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

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Mortgage Finance Authority

Public Education Department For Immediate Release August 8, 2008

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NM Behavioral Health Collaborative Releases Request for Proposals for Next Behavioral Health Services Contractor

Pre-Proposal Meeting Scheduled August 18 – Proposals Due October 8

SANTA FE - The New Mexico Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative (Collaborative) has issued its Request for Proposals (RFP) for the next behavioral health services contractor, also known as the statewide entity.

"After months of public input, tribal consultation and careful consideration by the Collaborative members, the RFP details what the state is looking for in a contractor as we continue establishing an improved and streamlined behavioral health system for New Mexicans," said Linda Roebuck, Collaborative CEO.

The RFP focuses on the scope of services to be provided with an emphasis on service development and accountability "The RFP is as specific as possible to get the best contractor who will provide the best services that will result in real outcomes for real people with mental health and substance abuse issues," said Human Services Department Pamela Hyde, co-chair of the Collaborative.

The successful bidder will be managing the combined funds of several publicly funded behavioral health services for the 15 state agencies and the Governor's office that make up the Collaborative. The contract will be effective July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2013.

New Mexico is in its fourth year of a ten year process to transform behavioral health services driven by a focus on recovery and resiliency.

"In this next phase of behavioral health transformation, we will focus on developing more consumer and family-operated services," said Department of Health Secretary Dr. Alfredo Vigil, co-chair of the Collaborative. "It's also important that we make sure people who use behavioral health services have an increased involvement in developing, evaluating and providing oversight of those services."

Proposals are due to the Collaborative by October 8, 2008. A pre-proposal conference is scheduled for Monday, August 18, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Garrey Carruthers State Library, Piñon room, located at 1205 Camino Carlos Rey in Santa Fe.

The RFP can be found on the Collaborative website at <u>www.bhc.state.nm.us</u> under the "news/resources" section.

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.