<a href="mailto:margaritacs@consumerdirectcare.com">margaritacs@consumerdirectcare.com</a>	All of New Mexico
<b>Excel Case Management, Inc.</b>	Jennifer Pennington	505-324-8660 ext 102	<a href="mailto:jPennington@excelcasemanagement.com">jPennington@excelcasemanagement.com</a>	NW & SE Regions
<b>Innovative Self Direction</b>	Frank Aquila	505-850-7662	<a href="mailto:faquila@innovativeselfdirection.com">faquila@innovativeselfdirection.com</a>	All of New Mexico
<b>Los Amigos, LLC</b>	Michelle Rutt	505-920-4511	<a href="mailto:Michelle@losamigosnm.com">Michelle@losamigosnm.com</a>	All of New Mexico
<b>Me Town Enterprises, LLC</b>	Kimberly Riebsomer	505-310-9069	<a href="mailto:riebsomer@gmail.com">riebsomer@gmail.com</a>	Metro & NE
<b>Merit Consulting, LLC</b>	Melinda Broussard	505-288-2889	<a href="mailto:mbroussard.merit@gmail.com">mbroussard.merit@gmail.com</a>	Metro
<b>Peak Developmental Services</b>	Sarah Martinez	505-281-9962	<a href="mailto:smartinez@nmddwcm.com">smartinez@nmddwcm.com</a>	All of New Mexico
<b>Self-Directed Choices</b>	Sandy Skaar Jacob Patterson	505-508-1663	<a href="mailto:Sandy@sdchoices.com">Sandy@sdchoices.com</a> <a href="mailto:Jacob@sdchoices.com">Jacob@sdchoices.com</a>	All of New Mexico
<b>UNM Center for Development and Disability (CDD)</b>	Carrie Roberts Janelle Groover	505-280-6442 505-401-9328	<a href="mailto:CnRoberts@salud.unm.edu">CnRoberts@salud.unm.edu</a> <a href="mailto:itorresgroover@salud.unm.edu">itorresgroover@salud.unm.edu</a>	All of New Mexico
<b>Visions Case Management</b>	Charles Clayton Casie Reza	575-779-7419 888-588-9152	<a href="mailto:Charles@visionsnm.com">Charles@visionsnm.com</a> <a href="mailto:casie@visionsnm.com">casie@visionsnm.com</a>	All of New Mexico



July 2024

**Health Care Authority/ Medical Assistance Division – Exempt Services and Program Bureau**

PO Box 2348, Santa Fe, NM 87504-2348

Toll-free Phone: 1-888-997-2583, Fax: 505-827-7277

HCA manages the FMA/Conduent contract and the TPA/Comagine contract

<b>Deanna DeHerrera</b>	<b>Mi Via &amp; Medically Fragile Waivers</b> Staff Manager Functions: Mi via & Medically Fragile Waiver Oversight	505-629-7260	<a href="mailto:Deanna.DeHerrera@hca.nm.gov">Deanna.DeHerrera@hca.nm.gov</a>
<b>Rachel Gonzales</b>	<b>Mi Via Social &amp; Community Coordinator</b> Functions: Conduent, Billing, Payment issues	505-490-3721	<a href="mailto:MVWaiverHSD@hsd.nm.gov">MVWaiverHSD@hsd.nm.gov</a>
<b>Jennifer Romero</b>	<b>Mi Via Social &amp; Community Coordinator</b> Functions: Participant Eligibility Issues and Technical Assistance	505-469-8522	<a href="mailto:MVWaiverHSD@hsd.nm.gov">MVWaiverHSD@hsd.nm.gov</a>

**Health Care Authority / Developmental Disabilities Supports Division**

5300 Homestead Rd. NE Suite 213, Albuquerque, NM 87110

Phone: 1-800-283-5548

DDSD operates the Mi Via Program for Developmental Disability (DD) and Medically Fragile (MF) Populations Oversees consultant agency contracts

<b>Elaine Hill</b>	<b>Mi Via Waiver Program Manager</b> Functions: Participant/Consultant Issues & Technical Assistance, & statewide MF WCF & MF CACF Contact for: Consumer Direct Personal Care	505-506-6103	<a href="mailto:elaine.hill@hca.nm.gov">elaine.hill@hca.nm.gov</a>  Fax: 505-841-6523
<b>Krystal Armijo</b>	<b>Mi Via Waiver Program Coordination</b> Functions: Participant/Consultant Issues & Technical Assistance Contact for: Peak, Visions & CNRAG	505-252-3087	<a href="mailto:krystal.armijo@hca.nm.gov">krystal.armijo@hca.nm.gov</a>  Fax: 505-841-6523
<b>Anthony Bonarrigo</b>	<b>Mi Via Waiver Program Coordination</b> Functions: Participant/Consultant Issues & Technical Assistance Contact for: UNM-CDD, Innovative Self Direction, Merit & Active Advocates	505-709-7410	<a href="mailto:anthony.bonarrigo@hca.nm.gov">anthony.bonarrigo@hca.nm.gov</a>  Fax: 505-841-6523
<b>Alicia Otoló</b>	<b>Mi Via Waiver Program Coordination</b> Functions: Participant/Consultant Issues & Technical Assistance Contact for: Me Town, Self-Directed Choices & Los Amigos	505-218-1119	<a href="mailto:Alicia.otolo@hca.nm.gov">Alicia.otolo@hca.nm.gov</a>  Fax: 505-841-6523



July 2024

### Comagine Health

PO Box 20910, Albuquerque, NM 87154-0190  
Phone: 1-866-962-2180

Comagine Health is the Third-Party Assessor (TPA) for Mi Via. They are responsible for reviewing and approving the Service and Support Plans (SSP).

Blue Cross Blue Shield	866-689-1523	<a href="https://www.bcbsnm.com/turquoise-care-welcome/">https://www.bcbsnm.com/turquoise-care-welcome/</a>
Presbyterian	800-356-2219	<a href="https://www.phs.org/health-plans/turquoise-care-medicaid">https://www.phs.org/health-plans/turquoise-care-medicaid</a>
<b>NEW MCO's Starting July 1, 2024</b>		
Molina	844-862-4543	<a href="https://www.molinahealthcare.com/members/nm/en-us/mem/Medicaid.aspx">https://www.molinahealthcare.com/members/nm/en-us/mem/Medicaid.aspx</a>
United Health Care	Coming Soon!	<a href="https://www.uhc.com/communityplan/new-mexico/plans">https://www.uhc.com/communityplan/new-mexico/plans</a>

### Fun easy recipes:

#### Strawberry Lime Smoothies

Total time to make: 5 minutes

Makes: 3 servings

Ingredients:

- 1 cup strawberry yogurt
- 1/2 cup 2% milk
- 2 to 4 tablespoons lime juice
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 cups fresh strawberries, hulled

Directions:

1. Put all ingredients in a covered blender.
2. Blend until smooth.

#### Crunchy Granola Pretzel Sticks

Total time to make: 25 minutes

Makes: 2 dozen

Ingredients:

- 1 package (12 ounces) dark chocolate chips
- 24 pretzel rods
- 1 cup granola without raisins
- Wax paper

Directions:

1. In a microwave, melt chocolate chips in a 2-cup glass measuring cup.
2. Stir until smooth.
3. Pour into only 1 side of a large shallow dish.
4. Roll the top half of each pretzel into chocolate.
5. Allow excess chocolate coating to drip off.
6. Sprinkle pretzels with granola.
7. Place on waxed paper until set.
8. Store in an airtight container.



## July 2024

July 2024 Dates to Remember						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>International Joke Day</b>	2	3	4 <b>4<sup>th</sup> of July</b>  NM State Offices Closed	5 Vendor checks received or deposited	6 Deadline to submit PRFs for 7/19 vendor payment
7 <b>National Day of Rock 'n' Roll</b>	8 <b>National Freezer Pop Day</b>	9	10	11	12 Paychecks & vendor checks received or deposited, end of the pay period	13 Deadline to fax timesheets & mileage for 7/26 payment & VPRs for vendor payments
14 <b>National Mac and Cheese Day</b>	15	16	17	18 <b>National Ice Cream Day</b>	19 Vendor checks received or deposited	20 Deadline to submit PRFs for 8/2 vendor payment
21	22	23 <b>Peanut Butter and Chocolate Day</b>	24 <b>National Cousins Day</b>	25	26 Paychecks & vendor checks received or deposited, end of the pay period	27 Deadline to fax timesheets & mileage for 8/9 payment & VPRs for vendor payments
28	29	30 <b>International Day of Friendship</b>	31 <b>National Mutt Day</b>	8/1	8/2 Vendor checks received or deposited	8/3 Deadline to submit PRFs for 8/16 vendor payment