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 September 29, 2009 Contact: Betina Gonzales McCracken (505) 476-6205

New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative Seeks Nominations for *Awards for Excellence*

Santa Fe, New Mexico - The New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative and the Behavioral Health Planning Council are seeking nominations for the 2009 *Awards for Excellence*. The award winners will be recognized during the 2009 Behavioral Health Collaborative Conference scheduled December 8-11, 2009 at the Embassy Suites in Albuquerque.

"This is a great opportunity to recognize individuals and organizations that demonstrate the highest standards in providing, promoting and/or enhancing behavioral health practices in New Mexico," said Linda Roebuck Homer, Collaborative CEO. "Without such excellence, progress in the behavioral health world is not possible."

The awards represent a range of individuals, organizations and programs that foster a positive impact on New Mexico's mental health and/or substance abuse systems of care.

The categories are:

- Media Activity and Primary Creator/Facilitator Presented to an individual or organization which over the last 24 months had significant impact on promoting behavioral health practices among the general public
- Elected Official Presented to a state legislator who over the prior 24 months has had significant impact on promoting behavioral health practices through leadership on behavioral health issues that either provided funding for new services, changed behavioral health programs or laws, or advocated for behavioral health consumers, programs, or providers.
- Unpaid Advocate Presented to an individual who over the last 24 months had a significant impact on promoting behavioral health practices anchored in recovery and resiliency.
- Pioneer Provider Presented to an individual or organization that over their professional lifetime (at least 15 years) consistently made a significant impact on promoting behavioral health practices anchored in recovery and resiliency.
- Collaborative Project Presented to a project that exemplifies the collaborative spirit by having numerous discrete stakeholders come together to successfully address a pressing behavioral health issue through an integrated coordinated effort.

The criteria for selections are posted online at <u>www.bhc.state.nm.us</u> under the "announcements" section.

All award category applications must be received by November 9, 2009, no later than 5:00 p.m. Please submit applications to Leticia Rutledge by e-mail at <u>Leticia.Rutledge@state.nm.us</u> or by fax at (505) 476-9277.

About the Collaborative

The Collaborative was created in 2004 by the Governor and the 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.