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:** July 1, 2010 **Contact:** Betina Gonzales McCracken (505) 476-6205

NM Behavioral Health Collaborative Celebrates National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

"Ferias de Salud" Events Scheduled in Albuquerque, Alcalde and Santa Fe

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative is celebrating National Minority Health Awareness Month by co-sponsoring five traditional Mexican health fairs, known as "Ferias de Salud" in three New Mexico communities: Albuquerque, Alcalde and Santa Fe. There will also be two free workshops featuring talks by Mexican folk healers.

"Traditional healing practices have remained an integral part of the Mexican and Hispanic cultures for centuries," said Dr. Eliseo "Cheo" Torres, Vice-President of Student Affairs at the University of New Mexico. "The Ferias de Salud will reacquaint the public with the importance of these traditions and highlight the art of Mexican community folk healing and wellness practices."

Thirty well-known Mexican folk healers will discuss traditional healing therapies including herbal medications, spiritual cleansings and other healing techniques at the five health fairs in Albuquerque, Alcalde and Santa Fe. Treatments will be available and donations accepted. The following is the complete list of Ferias de Salud events, times and locations:

July 27, 2010

- 12:00 to 2:30 Traditional Mexican Health Fair, Student Union Building, University of New Mexico in Albuquerque
 - 12:00 to 2:30 p.m. Traditional Mexican Health Fair, Outside the Student Union Building (SUB) north entrance.
 - 12:00 to 12:30 p.m. *Risa Terapia* Eliminating negative energy and healing through laughter Rita Navarrete, Curandera
 - 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. *Limpias Espirituales y Plantas Medicinales* Usage of medicinal plants, traditional massage, and spiritual cleansings for a holistic healing approach Velia Herrera, Curandera
 - 1:00 to 1:30 p.m. Uso Terapeutico del Caracol y la Obsidiana Traditional healing through the practice of ocean shell sounds for spiritual cleansings and the usage of obsidian stone for energy treatments – Juan Carlos Solano, Curandero

July 28, 2010

5:00 to 10:00 p.m. – Traditional Mexican Health Fair, La Plazita, 831 Isleta Blvd. SW, in Albuquerque. Page 2...Ferias de Salud

July 29, 2010

- 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. Traditional Mexican Health Fair, National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th Street SW, courtyard between Salon Ortega and La Fonda Restaurant
 - 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. *Risa Terapia* Eliminating negative energy and healing yourself through laugher Rita Navarrete, Curandera
 - 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.- *Limpias Espirituales y Plantas Medicinales* Usage of medicinal plants, traditional massage, and spiritual cleansings for a holistic healing approach Velia Herrera, Curandera
 - 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. Uso Terapeutico del Caracol y La Obsidiana Traditional healing through the practice of ocean shell sounds for spiritual cleansings and the usage of obsidian stone for energy treatments – Juan Carlos Solano, Curandero

July 31, 2010

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Traditional Mexican Health Fair, Hoy Recovery Program, in Alcalde (North of Española)

August 2, 2010

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. – Traditional Mexican Health Fair, American Indian Arts Institute, 83 Avan Nu Po Road, in Santa Fe

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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