Luncheon
Speaker: Gail Hutchings
Monday, 11.30 am – 12.45 pm
Hacienda (new hotel building via covered walkway)

“Promoting Access, Quality, and Accountability in Behavioral Healthcare: A Federal Perspective”
Monday, May 20, 2002

11.30 am - 12.45 pm
Hacienda
(new hotel building via covered walkway)

Luncheon

“Promoting Access, Quality, and Accountability in Behavioral Healthcare: A Federal Perspective”

Speaker: Gail Hutchings, senior advisor, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), will provide an overview of SAMHSA’s areas of priority for behavioral healthcare, with a focus upon opportunities for collaboration and partnership in the West.

Gail P. Hutchings is senior advisor to the administrator of the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Charles Curie. At SAMHSA, she has lead responsibility for coordinating the agency’s work on responding to homelessness and terrorism/bioterrorism. She recently led the development and implementation of SAMHSA’s successful national summit “When Terror Strikes: Responding to the Nation’s Mental Health and Substance Abuse Needs - Strengthening the Homeland through Recovery, Resilience, and Response.” Prior to joining SAMHSA, Gail was the founding president and chief executive officer of the Behavioral Health Policy Collaborative in Alexandria, VA. She is the past deputy executive director of the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors; directed the federally funded National Technical Assistance Center for State Mental Health Planning; and was associate director of the National Resource Center on Homelessness and Mental Illness. She has authored or coauthored several articles and chapters on mental health/behavioral health issues and is a nationally recognized technical assistance expert and meeting facilitator. She earned her master’s degree in public administration from the State University of New York at Albany and is a member of the American College of Mental Health Administration.