

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 First Meeting of the New Year, Thursday, January 4, 2007

New Behavioral Health Czar and Collaborative CEO to Attend

Santa Fe, January 3, 2007 – The New Mexico Interagency Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative (Collaborative) is holding its first meeting of the New Year tomorrow, January 4, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Room 311 of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

The Collaborative was created during the 2004 Legislature to allow all the state agencies and resources involved in behavioral health treatment and recovery to work as one to improve mental health and substance abuse services in New Mexico. This cabinet-level group represents 15 agencies and the Governor's Office.

Linda Roebuck, appointed by Governor Bill Richardson last week as the new Behavioral Health Czar and CEO of the Collaborative, will be introduced at the meeting. Roebuck has 33 years of experience teaching, doing research and leading state government in the behavioral health field.

Roebuck earned her Master of Science degree in Social Work from the University of Missouri and was Deputy Director of the Missouri Department of Mental Health from 2002 to August 2006, dealing with mental health, substance abuse and developmental disabilities issues. She also served as Acting Director of Missouri's Division of Comprehensive Psychiatric Services, where she spent time as deputy director. Roebuck served as an assistant professor at the University of South Florida's Mental Health Institute.

The Collaborative will also discuss the list of behavioral health priorities for the upcoming legislative session, a status report on community reinvestment and enhanced services and an update on the fiscal year 2008 contract with ValueOptions New Mexico.

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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