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 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 **For Immediate Release** June 6, 2008 **Contact:** Betina Gonzales McCracken (505) 827-6245

NM Behavioral Health Collaborative Wants Public Input on Draft Request for Proposals

Public Meeting Scheduled for Friday, June 13 in Albuquerque

SANTA FE - The New Mexico Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative (Collaborative) is looking for public input on a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for the next behavioral health services contractor. A public meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 13, 2008 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the UNM Student Union Building in Albuquerque.

The draft RFP for the next "statewide entity" details what the Collaborative is looking for in a contractor as New Mexico continues its process of establishing an improved and streamlined behavioral health system.

The Collaborative has spent the last few months gathering input on an updated concept paper that will help guide New Mexico into its next phase of behavioral health transformation. This concept paper has helped to craft the RFP to include the wants and needs of benefits and services across the state. "The RFP is meant to be as specific as possible to get the best contractor who will provide the best services, the best care coordination, the best case management, and the best overall experience with both mental health and substance abuse services for New Mexicans," said Linda Roebuck, Collaborative CEO.

A formal Tribal Consultation for input from Native American New Mexicans is scheduled for June 11, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

The draft RFP and a memo outlining additional issues under consideration are available on the Collaborative website to review prior to the public meeting. They can be found, along with the draft Concept Paper at <u>http://www.bhc.state.nm.us/comment.html</u>.

For those who cannot attend the public meeting but would like to comment on the RFP written comments can be sent in by e-mail at <u>bhcollaborative@state.nm.us</u> or by regular mail to P.O. Box 2348, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 or by fax to (505) 476-7183, attn: Angel Roybal.

The final RFP is expected to be released in July with proposals due in October and selection of the successful proposal and contract negotiations in December. The contract with the successful bidder will begin July 1, 2009.

About the Collaborative

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.