

NM GRADS Student from Hobbs High School



Justin graduated from Hobbs High School in 2008 with a 3.8 GPA and he received over \$8,000.00 in scholarship money. He wanted to pursue a degree in Nursing, but also had a 1 year old son named Jordan. Justin has had full custody of his son since Jordan was 8 months old. Justin was a senior at the time he gained custody. He came to me one day and said, how am I gonna go to college and get my nursing degree at UNM with Jordan. At that moment we got on the phone with the childcare center at UNM and he got on the waiting list, and the summer before he was to start college a spot came up for Jordan. He earned his bachelor's degree in Nursing at UNM and graduated May 11, 2012. He says it was very hard being a single dad, working and going to school but he knew that he wanted to give his son a good life, and be a good role model for Jordan. He has done just that. Jordan will be starting kindergarten in August, and Justin is working full time as a Nurse. Justin states that he would have never been able to accomplish what he has without the help of the New Mexico GRADS Program.



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NM GRADS Students from Onate High School- Las Cruces



I know my child is my responsibility. I will graduate on time with my class in May. My son is my top priority. My son deserves the best and that is what I will give him. No matter what kind of struggle it may be, I am going to become a nurse. I am not going to become another statistic that makes teen parents look bad. I am not saying it will be easy, I'm saying it is not impossible and that I know I can do it. Yes, some opportunities were lost but there are so many others that replaced the lost ones. - Written by a GRADS Teen Parent

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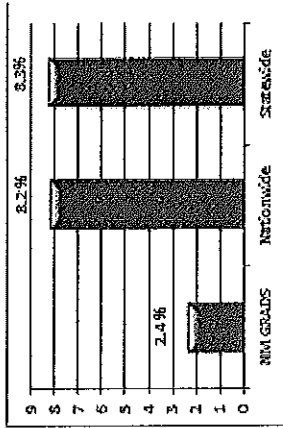


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NM GRADS System

Sally Kosnick & Jeanne Johnston, Co -Directors
 P.O. Box 1884, Socorro, NM 87801 575-835-1785, www.nmgrads.org

Low Birth Weight Babies



Kids Count 2012



To: Legislators

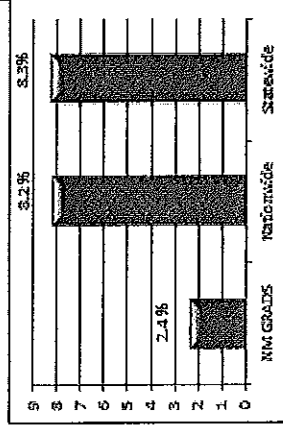
Thank you for
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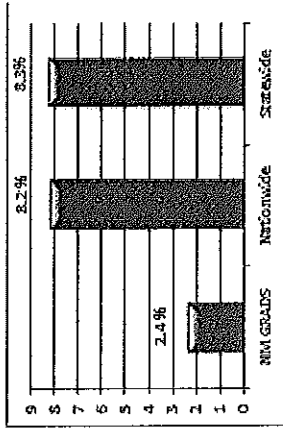
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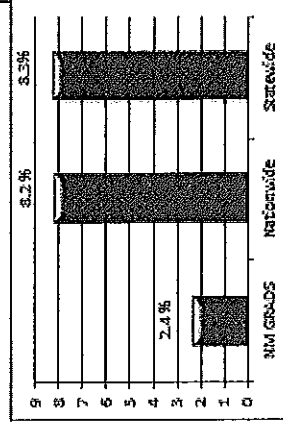
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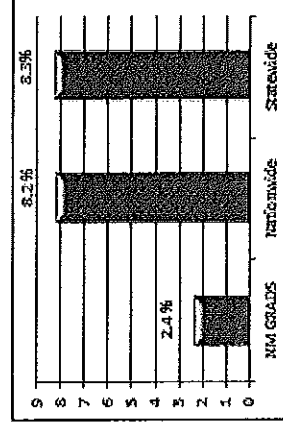
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