



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

News Release

Governor Richardson Appoints Members to new Telehealth Commission

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SANTA FE – Governor Bill Richardson today announced the names of the 25 people he has appointed to the Telehealth Commission. Telehealth technology includes videoconferencing, the Internet, store-and-forward imaging, streaming media, and satellite and wireless communications to share medical information and link patients to physicians.

“Telehealth represents the future of high quality, accessible healthcare,” Governor Bill Richardson said. “Today New Mexico takes a major step forward in providing medical and behavioral health specialists in every community in the state through the use of state-of-the art technology.”

The Telehealth Commission will develop a coordinated telehealth network in New Mexico in order to:

- Bridge medical and behavioral health specialists to primary care providers;
- Send medical data to specialists to diagnose conditions;
- Link patients to providers and decrease the need for patients to travel;
- Link families to professionals caring for their children in hospitals; and
- Increase access to the latest information, education, consultations and treatments in the community in which healthcare professionals, students and trainees practice.

The Commission includes physicians and other healthcare providers, educators, technology and telecommunications experts, and business representatives from around the state. It also includes representatives from the state’s health and human service agencies, general services, education and the corrections department. The Commission was created as a result of Senate Bill 473, which was passed during the 2005 legislative

session and signed into law by Governor Richardson. The members of the new Telehealth Commission are:

1. **Steven Adelsheim, M.D.** – Psychiatrist, member of UNM faculty and Department of Health
2. **Dale Alverson, M.D.** – Medical Director, UNM Center for Telehealth & Cybermedicine Research and UNM Professor of Pediatrics and Ob/GYN
3. **Lynne Anker-Unnever** – Aging Network Division Director, Aging and Long Term Services Department
4. **Tony Davis** – Acting Chief Information Officer of Navajo Area Indian Health Service
5. **Mark Duran** – NM Housing Manufacturers and member of IT Commission
6. **Stephen Easley** – IT Manager, Office of Workforce Training and Development
7. **Paul Ehrlich** – Executive Director, Totah Behavioral Health Authority
8. **Charlie Ferrell** – NM Exchange Carrier Group
9. **Pam Hyde**, Secretary of NM Human Services Department
10. **Dwayne Jordan** – Chairman of Jordan Enterprises
11. **Patricio Larragoite, D.D.S.** – Executive Director, Health Policy Commission
12. **Ed Lopez, Jr.** – Secretary of NM General Services Department
13. **Richard Lueker, M.D.** – Cardiologist and Medical Director of the New Heart Center
14. **Kathleen Manygoats** – Behavioral Health Program Director, Indian Health Service
15. **Robert Mayer** – Chief information Officer, Department of Health
16. **Danice Picraux** – Legislator
17. **Frank Pullara, M.D.** – Health Services Bureau Chief, Corrections Department
18. **Terry Maness** – Sandoval County Broadband Initiative Director
19. **Jane Breen Pierce, Ph.D.** – NMSU Professor with experience in long-distance education
20. **Danny Sandoval** - Administrative Services Division Director, Children, Youth and Families Department
21. **Ferdi Serim** – School Health Manager, Public Education Department
22. **John C. Tiernan** – Information Technology manager for Health Centers of Northern New Mexico
23. **Tomas Torres** – Telehealth Project Manager, Rio Arriba Family Care Network
24. **Jeannette Velarde, M.D.** – Medical Director, Lovelace Community Health Plan
25. **Craig Wingate** – Semantic Mesa Technology