

# New Mexico Women's Behavioral Healthcare Taskforce

October 11, 2006

To: Amy Buchanan, Cross-Agency Team Coordinator

From: Women's Behavioral Healthcare Taskforce

Dear Ms. Buchanan:

This letter is an introduction to the *Women's Behavioral Healthcare Taskforce*, a multi-agency group convened to strengthen behavioral health services for women and their supportive networks in New Mexico. The Taskforce seeks to do this through increasing accessibility, enhancing existing services, and disseminating knowledge and information regarding gender-informed, holistic, culturally-relevant and evidence-based/promising practices.

The Taskforce is sponsoring an annual Women's Behavioral Health Conference, *Embracing a Women's Journey*, to be held June 7-8, 2007 in Albuquerque. The intent of this conference is to provide interactive workshops wherein participants learn skills to apply in their own communities and agency settings. The Taskforce is interested in feedback from members of our Local Collaboratives regarding what is both relevant and applicable to their communities.

We are attaching a questionnaire that will help identify community priorities as well as provider training and technical assistance needs in regard to women's behavioral health. We would appreciate your assistance in disseminating this questionnaire among the Local Collaboratives as soon as possible. It is our intent to take this important feedback into consideration as we develop and structure our conference.

Once the representatives from the Local Collaboratives have completed their questionnaire's, please have them forwarded to the Taskforce Co-Chair, Elly Rael, Director Training, by fax, 505.346.9406, or e-mail at [elly.rael@valueoptions.com](mailto:elly.rael@valueoptions.com).

Sincerely,

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Elly Rael, VONM  
Quality Department  
Co-Chair

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Karen Cheman, BHSD  
COSIG  
Member

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Anna Nelson, VONM  
Service Systems Relations  
Member

