

## Another AZ behavioral health provider leaving the state

Written by By Matthew Reichbach NM Political Report  
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Another of the behavioral health providers brought in from Arizona to fill the gap made after the state Human Services Department cut off funding to 15 organizations is leaving the state.

Valle del Sol is the fourth of five organizations from Arizona that were brought into the state in 2013 to take over behavioral health services to leave the state.

The *Santa Fe New Mexican* reported that an executive with Valle del Sol said the company is working with HSD on the transition to aid patients. A spokesman for HSD said the same thing to the northern New Mexico paper.

Valle del Sol had seven locations throughout the state.

In 2013, HSD said they found credible allegations of fraud in 15 New Mexico behavioral health organizations. The department cut off Medicaid funding to the organizations.

The “credible allegations” came from an audit of behavioral health providers conducted by Public Consulting Group, or PCG.

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The federal law that allows HSD to cut off funding also allows for some discretion in cutting off funding.

Several organizations shut their doors because they could not keep their doors open without Medicaid funding.

Later, an investigation by the state Attorney General cleared the organizations, though the state has said they are still looking to recoup overpayments from the organizations.

The state says behavioral health services have increased in the last two years, though some Democrats dispute the numbers.

***By Matthew Reichbach***

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