## 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 8, 2010 Contact: Betina Gonzales McCracken (505) 476-6205

## Governor Richardson Proclaims September National Alcohol Drug Addiction Recovery Month in New Mexico

Recovery Events and Support Groups Can be First Step to Recovery

Santa Fe, New Mexico – Governor Bill Richardson is encouraging the citizens of New Mexico to observe the month of September as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month.

"Educating our community about how substance use disorders affect all people in the community is essential to combat misconceptions associated with addiction," said Governor Richardson in his proclamation.

This year's Recovery Month theme is "Join the Voices for Recovery: Now More than Ever!" "There are lots of New Mexicans who would like to join recovery but aren't sure where to start," said Linda Homer, CEO of the NM Behavioral Health Collaborative. Attending one of the several events scheduled across the state for Recovery Month is a good first step as well as joining a support group, which are available in communities across the state or even by phone."

The Collaborative's *Talk About it New Mexico* social inclusion campaign includes a resource website for people to reach out online through chats, through local groups and by phone for help they might need getting into recovery. Visit <u>www.talkaboutitnewmexico.org</u>.

Also part of Recovery Month, are a few celebrations scheduled across the state, which include:

- Recovery Day on the Plaza, Santa Fe September 18, 2010 10:00 a.m. to 4:00
  p.m. This annual Recovery Month event is an awareness building event where all the agencies in the Santa Fe Community that do recovery work have booths. There is live music, special guests and free water and snacks.
- Sober Fest, Alamogordo September 25, 2010 4:00 to 11:00 p.m.– Celebrate recovery with music, dance, food booths and speakers at the Granada Shopping Center, 7000 1<sup>st</sup> Street in Alamogordo.

The Governor's "*National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month*." Proclamation can be found on the Collaborative website at http://www.bhc.state.nm.us/pdf/bhnews/Recovery% 20Month.PDF .

## 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.