



**NEW MEXICO  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENTS**

**P.O. Box 2348  
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**Bill Richardson**  
*Governor*

**Patricia Montoya, RN, MPA**  
Department of Health Secretary  
**Pamela S. Hyde, J.D.**  
Human Services Department Secretary  
**Mary Dale Bolson, PhD**  
Children, Youth and Families Secretary  
**Michelle Lujan Grisham, J.D.**  
Aging and Long-Term Services Secretary

**News Advisory for Friday, June 11, 2004**

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**New Mexico’s Partners in Behavioral Health Come to the Table for the  
First Time as Part of the Purchasing Collaborative**

*Santa Fe, June 9, 2004* – New Mexico’s innovative approach for mental health and substance abuse treatment continues with the first meeting of the entire Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative (Purchasing Collaborative) in Santa Fe on Friday. “While a lot of work has already been done, Friday’s gathering of 15 state agencies and the Governor’s Health Care Coordinator will really show the coordination of efforts to improve how behavioral health services are offered in New Mexico,” said Human Services Department Secretary Pamela Hyde, who is co-chair of the collaborative along with Department of Health Secretary Patricia Montoya.

The Purchasing Collaborative was one of Governor Richardson’s Health Care priorities during the past legislative session and will play an essential part in the state’s efforts to combat DWI and substance abuse through treatment. HB 271, sponsored by Rep. Edward Sandoval, creates an interagency collaborative that will streamline services currently being offered by nine state agencies. “No other state has taken on this effort on such a large scale,” said Hyde. “We know that what we’re doing in New Mexico is being watched closely by the rest of the nation.” This effort will benefit New Mexicans in the way mental health and substance abuse programs are provided by consolidating programs and providing better delivery, better access and being more efficient with taxpayer dollars.

The purpose of Friday’s meeting will be to update all agencies on the process of the Purchasing Collaborative, organize the next steps and approve a Memorandum of Understanding among all agencies. There will be an opportunity for public input toward the end of the meeting.

The new system is scheduled to be operating July 1, 2005. To learn more about the Purchasing Collaborative, you can read the concept paper available on line at [www.state.nm.us/hsd/bhdwg/concept.html](http://www.state.nm.us/hsd/bhdwg/concept.html).

**The Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative Meeting will take place on Friday, June 11, from 1:00 to 3:30 pm, in Santa Fe at the State Capitol, room 307.**

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