

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 Day at the New Mexico Legislature Set for Tuesday, March 6 in Santa Fe

News Conference Scheduled for 11:30 a.m. followed by Certificates of Appreciation Ceremony at 1 p.m. in the Rotunda of the State Capitol

Santa Fe, March 2, 2007 — The first “Behavioral Health Day” at the New Mexico Legislature will be celebrated Tuesday, March 6, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

The New Mexico Interagency Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative (Collaborative) and the Behavioral Health Planning Council (BHPC) are co-sponsoring the first ever “Behavioral Health” day at the Legislature. “This celebration is a clear indication of an increased awareness of behavioral health issues in New Mexico,” said Pamela Hyde, Secretary of the Human Services Department and co-chair of the Collaborative.

Senate Joint Memorial 55, sponsored by Senator Mary Kay Papen, and a duplicate House Joint Memorial, sponsored by Representative Edward Sandoval, will be presented before both the Senate and House of Representatives to honor the many individuals who devote themselves to public policymaking on behalf of the thousands of voiceless New Mexicans who suffer from behavioral health (substance abuse and/or mental health) disorders.

A news conference is scheduled at 11:30 a.m. to discuss behavioral health in New Mexico. At 1:00 p.m., Lieutenant Governor Diane Denish will present certificates of appreciation to several New Mexicans who have been instrumental in forming their local collaboratives and making them effective in their communities. Several state senators and representatives will be in attendance and have been invited to speak on behavioral health issues. Both events will take place in the Capitol Rotunda.

Representatives from the Collaborative membership will host tables in the hallways around the Rotunda and provide information about the behavioral health transformation taking place in New Mexico.

The Collaborative is composed of public agencies that work together to improve access to and the quality of behavioral health treatment, programs and services. It was established in 2004 when Governor Bill Richardson signed House Bill 271, sponsored by Representative Edward Sandoval, into law. The objectives of the Collaborative directly address the President’s New Freedom Commission Goals and guide its work. These objectives reflect the State’s commitment to a consumer- and family-driven system, which fosters and supports recovery and resilience.

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