## 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:** April 29, 2010 **Media Contact:** Betina Gonzales McCracken (505) 476-6205

### **Governor Bill Richardson Encourages New Mexicans to Celebrate Good Mental Health During the Month of May**

#### May 6 is dedicated to Children's Mental Health Awareness

SANTA FE – Governor Bill Richardson has proclaimed May, 2010 as Mental Health Month and has dedicated May 6, 2010 as Children's Mental Health Awareness Day in New Mexico.

"Mental health is essential to everyone's overall physical health and emotional well-being and caring for your mind as well as your body is good for your overall health and vital for success in personal life, at work and at school," Governor Richardson said in his proclamation.

This year's Mental Health Month theme is "Live Your Life Well." "Everyday New Mexicans face challenges, stresses and demands on their lives. We need to build good mental health practices and knowledge into our every day lives. For those who struggle with mental illness and substance abuse problems there is help and people can live full productive lives," said Linda Roebuck Homer, Behavioral Health Collaborative CEO.

Last year the Collaborative launched the *Talk about it New Mexico* campaign in an effort to break down barriers that sometimes keep people from seeking help and talking about their daily struggles. Information can be found at <u>www.talkaboutitnewmexico.org</u>.

May 6, Children's Mental Health Awareness Day, is set aside to raise awareness and understanding of mental illness and mental health among New Mexico's children, youth and families.

"Access to quality, comprehensive, and coordinated mental health services is essential to creating healthy infants and children, as well as for building strong families and communities in our state," said Marisol Atkins, Children, Youth and Families Department Deputy Secretary. "We hope May 6 is just one of many days we recognize the mental and holistic health needs of every New Mexican child - from birth through adulthood."

The Governor's proclamations (attached) encourage New Mexicans to celebrate Mental Health Month and Children's Mental Health Awareness Day. Below are several events that are scheduled across the state.

- April 30, 2010 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. & May 1, 2010 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. San Juan Safe Communities 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Conference at the Farmington Public Library in Farmington
- April 30 & May 1, 2010 NM Youth Summit kicks off with a tailgate party in the Farmington Public Library Friday evening and continues Saturday at the Boys and Girls Club in Farmington

- May 1, 2010, 9:00 a.m. 2010 National Alliance on Mental Illness NAMIWALKS Changing Minds...One Step at a Time, 5k Walk and Fundraiser at the Albuquerque Academy in Albuquerque. For more information contact <u>naminm@aol.com</u> or call (505) 260-0154. Registration at <u>www.nami.org/namiwalks/nm</u>
- May 1, 2010, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Open House to Celebrate Children's Mental Health Awareness Day at Sierra Vista Counseling, LLC, 1109 Mesa Blvd., Suite D in Grants.
- May 1, 2010, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. NM Fiesta Project "Intentional Re-Parenting" at the Sierra Vista Counseling, 1109 Mesa Blvd. in Grants.
- May 11, 12, 26 & 27 Mental Health First Aid. A 12-hour training course designed to give members of the public key skills to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. May 11 & 12 at Zia Pueblo, May 25 & 26 in Clovis, May 26 & 27 at All Faiths Receiving Home in Albuquerque. For more information contact Ernestine Jones at The Life Link, 505-438-0010.
- May 6, 2010 Roswell Middle and High School Art Contest, schools will judge
- May 8, 2010 12:00 to 8:0 p.m. Roswell Youth Take Action Teen Suicide Prevention Event at the Community Center, 1500 W. College in Roswell
- May 13, 2010, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Community Response to Indians in Albuquerque with Behavioral Health Issues and Concerns, sponsored by Rain Cloud (Local Collaborative 17) and NAMI at the Albuquerque Center for Peace and Justice, 202 Harvard Street SE, in Albuquerque
- May 14 & 15, 2010 Seeking Balance: Dialogue in Diversity Conference at the Hozho Center for Personal Enhancement in Gallup. Scholarships are available. For more information visit <u>www.hozhocenter.com</u> or call (505) 870-1483.
- May 17 & 18, 2010 Specialized Suicide Prevention Training. The Santa Fe Mountain Center is sponsoring this training with the Trevor Project of Los Angeles, CA. The Trevor Project solely dedicated suicide prevention in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, questioning youth communities. May 17<sup>th</sup> event, "Life Guard" is from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. at Warehouse 21 in Santa Fe. May 18<sup>th</sup> is from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at The Lodge at Santa Fe and focuses on "bully" training for therapist, teachers, principles, administrators, doctors, nurses parents, providers, state employees, non-profits, etc. with the focus on "Bullying, oppression issues, and suicide intervention and prevention. Space is limited, and pre-registration is encouraged at www.regonline.com/sfmc.
- May 18, 2010, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Children's Mental Health Day! event at the Matt 25 Building, 1200 Thorton Street in Clovis

#### 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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### STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Inclamation

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall physical health and emotional well-being, and caring for your mind as well as your body is good for your overall health and vital for success in personal life, at work, and at school; and

WHEREAS, mental illness will strike nearly one-in-four adults and children in a given year, regardless of age, gender, race ethnicity, religion, or economic status; and

WHEREAS, mental health and substance abuse problems are as treatable as many physical illnesses, and people who have mental illnesses and substance abuse problems can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, an estimated two-thirds of adults and young people who are diagnosed with mental health disorders are not receiving the help they need; and

WHEREAS, the cost of untreated and mistreated mental illnesses and addictive disorders to American businesses, governments, and families has grown to \$100 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, community-based services that respond to individual and family needs are cost-effective and beneficial to consumers and the community; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative is in its sixth year of a 10-year process to streamline behavioral health services and promote recovery and resiliency through support services across the State in an effort to build healthy families, from infants to adults; and

WHEREAS, the National Mental Health Association, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative and its 18 Local Collaboratives, observe Mental Health Month every May to raise awareness and understanding of mental illness and mental health;

**NOW, THEREFORE** I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim May, 2010 as:

# "Mental Health Month"

throughout the State of New Mexico and call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in New Mexico to recognize the importance of mental, as well as physical health, and to commit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people who have mental illnesses.

Attest retary of State

Done at the Executive Office this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2010.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal of the Great State of New Mexico

Richardson

Bill Richardson Governor



#### STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

roclamation

WHEREAS, addressing the complex mental health needs of children, youth and families today is fundamental to the future progress of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the need for comprehensive, coordinated mental health services for children, youth and families places upon our community a critical responsibility; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that a day should be set apart each year for the direction of our thoughts toward our children's mental health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative is in its sixth year of a 10year process to streamline behavioral health services and promote recovery and resiliency through support services across the State in an effort to build healthy families, from infants to adults; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative member, the Children Youth and Families Department, through its unique approach to serving our children and adolescents, is effectively caring for the mental health needs of children, youth and families in our community; and

WHEREAS, the National Mental Health Association, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative and its 18 Local Collaboratives, observe Children's Mental Health Awareness Day on May 6, 2010 to raise awareness and understanding of mental illness and mental health;

**NOW, THEREFORE** I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim May 6, 2010 as:

### "Children's Mental Health Awareness Day"

throughout the State of New Mexico and urge our citizens and all agencies and organizations interested in meeting every child's mental health needs to unite on that day in the observance of such exercises as will acquaint the people of New Mexico with the fundamental necessity of a yearround program for children and youth with mental health needs and their families.

Attest: Artherse Mary Herrera Secretary of State

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Done at the Executive Office this  $22^{nd}$  day of April, 2010.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal of the Great State of New Mexico

Bill Richardson

Bill Richardson Governor