

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current and previously issued FIRs are available on the NM Legislative Website (www.nmlegis.gov) and may also be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Cisneros ORIGINAL DATE 2/5/2019
 LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE MFA Funds for Youth Homelessness SB 402

ANALYST Leger

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY19	FY20		
	\$413.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 402

Senate Bill 402 appropriates \$413.0 from the general fund to the Department of Finance and Administration to provide the MFA with matching funds for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant to address youth homelessness in New Mexico.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$413.0 contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY21 shall revert to the general fund. The New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness is the recipient of a two year, \$3.37 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to address youth homelessness.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The funds appropriated in this bill will be used as match funding for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP); the total grant is \$3.37 million from HUD.

CYFD reports, the Northern New Mexico Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program is a collaboration between the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness, the Youth Shelters & Family Services, Dreamtree Project, Childhaven, youth/young adults, and other partners, including CYFD.

The Northern New Mexico Youth Homelessness Demonstration program serves 14 New Mexico counties: Cibola, Colfax, Harding, Los Alamos, McKinley, Mora, Quay, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, San Juan, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Taos and Union.

MFA and CYFD report the following statistics on youth homelessness:

- In 2017, New Mexico youth made 321 calls to the National Runaway Hotline. Based on a 2017 point in time count 1,164 youth were experiencing homelessness and there were only 78 beds dedicated specifically for youth out of the total year-round beds available for individuals experiencing homelessness. Of the 14 counties the YHDP is focusing on, 825 youth were identified as experiencing homelessness and 3,499 were at risk of experiencing homelessness;
- Based on data provided by the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED), schools statewide enrolled a total of 10,739 students (PreK-12) experiencing homelessness during the 2017-2018 school year. Specifically, students living doubled-up represented 76.6% of the total, those in unsheltered locations represented 9.8%, those in shelters represented 8.9%, and those in hotels/motels represented 4.7%;
- The New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness reported that at the 2017 Point-in-Time Count, 74 individuals were unaccompanied youth, 35 youth were ages 18-24 and 39 youth were under age 18. Six of these youth age 24 and under were parenting; and
- New Mexico's low household incomes make it difficult for many families to obtain and maintain housing, and therefore contribute to the risk of homelessness for youth and young adults. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) Report: A Forum on Ending Youth Homelessness (August 2018) reported that as of 2016, approximately 48,000 individuals (26%) - ages 18-24 - had incomes below the Census Bureau's poverty threshold. In 2016, over 80% of children in NM lived in households with a high housing cost burden; specifically, 32% of NM children lived in households where more than 30% of the total household income is spent on housing and 52% of NM children lived in low-income households where more than 50% of the total household income is spent on housing.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

According to MFA, the grant will provide an array of services for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness such as: Crisis Residential/Transitional Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing Assistance with Family Reunification, Case Management, Transportation, Behavioral Healthcare, Life Skills Development, Enhanced Educational & Employment Opportunities, Childcare and Access to Healthy Food.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

MFA currently administers the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) program on behalf of the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness. The Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program is part of CoC; therefore, MFA is well-positioned to administer those funds within its existing systems.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

MFA further reports, other segments of the youth and young adult population have less access to resources to prevent or end incidents of homelessness:

- The Juvenile Justice Services Division of CYFD reported over 200 youth involved in the juvenile justice system in the target areas of the YHDP during calendar year 2017;
- Runaway & Homeless Youth (RHY) data gathered from service providers in 2017, 55 youth received some type of shelter or housing services reported being LGBT or questioning; and
- Based on responses provided directly by students through the 2017 Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) housing instability among youth who identified as transgender, genderqueer, gender-fluid or unsure of gender identity, is significantly higher than for youth that identified as cisgender.

Source: [Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program: Coordinated Community Plan](#)

JL/gb