

# REGION II

## *Behavioral Health Board*

### MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

**December 14, 2023-- 1:30 PM**

**Zoom Conference Meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions**

website: [www.riibhb.idahopublichealth.com](http://www.riibhb.idahopublichealth.com)

**Zoom Conference Link** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81714543574?pwd=d1VVb3U1WXV1cGRscEJxUVpDa0JyUT09>

1. Roll Call, Welcome, and Introductions

|   |                |   |                         |   |                     |   |                     |
|---|----------------|---|-------------------------|---|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| x | Don Beck       | x | Theresa Graber-Gimmeson |   | Tammy Lish-Watson   | X | Jenny Teigen        |
| x | Sara Bennett   |   | Shaun Hogan             |   | Pam Lopardo         |   | Laura Treat         |
| x | Megan Comstock |   | Sharlene Johnson        | x | Lisa Martin         |   | Ex-Officio          |
|   | Beverly Fowler |   | Beverly Kloepper        | x | Shawn McDowell      | x | Astahna Adkins/Holt |
|   | Vince Frazier  | x | Shari Kuther            | x | Michelle Mendenhall | x | Theresa Shackelford |
|   | Chris Goetz    | x | Tom Lamar               |   | Summer Overberg     |   | April Christenson   |
|   | Amber Hoodman  | x | Kally McFee             | x | Jim Rehder          | x | Rep. Lori McCann    |

Others Attending: Karen Kopf, Ryan Soukup, Kylie Bednarczyk, Sean Waldron, Michelle King,

2. Approval of November BHB Minutes (**Action Item**): Motion to pass by Shawn McDowell, seconded by Tom Lamar. No discussion. Motion passed.
3. Affirm Adult SUD Consumer rep to BHB to fill vacancy - Amber Hoodman. Motion to approve, Shari Kuther and seconded by Michelle Mendenhall. No discussion. Motion passed.
4. Affirmation of ex officio appointment – Asthana Holt-Adkins – Motion to approve, Jenny Teigen and seconded by Shawn McDowell. No discussion. Motion passed.
5. New subcommittee approved to join Prevention subcommittee with Recovery – Motion to approve, Kally McFee and seconded by Jenny Teigen. Jim explained Prevention Subcommittee Chair Sharlene agreed to add Recovery because new Board member Amber will be the Recovery leader for the combined subcommittee. Motion passed.
6. Welcome Regional State Legislators, Rep Lori McCann and Rep Brandon Mitchell
7. Commissioner Tom Larmar provided update on the legislative priorities.
  - To establish youth crisis center in our region which is greatly needed. There are 3 regions left in Idaho to establish a youth crisis centers (Regions 1,2,6). Continue to support the expansion for both physical and mental health.
  - --Request legislature to continue to support Medicaid Expansion as it helps so many people with BH issues and the thousands of people being released from jails, prisons and on probation/parole to get treatment/recovery services.

- Reinstatement of Naloxone/Narcan distribution system after this year's legislative action limited the distribution. Not having access to the medication in overdose situations causes many deaths.
- Legislative support for affordable housing and homeless shelters is critically important for those with BH issues and poverty.
- Continue to support statewide Recovery Centers which are critical to many people in recovery.
- Legislative and state board to support Master's programs and other BH degree programs at local University and College for behavioral health due to staffing shortage.
- Loans to support forgiveness options for behavioral health occupations.
- Actions to support school curriculum to support MH and SUD awareness.
- Amend BHB statute to have regional Idaho Association of Counties select county commissioners to serve on BHB's. Many regions are struggling to get County Commissioners to serve on the BHB's. State to support Regional BHB's. Would like to support a vaping tax with funds to go towards recovery.

8. Recovery Centers report – Darrell Keim reported recovery centers have each been funded with \$150,000 annual support thru the legislature this past year. Latah reports over 800 client contacts last year. This comes to 320 individuals a year. They provide recovery coaching, service referrals, life skills classes, 25 different classes, student outreach “Vandal Recovery”, jail outreach, re-entry program with Latah County jail. They partner with the Crisis Center and share staff, harm reduction, provide Narcan and safe sex items, housing- men's sober Oxford house reconstruction after the building burned down.
9. Crisis Center – Joyce reported they provide funds to the Latah Recovery Center for crisis services. With new managed care contractor, Magellan, starting next year we'll see changes. Not sure if they will receive a grant and will they receive a base grant. They served 554 people. We need a youth crisis center. There has been support for one throughout the community. Region 2 was passed over. It needs to be looked at according to the costs for hospitalization, jails and prisons.

Rep McCann asked about a juvenile in crisis what happens? Joyce reports they will be connected with resources. Shawn reports NezPerce County has a juvenile detention center and described an event that happened with a young female and there is no place to put a juvenile in crisis other than the detention center.

Michelle King reported there is the safe teen assessment center and will lose funding June 1<sup>st</sup>. She described an event with a juvenile who was attempting suicide with intervention with a case manager. The youth was taken to ER and discharged without parents being notified. Joyce reported we are seeing more and more youth who are homeless.

Kally reported her son being in crisis over and over and the only way to receive services is to put him in juvenile detention. Shawn reported high and low risk youth need to not be combined.

Jenny reported with the support of the Idaho Behavioral health planning council, in the last submitted block grant, some funds asked for by DBH were specific to meet the needs of crisis services for both adults and adolescents.

#### 10. Behavioral health Board Services and Subcommittee brief reports:

- a. Adult BH report – Shari Kuther reported we need to establish a Secure Mental Health facility for dangerous mentally ill because currently they are housed in beds at the Idaho Maximum Security Prison in Boise. We need additional Medicaid costs that are not covered under the current Medicaid contract. Need additional telehealth services. Lack of safe and affordable housing.

- b. Children's MH – no report from committee chairs—Jim explained much of the Board meeting's discussion today was centered around Children's Behavioral Health issues which is very important.
- c. Housing – Lisa Martin reported there are very few housing options throughout the region. Lewiston has sober housing and housing for mentally ill. We are in a housing crisis. Both the Adult and Youth Resource Centers are working on housing. Most chronic homelessness comes from being a child who was homeless. We have to have more places for people to live. Lewiston Tribune reporter, Elaine Williams, attended the BHB meeting looking for information on Homelessness which was discussed in many parts of the meeting.
- d. Prevention and Recovery: Caitlin Rusche – partnership for success grant was completed this year and they have worked with many partners to sustain the prevention operations. Their goals include reduced access to drugs; implemented anti-vape programs; implemented needle exchange

Legislator Report:

Rep McCann – Lori is on the following committees—Vice chair of House Education, Agricultural Affairs, Commerce & Human resources.

She is working with Boys & Girl's Club and working with the youth academy of Pierce and putting together next steps from structured environment back to old habits. The old LHS building would be turned into a dorm and there would be structure and holding them accountable. They would set up in a career thru LCSC. Working toward gainful employment. This is still in the works.

She is working on Juvenile Crisis Center and continues to work with the Governor's office. This would be located in either Moscow or Lewiston. She pointed out the BHB's should continue to communicate with the State BH Council who makes recommendations for funding to the Legislature.

She is also working on women's health. This is directed to the abortion laws. Doctors need to be able to practice and provide the best care for their patients. She is working with other legislators on this to protect women's health and the physicians. Currently the mother has to suffer various medical issues before a dead fetus can be aborted.

She would like some help with the Juvenile Crisis Center. She will be sending Jim information on any Behavioral Health bills.

Rep Mitchell is on the following committees—Vice chair of Transportation & Defense, Business, Health and Welfare.

He does not have any bills affecting BH Health. He sits on the DHW committee which addresses BH issues. When he reviews bills he looks at the funding to see if it's going in the right direction. He encouraged the Board to send him information to consider during the legislature. He has toured the Latah Recovery Center and looks forward to tour the LC Valley Youth Rehab Center. He said he was fortunate to attend this BHB meeting. Jim reported he communicates with Representative Marco Erickson as he is a strong advocate of BH services.

Kally reported her experiences with her son who is having behavioral health issues and now he is in the justice system. The family had to travel to Pocatello to see her son for mental health. They found that there is no intensive outpatient services for children in Idaho. This makes it clear for the need of a Youth Crisis Center for Region 2. They had a provider who created a program for him.

Shawn reported the State Juvenile facility is going to add beds to their facility for kids who need to go into foster care.

Michelle reported the schools see youth who are homeless and 18 year old youth who are couch surfing.

- e. Next BHB Meeting – January 11, 2024
- f. Meeting Adjourn