

New Mexico Interagency Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative

Collaboration for Recovery, Resiliency and Empowerment

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Behavioral Health Collaborative Seeks Public Input prior to issuance of next statewide contract

Public Meetings Scheduled Across the State Begin Friday, April 18

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative (Collaborative) has scheduled meetings across the state to get input prior to issuing the next contract for publicly-funded behavioral health services.

“The input we receive will be important information,” said Linda Roebuck, Collaborative Chief Executive Officer (CEO). “It will help the Collaborative prepare the next Request for Proposal (RFP) in order to select a vendor who will manage most of the state’s publicly funded behavioral health services.”

The public meetings will begin Friday, April 18 in Albuquerque with other meetings scheduled in Las Vegas, Las Cruces, Farmington and Roswell (see list below). Public comment will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, 2008, and may be submitted in person during the meetings; by email at bhcollaborative@state.nm.us, by mail at: PO Box 2348 Santa Fe, NM 87504 attn: Angel Roybal; or by fax at (505) 476-7183 attn: Angel Roybal.

The draft concept paper will be available for review at the meeting locations, and will be posted on the Collaborative website beginning April 15 at www.bhc.state.nm.us, under the “public comments” section. For those without access to the website, please call 800-362-2013 for a hard copy.

The RFP for a statewide entity will be the second in the history of the Collaborative. The RFP is expected to be available for bid by July 1, 2008.

“We have made great strides in improving and streamlining behavioral health services and look forward to working with the successful bidder to move us further in accomplishing our goals of affordable care and greater access,” said Pamela Hyde, Human Services Department Secretary and co-chair of the Collaborative.

“The Collaborative process has created a comprehensive approach to delivering services for New Mexicans in need of mental health and substance abuse services, and this partnership is vital,” said Dr. Alfredo Vigil, Department of Health Secretary and co-chair of the Collaborative.

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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 Workforce Solutions

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

“It is vital that the children and families of New Mexico receive the highest quality behavioral health services in order to grow and thrive,” said Dorian Dodson, Children, Youth and Families Department Secretary and co-chair of the Collaborative. “I look forward to the review of proposals that will ensure that these vulnerable families receive the services they deserve.”

The public meetings to receive comments will be:

- **Friday, April 18, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** – Albuquerque – Native American Specific (Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th St. NW)
- **Friday, April 25, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.** Las Vegas, NM (Luna Community College, 366 Luna Drive)
- **Monday, April 28, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** - Las Cruces (200 E. Picacho St.)
- **Monday, May 5, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** – Albuquerque – Native American Specific (Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th St. NW)
- **Tuesday, May 6, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** – Farmington (PMS Community Counseling Center 1001 W Broadway)
- **Thursday, May 8, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** – Roswell (52 University Blvd.)
- **Friday, May 9, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.** – Albuquerque (UNM Campus, details to be announced)

Native American communities are encouraged to submit input directly to Kim Horan, Tribal Liaison for Behavioral Health Services Division at (505) 827-2637. A Tribal Consultation will be held to receive input from the state’s Native American communities for the RFP in June. Other RFP public meetings will be announced once the RFP is formally released.

Individuals with a disability, who require a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the public meetings, should contact Angel Roybal as soon as possible at (505) 476-1707 or fax at (505) 476-7183 or mail at P.O. Box 2348 Santa Fe, NM 87504. Public documents can be provided in various accessible formats. Individuals requiring additional assistance may also contact New Mexico voice relay at (800) 659-1779 or TTD (800) 659-8331.

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

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