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, 2011 **Media Contact:** Betina Gonzales McCracken (505) 827-6245

Governor Susana Martinez Encourages New Mexicans to Celebrate Good Mental Health During the Month of May

May 3 is dedicated to Children's Mental Health Awareness

SANTA FE – Governor Susana Martinez has proclaimed May, 2011 as Mental Health Month and has dedicated May 3, 2011 as Children's Mental Health Awareness Day in New Mexico.

"Mental health issues have touched the lives of so many New Mexicans," said Governor Martinez. "Increasing our awareness the issues that affect us, our families, and our friends is an important step toward understanding, protecting, and improving mental health in New Mexico."

Special attention to children's mental health will be held on May 3, *Children's Mental Health Awareness Day*. "It is important that at least one day a year is set aside to encourage our citizens, agencies and organizations to recognize the complex mental health needs of children, youth and families in New Mexico," said Yolanda Deines, Children, Youth and Families Department Secretary and co-chair of the NM Behavioral Health Collaborative. "Help from families and the community can make all the difference to a child's life."

In its continued efforts to de-stigmatize behavioral health problems, the NM Behavioral Health Collaborative created a youth focused *Talk About it New Mexico* campaign that is hitting the television and radio airwaves across the state in English and Spanish and Navajo. "The Talk About it New Mexico Campaign encourages New Mexico's youth to talk about the pressures they have that can sometimes lead to drugs, alcohol, depression and even suicide," said Sidonie Squier, Human Services Department Secretary and co-chair of the NM Behavioral Health Collaborative. "Talking about issues with a friend or online at <u>www.talkaboutitnewmexico.org</u> can make all the difference to New Mexico's youth."

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.

- May 3, 2011 Santa Clara Children's Mental Health Awareness Day Activities. The NM Systems of Care will provide classroom discussions on various topics related to Children's awareness of mental health issues and provide presentation to parents and caretakers. A Children's Mental Health Awareness presentation given to parents and caretakers in the evening of May 3.
- May 3, 2011 Silver City Schools "Placemat Coloring" Activity Approximately 1,000 pre-school and kindergarten children throughout Grant County are participating in a "placemat coloring" activity, which include a list of signs that a child might be in need of behavioral health services and local provider contact information. Two local restaurants will use the placemats at their tables. Placemat activities can be found at www.nmsoc.org/grantcounty.html.

- May 3, 2011, 6:00 p.m. Dancing With Our Stars at the Clovis Civic Center. A night of fun, awareness and dancing.
- May 4, 2011, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Tri-County Family Justice Center Domestic Violence Open House in Villanueva. An advocate will be available by telephone or in person at the El Valle Community Center Gallegos Resource Room located in Villanueva, New Mexico.
- May 6, 2011, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Local Collaborative 4 Parenting/Family Support Group at the El Valle Community Center Gallegos Room in Villanueva. Parents or family members of a child with special needs can talk about special education programs or hear and share with other families that have children with special needs.
- May 7, 2011, 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Youth Jam 2011 is the Children's Mental Health Awareness Day event for the Albuquerque area at Warehouse 508, 508 1st St. NW in Albuquerque. There will be more than 25 youth service and support tables, 15 youth talent acts, a community mural, activities for younger youth and families, free food, prizes and lots of fun.
- May 14, 2011, 9:00 a.m. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Walks is a 5K walk and the largest anti-stigma effort in America. NAMI Walks raises public awareness about mental illness and allows individuals with mental illness and their families and friends gather for this special day at the Albuquerque Academy in Albuquerque.
- May 18, 2011, 10:00 a.m. 4th Annual Golf Scramble to benefit the Santa Fe Recovery Center at Paako Ridge. Teams will play by flight with four or five teams per flight. Optional activities include longest drive men and women, closest to the pin men and women, plus more surprises.
- May 20, 2011, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Local Collaborative 4 Lead Meeting in Las Vegas. Lead members represent Mora, San Miguel and Santa Rosa counties as well as consumers and families who access behavioral health services. Meetings are held at the San Miguel Health Council office in Las Vegas with teleconferencing available.
- May 21, 2011, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mental Health Awareness Day Community Picnic at the Fred Baca Park in Taos. An informative gathering of community members for a day of food, fun and fellowship and to assist in the reduction of stigma and misunderstanding related to people receiving behavioral health services.
- May 23, 2011, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Local Collaborative 10 Mental Health Awareness Event and Sangre de Cristo Community Health Partnership Survey at the De Baca County Extension Office in Ft. Sumner.
- May 24, 2011, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. An Overview of Holistic Treatment of Addictions at the Santa Fe Recovery Center. Learn about new and holistic approaches to substance abuse treatment, combining the latest biomedical approaches and complementary wisdom in this interactive presentation. CEUs available.
- May 24, 2011, 9:00 a.m. Local Collaborative 8 Lead Team monthly meeting. The Union, Colfax, and Taos Local Collaborative will have its bi-monthly lead meeting via teleconference. Agenda items include Behavioral Health legislative updates, total Community Approach Grant Report and plans for yearly retreat.
- May 26, 2011, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Viewing of "Minds on the Edge" with panel discussion following at the UNM Cancer Center, 2240 College Dr. in Gallup.
- May 31, 2011, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Sangre de Cristo Community Health Partnership Survey at the Richards Drop-In Center in Las Vegas.

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 the Governor's office.