



**NM CARES**  
**Health Disparities Center**

*Increasing Health Equity In New Mexico Through  
Community & Academic Research Partnerships*



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Miria Kano  
Senior Program Manager  
NM CARES Health Disparities Center  
505-272-5646  
mkano@salud.unm.edu  
<http://hsc.unm.edu/programs/nmcareshd/>

### **NM CARES Health Disparities Center Director Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> by National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

**ALBUQUERQUE, NM** – Dr. Robert Williams, Director of UNM NM CARES Health Disparities Center was recently ranked first place in funding among Family Medicine Researchers by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as reported by the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research in North Carolina, and UNM ranked third place by university ranking.

The NM CARES Health Disparities Center is an exploratory research center funded by the NIH and its National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities.

The primary goal of the NM CARES Health Disparity Center is to create a vigorous, self-sustaining, research center that advances the scientific base of knowledge about the interventions and solutions to health disparities in all minority/racial/ethnic groups in New Mexico. The center aims to expand research on health disparities interventions, expand the number of researchers in health disparity interventions, and build partnerships with communities to identify and work to eliminate or reduce the number of health disparities.

Prevalence of adverse health risk factors continue to plague the state. Access and delivery of equitable health care in New Mexico for minorities show a staggering discrepancy between white and non-whites.

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“Health disparities and their effects on the health and well-being of New Mexicans are intolerable yet widespread, affecting many of the people and communities throughout the state, states Dr. Williams. While research over the last 15 years indicates that disparities associated with ethnicity, race and gender tremendously affect New Mexicans, we also know that traumatic life conditions resulting from the chronic strains of poverty and marginalization contribute to cumulative health concerns, as well.”

The NM CARES Health Disparities Center (NM CARES) seeks new solutions to these complex problems that affect New Mexicans.

National Institutes for Health is the nation’s medical research agency—supporting scientific studies that turn discovery into health. NIH is the largest source of funding for medical research in the world, creating hundreds of thousands of high-quality jobs.

***Story by Nora Chavez***