

# 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 Collaborative Recommends Postponement of Request for Proposal for Statewide Entity

*Santa Fe* – During a special meeting today, the New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative (Collaborative) decided to recommend that a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a behavioral health contractor known as the statewide entity be postponed.

After receiving a report on the public input received during public meetings across the state earlier this year in reference to a concept paper for a RFP and following even further input during today's meeting, the Collaborative decided to recommend that the RFP be postponed indefinitely. The Collaborative also recommends the issue be re-discussed in six months or so when details about National Health Care Reform and Medicaid changes are clearer in reference to mental health and substance abuse services.

Much of the feedback the Collaborative received emphasized the difficulty the RFP process and a transition to a new statewide entity can be on behavioral health consumers and providers. It was that feedback that helped the Collaborative make its decision. However, the public input process also brought in input beyond the RFP process and served a status check on what improvements need to be made now.

“The information gathered during the public input was valuable,” said Dorian Dodson, Children, Youth and Families Secretary and Co-chair of the Collaborative. “We received a lot of good feedback on issues that the Collaborative needs to deal with right away, such as prevention and cultural competency issues.”

### ***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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