NEW MEXICO
Department of Health
Public Health Division

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
Governor

PATRICK M. ALLEN
Cabinet Secretary

March 15, 2024

Dear Healthcare Provider:

This letter is to announce a call for applications for the Birthing Workforce Retention Fund. The Fund provides grants to Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNM) and physicians (OB and Family Medicine) who provide full scope perinatal care, including birthing services, and need assistance to cover the cost of malpractice insurance premiums.

The New Mexico Legislature authorized the creation of the Birthing Workforce Retention Fund in 2008 to assist providers of birthing services with the high cost of malpractice insurance premiums. The Department of Health (NMDOH), as the administrative agency for this Fund, is extending an invitation to providers to apply for an award now through **Monday, April 22, 2024**.

To be eligible for an award, the applicant must:
- be a CNM or physician licensed in New Mexico who provides birthing services,
- show that NM Medicaid-insured or indigent patients accounted for at least one-half of the births the provider attended during the previous two calendar years (2022-2023),
- have a current malpractice liability insurance policy covering birthing services,
- show intent to continue full scope practice, including birthing services, in New Mexico during the period covered by the award, and
- sign an attestation (included on the application) stating that the award will not be used to purchase tail coverage for an existing malpractice insurance policy.

Application requirements can be found in 7.30.9 NMAC and on the instructions attached to the application form. The deadline to submit applications for the current fiscal year is **Monday, April 22, 2024**. To be eligible for consideration, applications must be **received** electronically or via USPS by Maternal Health Program office (see application for mailing address) by close of business that day.

Please reach out to me directly with any questions about this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Abigail Reese, PhD, CNM
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