

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

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'Behavioral Health Day' at the Legislature Celebrates 18 New Mexicans Who Are Champions of Behavioral Health in Their Local Communities

SANTA FE – Behavioral Health (BH) Day at the NM Legislature is Thursday, Jan. 28, 2010 in the State Capitol Rotunda. Highlighting this year's event is the honoring of 18 New Mexicans who are identified as local champions of behavioral health in their communities. The STARS are involved in the behavioral health system in various roles as providers, family members, consumers, law enforcement and local government.

These five women and 13 men will come to the state Capitol from large and small communities and Indian lands from across the state to be honored and to receive certificates of appreciation signed by Governor Bill Richardson and Linda Roebuck Homer, CEO of the Behavioral Health Collaborative.

The BH Day agenda includes short updates from Cabinet Secretaries Dorian Dodson, CYFD, Alfredo Vigil, DOH, Katie Falls, HSD; and Linda Roebuck Homer. Governor Bill Richardson and Lt. Governor Diane Denish have been invited to attend the formal part of the event beginning at 12 noon, Jan. 28.

Senator Mary Kay Papen (Doña Ana County) and Representative Edward C. Sandoval (Bernalillo County) continue to lead the way in the Legislature to improve publicly-funded BH services by sponsoring a Joint Memorial designating January 28, 2010 as Behavioral Health Day at the Legislature.

The Memorial serves to remind everyone the huge challenges in life many people with behavioral health issues are dealing with, including the very stigma of living with a mental illness or substance abuse problem and the lack of understanding from family, friends and the general public; while others have had to breach other barriers like such as the shortage of qualified provider services and traveling great distances for services.

Linda Roebuck Homer, CEO, BH Purchasing Collaborative said, "I hope other people at the Capitol on Jan 28 remember to take time to meet these 18 strong New Mexicans being honored for their truly great personal achievements to which they now are continuing this struggle by helping others to get them back on their feet again, just as these 18 behavioral health stars whom we will soon honor have done so well."

During Behavioral Health Day at the Legislature there will also be eight information booths in the Rotunda. The theme this year for the exhibitors is Workforce Development and Training – Providing Useful Tools During These Difficult Economic Times.

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.

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