

3rd Legislative Impact Survey – Region 2



Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Needs and Gaps

FY 2013

PURPOSE



- ❧ Provide legislators with information on behavioral health services in Idaho's Region 2.
- ❧ Demonstrate the effects of current funding for mental health and substance abuse services
- ❧ Recommendations about services based on research data

RESEARCH



- ❧ 3 years of data collection
- ❧ 25 Stakeholders Responded
 - ❧ Treatment Providers
 - ❧ Schools
 - ❧ Hospitals
 - ❧ Justice System
 - ❧ Law enforcement
 - ❧ Prosecutors
 - ❧ Judicial system

Idaho Mental Health Facts

☞ Suicide

- ☞ 6th highest in U.S. - 49% higher than U.S. average
- ☞ Nez Perce County - 21 suicides per 100,000
 - ☞ Nationally - 13.7 suicides per 100,000
- ☞ \$36 million - Cost of suicide attempts per year in Idaho
- ☞ \$850,000 - Medical cost of completed suicides

☞ Idaho Funding

- ☞ \$36.64 per capita expenditures for mental health
- ☞ Lowest in U.S.

Region 2 Strengths



- ❧ Dedication and commitment of the Behavioral Health Providers
- ❧ Specialty Courts
 - ❧ Veterans Court established 2013
 - ❧ Currently 36 Mental Health Court participants
 - ❧ Graduates
 - ❧ 20 Mental Health Court
 - ❧ 43 DUI Court
 - ❧ 77 Drug Court
- ❧ CIT (Mental Health Crisis Intervention Training) by Law Enforcement

School Counselors

Identified Needs and Gaps

- ❧ More school-based services
- ❧ More psychiatric and medication management services for children and youth
- ❧ More community-based services for children and families
- ❧ Accessible services for low-income families
 - ❧ Transportation
 - ❧ Easier access in rural areas
- ❧ Local inpatient treatment for children & youth

To the Legislature



“Children’s mental health is preventative mental health.”

Parent and Advocate

“Research has shown early intervention and effective treatment of children’s mental health needs have positive correlation to improved school performance, less involvement with juvenile justice system, and reduced cost for mental health treatment into adulthood.”

Parent and Advocate

Juvenile Justice System



- ☞ Youth in Idaho Juvenile Justice System with mental health diagnosis
 - 70.2%
- ☞ Youth with Co-occurring Disorders
 - 39.2%
- ☞ Youth with Substance Abuse Disorder
 - 59.6%

One Hospital's ER Visits



Mental Health

- ❧ 2010
 - ❧ 1532 Visits
- ❧ 2011
 - ❧ 1649 Visits
- ❧ 2012
 - ❧ 1584 Visits *
- ❧ 2013
 - ❧ Unavailable

Drugs and Alcohol

- ❧ 2010
 - ❧ 160 Visits
- ❧ 2011
 - ❧ 158 Visits
- ❧ 2012
 - ❧ 140 Visits*
- ❧ 2013
 - ❧ Unavailable

*estimate based on 1st quarter statistics

One Hospital's Admissions

Mental Health

- ❧ 2010
 - ❧ 499 Admissions
- ❧ 2011
 - ❧ 529 Admissions
- ❧ 2012
 - ❧ 456 Admissions*
- ❧ 2013
 - ❧ 734 Admissions

Drug and Alcohol

- ❧ 2010
 - ❧ 242 Admissions
- ❧ 2011
 - ❧ 272 Admissions
- ❧ 2012
 - ❧ 252 Admissions*
- ❧ 2013
 - ❧ Unavailable

One Hospital's Cost of Indigent Care

ER - Mental Health and Substance Abuse

2010 - \$672,296

2011 - \$877,190

2012 - \$722,824*

Inpatient Mental Health

2013 - \$429,000

Private Providers Needs and Gaps

- ❧ Closing of rural Dept. of Health and Welfare Office left major gap in services
- ❧ Need for Crisis Housing
- ❧ Need for state-funded detox facility
- ❧ Need for residential treatment for clients with substance use disorders
- ❧ Excessive rules and regulations cost businesses and reduce patient care

To the Legislators



“We are the ones that have to look people in the eye and say ‘nope-sorry-can’t help you’ ... Ultimately the state will end up paying more for in-patient care, child protection, and incarceration but the lines never seem to be drawn from here to there.”

Private Provider

Prosecuting Attorneys

6 Prosecutors



Mental Health

- ☞ Prosecutors reported an increase in the number of cases involving mental health conditions over the last three years
- ☞ Prosecutors report, on average, 36% or more of their cases involve individuals with mental health conditions

Substance Abuse

- ☞ Prosecutors reported an increase in the number of cases involving substance use disorders over the last three years
- ☞ Prosecutors report, on average, 54% or more of their cases involve individuals with substance abuse disorders

Prosecutor's Concern



“My primary concern is public safety...I believe a true financial analysis would show that the cost of handling the mentally ill as criminals (a system poorly suited to good outcomes for the mentally ill) is in the long run as or more expensive than providing treatment.”

Needs and Gaps



- ❧ Ability of defendants to pay for mental health services has decreased in the last three years.
- ❧ Court costs of working with defendants with mental health needs are more than other cases.
- ❧ Ability to find competent resources in the rural areas of district is decreasing.

To the Legislature



- “While Mental Health Court is helpful for some, many of these people would not be committing crimes if their mental illness was being properly addressed.”
- “Without the ability to address underlying mental health issues, the ability to treat substance abuse issues, and modify behaviors are significantly impaired. We lack something even as basic as an ACT team or an office for mental health professionals to meet defendants in our area.”

Law Enforcement's Concerns



- ❧ Officer Safety
- ❧ Safety of emotionally disturbed person
- ❧ Safety of citizens
- ❧ Accurate identification of mental health issues by responding officer

To the Legislature

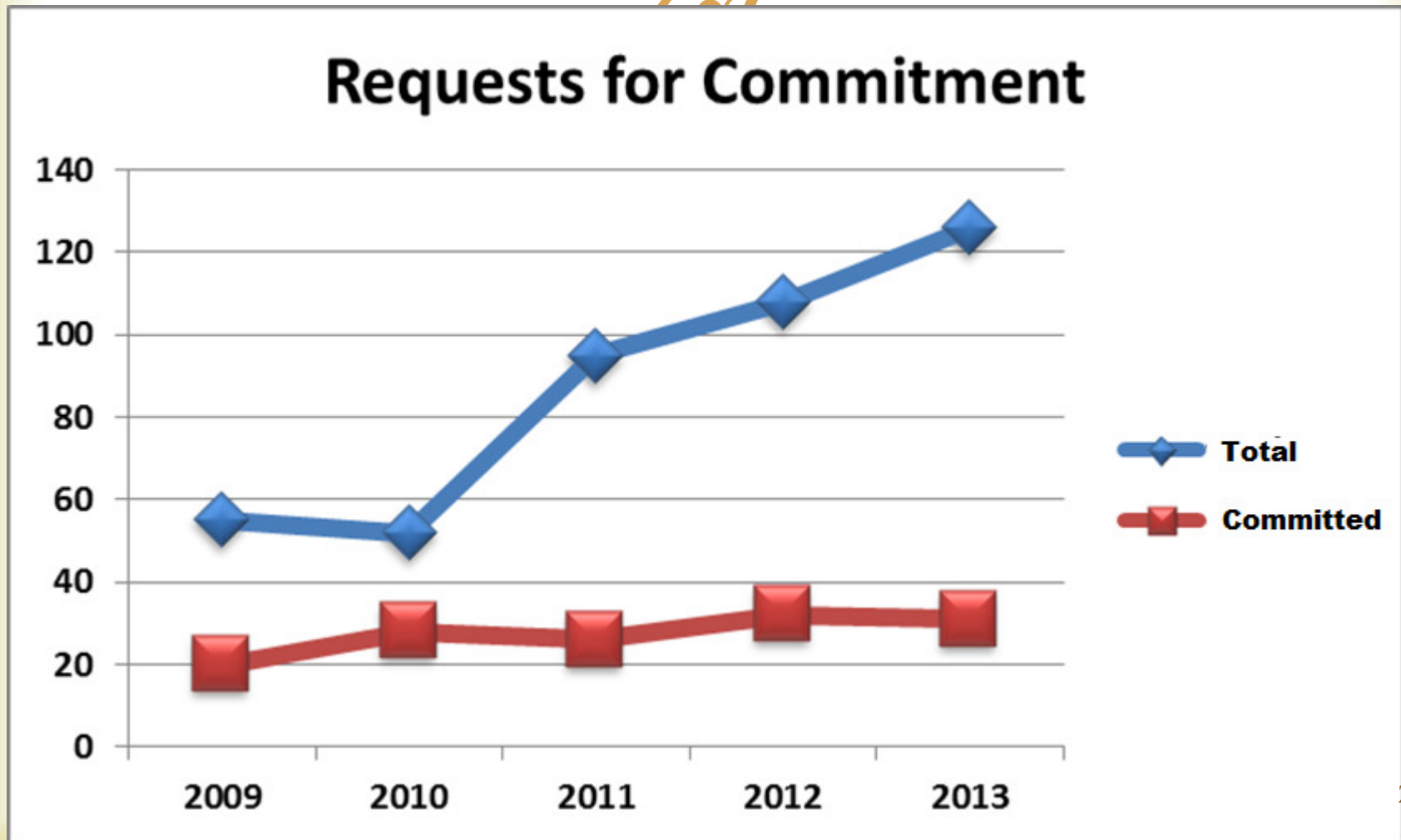


“Law enforcement interaction with persons with mental health issues or emotionally disturbed persons (EDP) has increased over the past decade. The time and resources expended to address this problem is a resource and financial drain upon any law enforcement entity.”

Requests for Involuntary Commitments

- ❧ The number of involuntary commitments in Nez Perce County have risen over the last five years
 - ❧ 2009 – 20 involuntary commitments
 - ❧ 2013 – 31 involuntary commitments
- ❧ Requests for involuntary commitments have risen sharply over the last five years
 - ❧ 2009 – 55 requests
 - ❧ 2013 – 126 requests
- ❧ Requests for involuntary commitments require time and resources from law enforcement, judicial system, and mental health professionals even if they do not result in commitment

Court System Request for Mental Health Commitment Nez Perce County



Recommendations



- ❧ Reduce load on Justice System and increase funding for mental health & substance abuse services.
- ❧ Increase funding for early intervention & prevention.
- ❧ Greater regional control of funding allocation.
- ❧ Increase access to services in rural & frontier areas.
- ❧ Increase services in schools.
- ❧ Increase community services for children & families.
- ❧ Local detox unit and residential treatment for substance use disorders.