

THE GIST

Governor's Crime Commission Monthly Newsletter

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Subrecipient Highlight: El Futuro and Hispanic Heritage Month

Durham-based clinic, El Futuro, provides bilingual and culturally responsive mental health services primarily for Spanish-speaking immigrants living in North Carolina.

The organization has established a network of mental health providers known as La Mesita, which provides services across the state. This program offers mental health training to the members so that they can reach more families throughout the state.

On Sept. 24, 2023, El Futuro had a fiesta to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. Hispanic Heritage Month runs from September 15 to October 15. El Futuro hosted this celebration as a way to connect with their community and extend delivery of mental health services beyond the traditional clinical setting.

On the website El Futuro states, "It is an event that displays the leadership of our community, and the support that El Futuro gives with open arms, to continue dreaming and strengthening families!"

Get involved with El Futuro. Visit the [therapeutic garden](#) next to their Durham clinic, or join one of their community events. Visit their [website](#) or make a donation, subscribe to their monthly



newsletter or learn about volunteer opportunities. You can also find them on [YouTube](#) and by looking them up on social media @elfuturonc.

EBS Poised to Go Live

Subrecipients will receive an email with information about accessing EBS, a new grants management system expected to go live on Oct. 16. The EBS system replaces GEMS.

Medicaid Expansion Resolution

Commissioners on Sept. 7 unanimously passed a [resolution](#) in support of funding Medicaid expansion. "This is a criminal justice issue impacting the safety of our communities," said NCDPS Secretary Eddie M. Buffalo, Jr. "North Carolinians need access to critical care, outside of our law enforcement agencies and jails." "Our police departments and our jails too often are tasked with filling the health service gap that exists in our state," said GCC Chairman Robert Evans. "In rural communities, the biggest treatment facility often is the jail," said Commissioner Pamela Thompson. "Expansion of Medicaid will help shore up healthcare resources across the state."

Congress FY24 Appropriations

The National Criminal Justice Association provided the following update about the federal budget and potential government shutdown. Senate and House members currently have no clear path to complete the FY24 appropriations process. Congress does not have time to complete the 12 individual appropriations bills before the start of the new federal fiscal year on October 1. Moreover, they do not have consensus about whether, when and how to keep federal agencies and programs running in the meantime.

A short-term Continuing Resolution bill is expected to try to prevent a government shutdown. If the final spending bills are not completed by January 1, an automatic 1%, across-the-board spending cut below FY23 levels would be triggered beginning April 1. Most congressional observers believe Continuing Resolutions are inevitable well into the fall or even into the spring with a government shutdown increasingly likely.

Lastly, the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS) appropriations bill, from which GCC's largest grants arise, is expected to be controversial.