



First Lady Barbara Richardson Declares September 8, 2004 “International Literacy Day”

For Immediate Release
September 8, 2004

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SANTA FE- First Lady Barbara Richardson, on behalf of Governor Richardson declared today, Wednesday, September 8, 2004 as “International Literacy Day” to recognize the many programs throughout the state that are working to raise the literacy skills in children and adults.

“The Governor and I are committed to creating a high-tech, high-wage, growing economy in New Mexico,” said First Lady Barbara Richardson. “But we can’t accomplish that unless we build the workforce of the future... a workforce that depends on today’s students getting the best education.”

“The facts speak for themselves - poor reading skills translate directly into poor student achievement, higher dropout rates, and lower financial and personal success. Ending illiteracy will guarantee a more prosperous future for all New Mexicans.”

The First Lady also sent a letter to every Mayor in New Mexico urging them to encourage literacy programs and issue a similar proclamation for their communities.

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