

New Mexico Interagency Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative

Collaboration for Recovery, Resiliency and Empowerment



Aging and Long-Term Services Department

Administrative Office of the Courts

Children, Youth and Families Department

New Mexico Corrections Department

Department of Finance and Administration

Department of Health

Department of Labor

Department of Transportation

Developmental Disabilities Planning Council

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Governor's Commission on Disability

Governor's Health Policy Advisor

Health Policy Commission

Human Services Department

Indian Affairs Department

Mortgage Finance Authority

Public Education Department

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For Immediate Release

Behavioral Health Collaborative November 2nd Meeting to Include Discussion on Mandated Community Treatment

Legislative Language Recommendations Will Be Discussed

Santa Fe, November 1, 2006 – The New Mexico Interagency Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative (Collaborative) is holding its November meeting from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. tomorrow, Thursday, November 2, at the State Capitol in Santa Fe, Room 307.

The issue of Mandated Community Treatment (MCT), what some refer to as “Kendra’s Law”, is on the agenda. MCT can include a number of approaches in developing effective policy and practice on whether and how to require certain people with mental disorders to adhere to treatment in the community.

“How to address the issue of people who suffer from severe mental illness, but do not adhere to the treatment offered to them, is being asked across the state,” said Secretary Pamela Hyde, Human Services Department and co-chair of the Collaborative. “As the state’s leader for behavioral health services, the Collaborative is taking this issue very seriously and hopes to have input on any legislation that is likely to come before the Legislature in January.”

In August, the Collaborative held a day-long meeting to hear presentations from people who either support or oppose MCT as well as national experts who conducted research about its effectiveness for treatment compliance and ability to reduce violence.

At Thursday’s meeting, the Committee will hear details of recommended language changes. The public will have an opportunity to comment before the Committee votes on any recommendations.

Also on the meeting agenda is a presentation about “United We Ride;” a report from the Collaborative coordinator search committee; a report from the Behavioral Health Planning Council; an update on legislative proposals, performance measures and Collaborative evaluation, primary care and behavioral health interface; and an update on the contract process for Fiscal Year 2008 with ValueOptions - the statewide entity that provides publicly-funded behavioral health services.

The complete meeting agenda can be found on the Collaborative website at www.bhc.state.nm.us under public meeting calendar.

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