

Idaho Behavioral Health Council
Approved Meeting Minutes June 14, 2024

Meeting	Idaho Behavioral Health Council Meeting Minutes
Date / Time of Meeting	June 14 th , 2024, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Mountain Time
Host	Director Sara Omundson & Deputy Director Miren Unsworth Co-Chairs
Live Stream Link	https://www.youtube.com/@idahobehavioralhealthcounc3300/streams
Meeting Location	Idaho Supreme Court 451 W. State Street, Boise, ID 83702 - Lincoln Room (Basement Level)

Council Members	Att'd	Presenters, Guests and Staff	Att'd
Sara Omundson, Director AOC ID Courts - Co Chair	Y	Ross Edmunds, DHW	Y
Miren Unsworth, Deputy Director DHW - Co Chair	Y	Liza Houser, DHW	Y
Bree Derrick for Josh Tewalt, Director IDOC	Y	Scott Rasmussen, DHW	Y
Ashley Dowell, Director IDJC; Exec. Director ID Comm. of Pardons and Parole	Y	Ryan Porter, ID Courts	Y
Debbie Critchfield, Superintendent of Public Instruction, IDE	N	Scott Ronan, ID Courts	
Brent Mendenhall, County Commissioner	Y	Brandi Hawkins, ID Courts	Y
Kate Dolan, Member of the Public	N	Teresa Vance, ID Courts	Y
Gene Petty, District Judge	Y	Shannon McGuire, Spark	Y
Dave Jeppesen, Member of the Public	Y	Adrian Castaneda. Spark	Y
Rep. Chenele Dixon	N	Rosie Andueza, DHW	Y
Rep. Brooke Green	N	Jared Larsen	Y
Sen. Doug Ricks	N	Dr. David Pate	Y
Sen. Ali Rabe	Y	Cheryl Foster, IBHC	Y

MEETING AGENDA

#	Time	Length	Topic	Topic Owner	Discussion	Decisions
1	1:00 p.m.	10 min	<p>Welcome Co-Chair Updates Agenda Review</p> <p>Review of IBHC Vision and Guiding Principles</p> <p>Action Items: Vote to Approve Meeting Minutes from 1/12/24 Vote to Approve Meeting Minutes from 4/12/24</p>	Sara Omundson	<p>The primary objective of today's meeting is to vote on opioid settlement fund priorities and also provide an update on strategic planning from Shannon McGuire.</p> <p>Director Omundson reminded everyone that the council focuses on a systems-level approach, and that she, as Administrative Director of the Courts, and Miren Unsworth from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare are co-chairs.</p> <p>Miren Unsworth is leaving the council, as the Department of Health and Welfare has a new director, Alex Adams. Director Adams has assigned Jared Larsen to be the new co-chair for the council representing DHW. Jared is new to DHW but has been involved in the IBHC since its inception.</p>	<p>Director Dowell moved to approve the meeting minutes from 1/12/24 and 4/12/24. Judge Petty seconded the motion.</p> <p>No discussion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.</p>

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4	1:15 p.m.	10 min	Child Welfare Legal and Judicial Survey	Teresa Vance	<p>The judicial survey was conducted in 2023 to inform DHW and ISC projects by collecting information about the availability of services and judicial engagement in each of the seven judicial districts. The survey was widely distributed to over 1,000 professionals and received a 19% response rate.</p> <p>The survey asked a range of questions about hearings, services, and engagement, but Ms. Vance’s presentation covered selected results applicable to the IBHC.</p> <p>Most important resources for home safety (up to 5 selections)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Substance Abuse Treatment - 85% - Mental Health Treatment - 84% - Low-Income Housing/Rental Assistance - 72% - Parenting classes - 57% - In-home support services - 54% <p>Barriers to providing services to keep children safely at home (one or more selections)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Services not available in the community - 72% - Complex family needs - 64% - Financial resources of the family - 60% - Waiting lists - 59% <p>Resources to increase parent engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Text notification - 75% - Transportation 63% - Printed resources about their role in the court - 37% <p>From the survey, they identified resources the court could easily address, like text notifications. Ms. Vance is also creating a parent mentor class and handbook to guide parents through the court process. Full report: https://isc.idaho.gov/cp/Child-Welfare-Legal-and-Judicial-Survey-2023.pdf</p>	
5	1:25 p.m.	60 min	Fiscal Year 2026 Opioid Settlement Fund Prioritization	Co-Chairs	<p>Director Omundson talked about the council’s role in Idaho Code 57-825 to make recommendations to the Governor and JFAC for the state’s portion of the opioid settlement fund (40%). She reminded the council that their role is to set high level priorities.</p>	

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			Action Item: Vote on recommendations for FY2026 Opioid Settlement Fund Expenditures		<p>After the priorities are set, then the Governor’s office, state agencies, and Legislature determine how the funds are put in agency budgets.</p> <p>Cheryl Foster reviewed the projects that are funded for the upcoming year from the opioid settlement fund. The council voted on these priorities in August 2023, and the amounts of funding reflect the order of priority. The top priority was workforce development. Then treatment, recovery, and prevention were tied for the next priority. The specific projects were selected from those submitted during the public comment process. The total funding exceeds \$2 million.</p> <p>Ross Edmunds noted that the council prioritized recovery, but the state used Millennium Funds to fund the community recovery centers instead of opioid settlement funds. (Due to Idaho Attorney General opinion limiting opioid funding to opioid-specific recovery.)</p> <p>The co-chairs and Cheryl categorized all the proposals submitted from the public comment process into voting categories. Director Omundson asked the members their opinion on the categories, and they found them acceptable.</p> <p>Dr. Pate asked whether we have effectiveness data on the currently funded projects to inform future investments. Director Omundson answered that we do not at this time but should review in the future. Ms. Foster noted that previously funded projects have been resubmitted for future funding.</p> <p>Director Omundson asked the members for open discussion: Senator Rabe - Lauded the reentry housing provided by IDOC and advocated for the housing-first model. Dave Jeppesen - Advocated for increasing workforce professionals to decrease the shortage of services Bree Derrick - IDOC requested funding for treatment for individuals in community reentry centers, as well as to expand other treatment offerings. Some courts are interpreting MOUD as an ADA accommodation, so the request hopes to avoid future litigation. They also want to mitigate the high number of people on supervision who are overdosing in the community.</p>	<p>Originally, members were directed to limit voting for their top three categories. After discussion, members chose up to four categories.</p> <p>Voting Results:</p> <p>Increase Supply of Behavioral Health Professionals (8 votes) Dave Jeppesen Sara Omundson Ashley Dowell Bree Derrick Ali Rabe Miren Unsworth Gene Petty Brent Mendenhall</p> <p>Prevention (6 votes) Dave Jeppesen Ashley Dowell Miren Unsworth Gene Petty Sara Omundson Brent Mendenhall</p> <p>Housing (6 votes) Bree Derrick</p>

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					<p>Ross Edmunds - Stated the biggest challenge is workforce. Also, housing is always an issue, as well as access to treatment. One example on the importance of housing is that it is difficult for someone to get sober when the only place available for them to stay is with their former dealer.</p> <p>Judge Gene Petty - Prevention is critical to avoid downstream effects, such as SUD.</p> <p>Director Dowell - Funding spent on prevention is a force multiplier for the money saved later on.</p> <p>Ross Edmunds - Prevention can also be keeping people from moving deeper into the system.</p> <p>Commissioner Brent Mendenhall - Noted supportive services are important to the issues related in Ms. Vance's earlier presentation.</p> <p>Deputy Director Miren Unsworth - Noted that there were some proposals for training health care providers on non-opioid pain management. Cheryl categorized them as "professional development for health care providers," but they could also fall under the prevention category.</p> <p>Members were directed to an online survey where they could select their top priorities. The Council recessed for 15 minutes.</p> <p>Voting Categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Increase Supply of Behavioral Health Professionals -Professional Development for Health Care Professionals -Other Infrastructure -Prevention -Treatment -Recovery Services -Supportive Services for Individuals in Treatment or Recovery -Housing <p>After voting, the ranked categories are:</p> <p>1st - Increase Supply of Behavioral Health Professionals</p> <p>2nd (tie) Prevention and Housing</p> <p>3rd (tie) Treatment and Supportive Services for Individuals in Treatment or Recovery</p> <p>4th - Recovery Services</p>	<p>Miren Unsworth Sara Omundson Ali Rabe Ashley Dowell Dave Jeppesen</p> <p>Treatment (4 votes) Brent Mendenhall Gene Petty Miren Unsworth Bree Derrick</p> <p>Supportive Services (4 votes) Brent Mendenhall Ali Rabe Ashley Dowell Dave Jeppesen</p> <p>Recovery Services (3 votes) Gene Petty Ali Rabe Bree Derrick</p>

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					Director Omundson described the next steps where the priority categories are sent to the Governor and JFAC, along with the entire list of submitted proposals. Individuals who submitted proposals are encouraged to advocate for their funding with the relevant state agency.	
6	2:25 p.m.	10 min	IBHC Implementation Updates	Cheryl Foster	<p>The statewide SIM report is now available on the website. It includes the SIM maps for each of the first seven events. The latest SIM event was held in Bonner and Boundary counties earlier in the month.</p> <p>The Civil Commitments workgroup drafted proposed revisions to Idaho Code 66-326 and 66-329 in the fall. Very recently, additional changes needed to be made after consulting with stakeholders who drafted the recent bill on crisis holds for individuals with neurocognitive disorders.</p>	
7	2:35 p.m.	5 min	IBHC Strategic Planning Update	Shannon McGuire	<p>Ms. McGuire updated the council on the strategic planning activities. They held an Advisory Board meeting where they revisited the first strategic plan and its outcomes. They also took time to discuss lessons learned and reprioritized the existing recommendations.</p> <p>On July 12th there will be a workgroup planning summit. It will be an in-person all day meeting for all of the workgroups to work interdependently. They will share the results of the workgroup summit at the next council meeting and prepare to share recommendations at the August 16th meeting.</p>	
8	2:40 p.m.	5 min	Upcoming IBHC Council Meetings	Sara Omundson	<p>The usual IBHC meeting cadence is quarterly but will meet monthly during strategic planning. Council members are encouraged to come in person, if possible.</p> <p>The next scheduled meeting dates are: July 19th August 16th *September 13th - Critical meeting to be in person to vote on priority recommendations that will be the council's focus over the next three years. October 18th - Meeting to finalize the plan before submitting it to the Governor at the end of the month (not required to be in person).</p>	Cheryl will send out a poll to members about a possible 9 a.m. meeting time.

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					Jared Larsen - Wanted to broach the idea of changing the meeting time after one of the members expressed difficulty in attending Friday afternoon meetings. Director Omundson said that she preferred mornings but would ask the other members. Ashley Dowell - ICJC meets on Friday mornings, but they do not conflict with currently scheduled meeting dates.	
9	2:45 p.m.	5 min	Closing and Q&A	Co-Chairs	Thank you to Miren for her contributions to the council.	
10	2:50 p.m.		Adjourn	Sara Omundson		

The IBHC will track action items and their status from the meetings here:

Follow Up Items	Date Opened	Owner	Due Date	Complete/Comments	Status