



Idaho Behavioral Health Council 2021-2023 Strategic Action Plan Update January 2024



IBHC Vision

It is our vision that adults, children, youth and their families who live with mental illness and addiction **receive the behavioral healthcare services they need when they need them.**

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Acknowledgments

We would like to thank the many contributors to the success of the Idaho Behavioral Health Council's strategic plan. None of these achievements could be accomplished without the support of the Governor and his staff, Idaho Legislative Leadership, including the Joint Finance Appropriations Committee, and the Health and Welfare Committees of the House and Senate, and the Idaho Supreme Court. Other contributors are listed below and throughout the report.

Current and Former Idaho Behavioral Health Council Members

- Sara Omundson (Co-Chair) *Administrative Director of Courts*
- Dave Jeppesen (Co-Chair) *Director of Idaho Department of Health & Welfare*
- Senator Jeff Agenbroad *former Idaho State Senator*
- Senator David Nelson *former Idaho State Senator*
- Senator Ali Rabe *Idaho State Senator*
- Senator Doug Ricks *Idaho State Senator*
- Representative Brooke Green *Idaho House Representative*
- Representative Laurie Lickley *former Idaho House Representative*
- Representative Chenele Dixon *Idaho House Representative*
- Brent Mendenhall *Madison County Commissioner*
- Judge Gene Petty *Third Judicial District Court Judge*
- Monty Prow *Director of Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections*
- Dr. Eric Studebaker *formerly of the Idaho State Department of Education*
- Debbie Critchfield *Superintendent of Public Instruction*
- Josh Tewalt *Director of Idaho Department of Correction*
- Jennifer Griffis *formerly served as Member of the Public*
- Dr. David Pate *Member of the Public*
- Kate Dolan *Member of the Public*

Advisory Board Members

- Dr. Lisa Bostaph *Victims of Crime Expert*
- Krissy Broncho *Tribal representative*
- Dr. Keith Davis *Idaho Medical Association Primary Care representative*
- Martha Ekhoﬀ *Adult Consumer of Behavioral Health Services*
- Mark Estess *Idaho Chiefs of Police Association representative*
- Michelle Evans *Magistrate Judge*
- Dr. Nicole Fox *Idaho Psychiatric Association representative*
- Eric Fredericksen *State Appellate Public Defender*
- Kim Hokanson *Family of a Child Consumer of Behavioral Health Services*
- Sheriff Sam Hulse *Idaho Sheriff's Association representative*
- Todd Hurt *State Hospital Administrator*
- Yvonne Ketchum-Ward *Idaho Primary Care Association representative*
- Marianne King *Office of Drug Policy*
- Toni Lawson *Idaho Hospital Association representative*
- Palina Louangketh *Suicide Prevention representative*
- Dr. Matthew Niece *University Leadership*
- Keisha Oxendine *Idaho Prosecuting Attorneys Association representative*
- Dawn Rae *EMS*
- Michael Sandvig *NAMI*
- Laura Scuri *Mental Health Provider*
- Melinda Smyser *Office of Drug Policy representative*
- Anne Taylor *Public Defender*
- Debbie Thomas *Substance Use Disorder Provider*
- Robert Vande Merwe *Idaho Health Care Association representative*
- Craig Ward *Tribal representative*
- Lora Whalen *Public Health District representative*

Background

Recognizing the urgency of behavioral health issues affecting the state of Idaho, leadership from the three branches of government, the Governor, Legislature, and Supreme Court, formed the Idaho Behavioral Health Council. The Council was tasked with developing and implementing a strategic action plan to identify and address issues within the State’s behavioral health care system.

The Council, together with its Advisory Board and seven supporting workgroups, undertook a strategic planning process during 2020 and 2021. As part of the planning process, they defined the behavioral health system as publicly funded programs and services, including collaborations with community partners. They conducted a survey of the programs, services, and infrastructure along the entire spectrum of the behavioral health system - beginning with the promotion of health environments to recovery from behavioral health disorders. This framework is illustrated in the graphic below.



Following the analysis of the current system, they continued the planning process to envision solutions and develop recommendations. Based on output from the workgroups, the IBHC Advisory Board put forth 34 actionable recommendations classified by framework component.

The IBHC Council evaluated the proposed recommendations, selected nine for priority implementation, and identified agency sponsors to lead the implementation of each recommendation.

The [strategic action plan](#) was adopted in June 2021. The plan described the planning process and documented the 34 Advisory Board recommendations and the 9 prioritized recommendations for implementation.



Values

Throughout the strategic planning process and through implementation, the Council maintained its vision and guiding principles.

Vision Statement

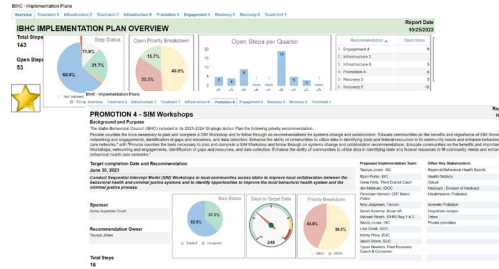
It is our vision that adults, children, youth, and their families who live with mental illness and addiction **receive the behavioral healthcare services they need when they need them.**

Guiding Principles

- 1) Consumer and Family Voice:
Because the voices of consumers of services and their families are crucial to proper implementation of the Idaho Behavioral Health Council's strategic action plan, **we commit to include** them as indispensable partners in program design, implementation, and evaluation.
- 2) Cross-System Collaboration:
We commit to utilize an inclusive and collaborative approach in the implementation of behavioral health strategic action plan.
- 3) Promote Evidence and Best Practices:
We commit to using known effective practices through the design and implementation of the strategic action plan, including best practices for funding services and supports.
- 4) Recovery and Resiliency Oriented:
We commit to designing a system that focuses on the lifelong process of improving wellness and strives to assist consumers and families in reaching their full potential.
- 5) Equitable Access:
We commit to implementing a system with equal access for all Idahoans regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, or sexual orientation. We commit to observing all rights as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- 6) Financially Sustainable:
We commit to designing and implementing a behavioral health system that is effective, efficient, and financially sustainable.
- 7) Quality, Accountability, and Outcomes:
We commit to transparent and continuous evaluation of quality and outcome measures in all programs and services to achieve the best possible outcomes for Idahoans and to achieve effective/efficient use of public dollars.

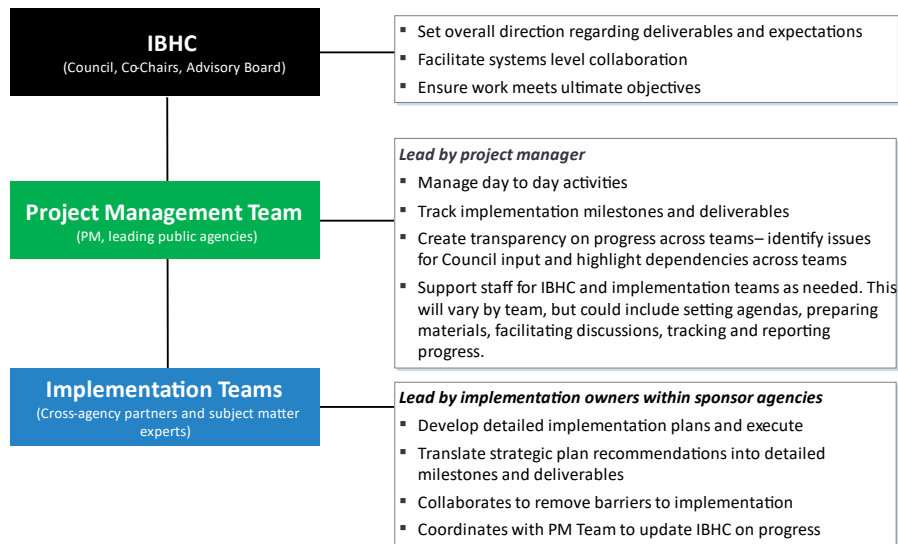
Implementation Process

To implement the nine priority recommendations from the strategic action plan, each recommendation was assigned an agency sponsor and a timeline for completion. The sponsors convened workgroups of stakeholders to develop action items to accomplish the recommendation. These action items were documented in an online implementation plan [document](#).



A diagram below shows the hierarchy and roles for accomplishing each recommendation.

IBHC Implementation Roles



The project management team consists of the IBHC project manager and public agency leadership. We are grateful for the hard work of these individuals.

- Ross Edmunds *Administrator, Division of Behavioral Health , Idaho Department of Health and Welfare*
- Adam Panitch *Bureau Chief, Division of Behavioral Health, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare*
- Taunya Jones *former Division Director of Justice Services, Administrative Office of the Courts*
- Ryan Porter *Statewide Behavioral Health Manager, Administrative Office of the Courts*
- Laura Kiehl *IBHC Project Manager 2021-2022*
- Cheryl Foster *IBHC Project Manager 2023-2024*

Updates on Priority Recommendations

The following section provides an update for each of the nine priority recommendations.

Each recommendation is color-coded to its segment of the behavioral health system framework. Note that not all segments are represented in the priority recommendations.



● **Infrastructure Recommendation #2: Workforce Plan**

Develop and implement a comprehensive workforce plan to increase licensed and/or certified behavioral health professionals across the full continuum of service care throughout the lifespan in Idaho.

● **Infrastructure Recommendation #8: CCBHC**

Explore piloting a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics Model

● **Promotion Recommendation #4: SIM Workshops**

Conduct Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Workshops in local communities across Idaho to improve local collaboration between the behavioral health and criminal justice systems and to identify opportunities to improve the local behavioral health system and the criminal justice system.

● **Engagement Recommendation #4: Early Engagement**

Review and draft or amend statutes and rules to promote earlier engagement of justice involved individuals with behavioral health treatment needs.

● **Treatment Recommendation #1: Youth Residential Treatment Centers**

Increase residential treatment options for youth to receive appropriate level of care based on their needs with a preference for services within Idaho.

● **Treatment Recommendation #3: Civil Commitments**

Improve Idaho civil commitment process and procedures by proposing amendments to the Mental Health Act to incorporate the action items.

● **Treatment Recommendation #7 – Crisis Response System**

Develop and implement a crisis response system model for youth. Strengthen and broaden a crisis response system model for adults based on community capacity.

● **Recovery Recommendation #3: Long term Recovery Services**

Identify services to support long-term recovery for individuals in Idaho by leveraging existing and newly created recovery community centers as a strategy to promote long-term recovery.

● **Recovery Recommendation #5: Protective Factors for Youth**

Identify and enhance protective factors that promote long-term wellbeing in youth and their families, which can mitigate negative life outcomes. This effort will strengthen families and communities through resiliency promoting practices. We will work to identify targeted resources to educate stakeholders in order to effectively partner in a statewide system of support.

● Infrastructure #2: Workforce Plan

Develop and implement a comprehensive workforce plan to increase licensed and/or certified behavioral health professionals across the full continuum of service care throughout the lifespan in Idaho.

Sponsor: Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Contributors:

- Adam Panitch Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Mike Wraith Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Chris Good Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Ryan Philips Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Megan Schuelke Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Maggie Copeland Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Liz Perkins Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Matthew Campbell Adult Consumer of Behavioral Health Services
- Tricia Ellinger Family of a Child Consumer of Behavioral Health Services
- DeVere Hunt Behavioral Health Provider - Eastern Idaho
- David Atkins Behavioral Health Provider - North Idaho
- Debbie Thomas Substance Use Disorder Provider
- Nicole Pearson Idaho Primary Care Association
- Robin Donovan Idaho Primary Care Association
- Ryan Porter Idaho Administrative Office of Courts
- Jim Meldrum Idaho Board of Alcohol/Drug Counselor Certification; former Idaho Department of Correction

Accomplishments:

★ [Behavioral Health Workforce Plan](#)

Developed and published two versions of Behavioral Health Workforce Plans for maximum achievability, measurability and accountability. Established framework based on Idaho's need for improvement to Behavioral Health Workforce Promotion, Education, Credentialing, Employment & Retention.

★ *Established Recovery Coach Academy*

★ *Established Behavioral Health Center of Excellence*

Center of Excellence Competency Centers

- ACT: Assertive Community Treatment
- TCOM: Transformational Collaborative Outcomes Management
- Crisis MCR: Crisis and Mobile Crisis Response
- ESMI: Early Serious Mental Illness
- IWInS: Idaho Wraparound Intensive Service
- PLL: Parenting with Love and Limits

★ *Updated Medicaid provider rates*

Provider alert May 1, 2023 (Erroneously listed as 2022)

<https://www.optumidaho.com/content/ops-optidaho/idaho/en/providers/alerts---announcements.html>

- ★ *Provided technical assistance to Mental Health Clinics to become National Health Service Corps sites*
- ★ *Created promotional materials and provided technical assistance for individuals to pursue National Health Service Corps, State Loan Repayment Program, and Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program*
- ★ *Increased participation in SAMHSA’s Northwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center & Northwest Mental Health Technology Transfer Center, resulting in new evidence-based training for community providers of Assertive Community Treatment*



Infrastructure #8: CCBHC

Explore piloting a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics Model

Sponsor: Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Contributors:

▪ Charles Beal	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ David Bell	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Juliet Charron	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Ross Edmunds	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Shannon Fox	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Adam Panitch	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Scott Rasmussen	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Jamie Teeter	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Miren Unsworth	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ David Welsh	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Angie Williams	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Mechelle Wilson	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Accomplishments:

★ *After evaluating the successful nationwide model, the IBHC supported and facilitated partnerships to stand up five Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics to provide comprehensive behavioral health care*

- Heritage Health – Coeur d’Alene
- CHAS Health– Lewiston
- Family Health – Twin Falls
- Terry Reilly – Caldwell
- Kaniksu Community Health - Sandpoint

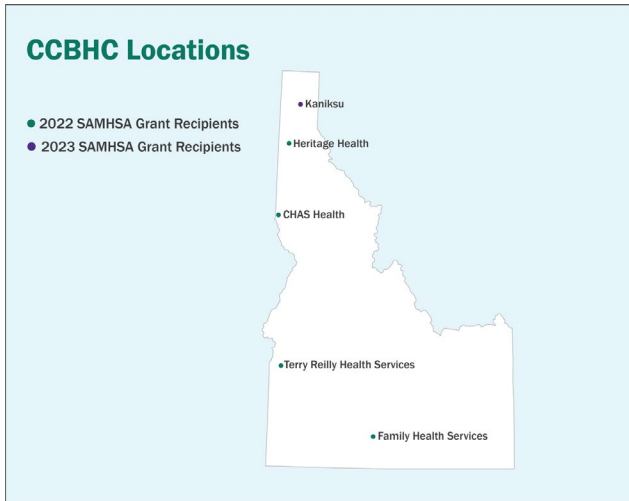
★ *Contracted with CHCNI to develop the provider network (Community Health Center Network of Idaho)*

- *Facilitated formal agreements between the CCBHCs and 988*
- *Administered funds to support individual clinic building and infrastructure needs*

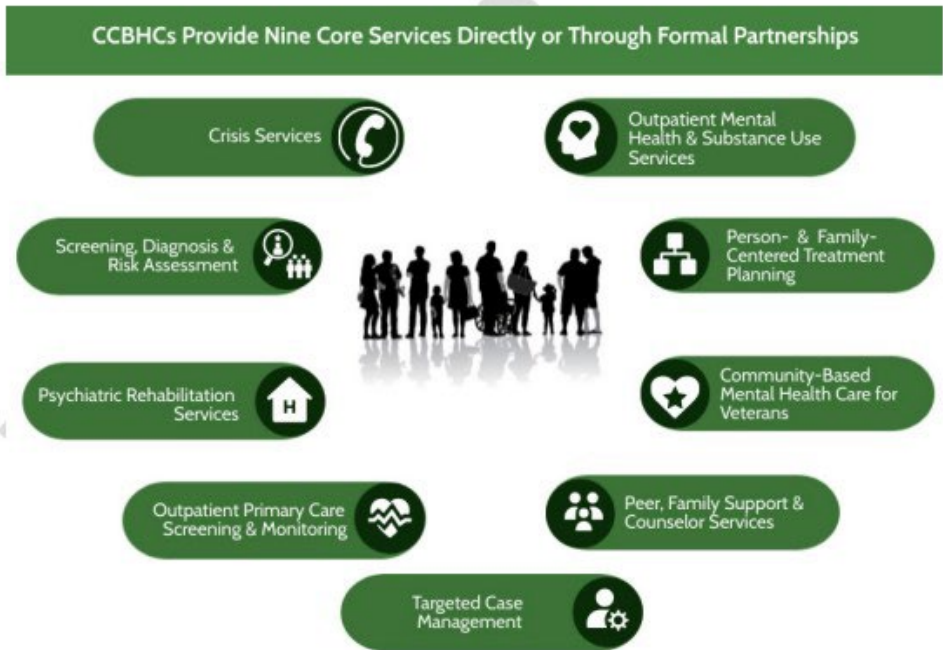
• *Contracted with the National Council/CCBHC Success Center for state-based technical assistance*

- *Initiated a statewide project plan, statewide needs assessment, system vision, draft of Idaho-specific state-level certification criteria and sustainability methodology*





- 4 SAMHSA Implementation Grant Recipients (Fall 2022):
 - Heritage Health
 - CHAS
 - Terry Reilly (Caldwell)
 - Family Health Services
- 1 SAMHSA Implementation Grant Recipient (Fall 2023):
 - Kaniksu
- 4 Year/\$1M Grants



● Promotion #4: SIM Workshops

Conduct Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Workshops in local communities across Idaho to improve local collaboration between the behavioral health and criminal justice systems and to identify opportunities to improve the local behavioral health system and the criminal justice system.

Sponsor: Idaho Supreme Court

Workgroup Members:

- Laura Kiehl 3rd Judicial District
- Sandy Jones Administrative Office of the Courts, Idaho Supreme Court
- Taunya Jones Formerly with Administrative Office of the Courts, Idaho Supreme Court

Accomplishments:

★ Trained 20 individuals to facilitate SIM workshops in the state

★ Sponsored Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) workshops in each of the seven judicial districts, empowering local stakeholders to implement action plans to improve local access to behavioral health resources, such as connecting additional services to individuals leaving jail or the crisis center

- [Ada and Boise Counties](#)
- [Canyon County](#)
- [Bannock County](#)
- [Bonneville County](#)
- [Nez Perce County](#)
- [Kootenai County](#)
- [Twin Falls County](#)

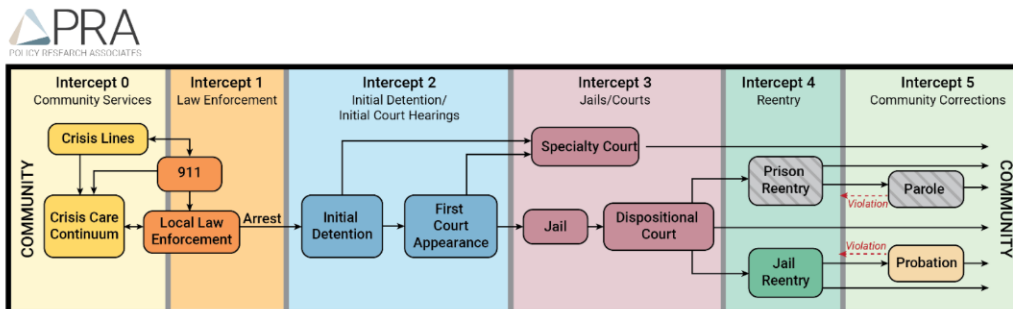
★ Published intercept maps and written reports after each SIM workshop, listing resources, collaborations, gaps, opportunities, action items and recommendations.

★ Summarized commonalities among all reports and a published statewide report identifying opportunities and recommendations.

Ongoing Work:

More SIM workshops planned in 2024

- Nez Perce Reservation (not sponsored by ISC)
- Bonner and Boundary County
- 2nd Judicial District



Abreu, D., Parker, T. W., Noether, C. D., Steadman, H. J., & Case, B. (2017). Revising the paradigm for jail diversion for people with mental and substance use disorders: Intercept 0. *Behavioral Sciences & the Law*, 35(5-6), 380-395. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bsl.2300>
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● Engagement #4: Early Engagement

Review and draft or amend statutes and rules to promote earlier engagement of justice involved individuals with behavioral health treatment needs.

Sponsors: Idaho Supreme Court, Idaho Department of Correction

Workgroup Members and Contributors:

- Alicia Baptist Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Jennifer Burlage Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Don Caagbay Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Sherri Cameron City of Boise
- Marc Crecelius Administrative Office of the Courts, Idaho Supreme Court
- Liza Crook Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Mike Davidson Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Bree Derrick Idaho Department of Correction
- Jason Dye Formerly Administrative Office of the Courts, Idaho Supreme Court
- Ross Edmunds Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Candace Falsetti Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Judge Dave Hooste 6th District Magistrate Judge
- Sam Hulse Idaho Sheriff's Association
- Todd Hurt Former Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Sandy Jones Administrative Office of the Courts, Idaho Supreme Court
- Taunya Jones Formerly with Administrative Office of the Courts, Idaho Supreme Court
- Laura Kiehl 3rd Judicial District
- Audrey McKay Idaho POST
- Judge Gene Petty 3rd District Judge
- Janie Potter Administrative Office of the Courts, Idaho Supreme Court
- Monty Prow Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Scott Ronan Administrative Office of the Courts, Idaho Supreme Court
- Kristina Schindele Deputy Attorney General (Idaho Department of Correction)
- Jason Stone Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Venessa Stucky Consumer Advocate
- Josh Tewalt Idaho Department of Correction
- Rene Waite Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Mike Wraith Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Accomplishments:

★ *Conducted a research literature review and investigated diversion models for adults and youth with behavioral health issues within the criminal justice system*

★ *Completed and evaluated roadmaps of adult and juvenile diversion options within the Idaho criminal justice system*

★ *Statutory changes proposed by Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections and other juvenile justice stakeholders were passed during the 2022 legislative session (H0451, H0452, H0453). These bills strengthened juvenile justice in Idaho, increased protections for youth, as well as added an additional pathway for youth to be seen by the Custody Review Board.*

- ★ Reviewed Idaho Court Rules to identify potential modifications impacting behavioral health issues
- ★ Explored and documented pre-trial assessment options for adults and youth
- ★ Developed pilots for a pre-plea early intervention court program meant to provide access to services for court involved individuals as early as possible and three low-risk and high-need tracks in existing treatment courts
- ★ Drafted replacement statutes for Idaho Code §§ 19-2522, 19-2523, and 19-2524 to clarify and streamline the process for court-ordered screenings and assessments for substance use and mental health evaluations conducted prior to sentencing
- ★ Reviewed and approved four Idaho Department of Corrections Pre-prosecution Diversion Grants to local government entities
 - Boise Police Department ILED
 - Canyon County
 - [Shoshone County](#)
 - Nampa Police Department

Ongoing Work:

- Expand Crisis Intervention Team training to rural areas
- Expand Idaho Law Enforcement Diversion program to more areas
- Support §19-2524 legislative update



● Treatment #1: Youth Residential Treatment Centers

Increase residential treatment options for youth to receive appropriate level of care based on their needs with a preference for services within Idaho.

Sponsors: Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections and Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Contributors:

- Francesca Barbaro Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Nicole Cleveland Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Liza Crook Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Shane Duty formerly Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Britt Miller Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Adam Panitch Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Accomplishments:

★ Provided funding to open the first three Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF) in Idaho to bring home over 100 children/youth being cared for in other states.

- First PRTF open - Idaho Youth Ranch Residential Center for Healing & Resilience – Treasure Valley (64-bed capacity, currently serving 8 youth ramping up to full capacity)
- 2 more PRTFs coming online in 2024 (48 beds)
 - Northwest Children’s Home - Lewiston
 - Jackson House – Idaho Falls



● Treatment #3: Civil Commitments

Improve Idaho civil commitment process and procedures by proposing amendments to the Mental Health Act.

Sponsor: Idaho Supreme Court, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Commissioner Mendenhall

Workgroup Members:

▪ Kasey Abercrombie	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Sandra Barrios	4th Judicial District, Trial Court Administrator
▪ Aaron Bazzoli	Canyon County Public Defender
▪ Kelli Brassfield	Idaho Association of Counties
▪ Jennifer Burlage	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Walter Cambell	Idaho Department of Correction
▪ Ross Edmunds	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Alan Foutz	Deputy Attorney General (Idaho Department of Health and Welfare)
▪ KayT Garrett	former Deputy Attorney General (Idaho Department of Health and Welfare)
▪ Rep. Brooke Green	Idaho House of Representatives
▪ Seth Grigg	Idaho Association of Counties
▪ Rick Huber	Consumer
▪ Sam Hulse	Idaho Sheriff's Association
▪ Todd Hurt	former Idaho State Hospital North administrator; Intermountain Hospital
▪ Julie Kane	Nez Perce Tribe
▪ Toni Lawson	Idaho Hospital Association
▪ Judge Jessica Lorello	Idaho Court of Appeals
▪ Keisha Oxendine	former Shoshone County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
▪ Ryan Porter	Administrative Office of the Courts, Idaho Supreme Court
▪ Beth Rumpel	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Brooks Schott	Twin Falls County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
▪ Jason Spillman	Administrative Office of the Courts, Idaho Supreme Court
▪ Teri Whilden	former Deputy Attorney General (Idaho Department of Health and Welfare)
▪ Brian Whitlock	Idaho Hospital Association

Accomplishments:

★ *Created roadmap graphic of the commitment process*

★ *Improved the civil commitment process by passing Senate Bill 1327, 2022 Idaho Legislative Session*

- Updated 66-317 Definitions
 - Clarified the definitions of criteria for commitment
 - Update definition of gravely disabled
 - Added definition for neurocognitive disorder as an exclusion criterion for commitment
 - Added definition for "Senior designated examiner"
- Updated 66-322
 - Assigned responsibilities for senior designated examiners
 - Reduced time for setting hearing for guardianship
- Updated 66-326
 - Expanded notice requirements

- Replaced 66-327
 - Assigned financial responsibility for pre-commitment holds and post-commitment costs
- Updated 66-329
 - Assigned responsibilities for senior designated examiners
 - Allows court to waive appearance for proposed patient
 - Defines exclusion criteria to include neurological or neurocognitive disorder, medical disorders, or substance use
 - Defines private care requirements
- Updated 66-330
 - Assigns transportation responsibility to the Department of Health and Welfare
- Updated 66-337
 - Shortens the notification requirement prior to release from 30 days to 7 days

★ *Set for proposed legislation in 2024 - Revised 66-1305 on Dangerously Mentally Ill*

- Updated 66-1304
 - Designation of DMI requires a certificate from a designated examiner w/in the past 7 days
- Updated 66-1305
 - Set specific criteria for defining Dangerously Mentally Ill
- Revised 66-1307
 - Requires least restrict treatment setting
- Revised 66-1308
 - Requires transportation to be responsibility to the Department of Health and Welfare
- Revised 66-1313
 - Reduced administrative requirements around using mechanical restraints

★ *Drafting proposed legislation for 2025 on Clarifying the Designated Examination Process*

- Replace 66-326
 - Move application for commitment or “field petition” process from 66-329
 - Codify the “field petition” process as the currently used most
 - Explicitly defines opportunities for release from detention during every phase of the process
 - Specify application requirements
 - Move application receipt to IDHW for initial screening, evaluation before court filing
 - Specifies that designated examinations take place after initial detention
 - Evaluation for detention is made by designated examiner and confirmed by the court
 - Reduces the time from initial detention and examination to initial hearing
- Revise 66-329
 - Allowed court to motion for a continuance
 - Added clarifying language about releasing patient if commitment is not ordered

Ongoing Work:

- Develop process for trained clinicians (DE) empowered to initiate holds

- Allow physicians to terminate inappropriate holds
- Develop process for outpatient commitment for individuals who do not require hospital level of care
- Commitment of individuals too dangerous for State Hospital, but not designated as 66-1305 Dangerously Mentally Ill, or were refused admission by IDOC
- Admission and discharge process review
- Standardize court procedures
- Ensure notification to the court and parties of the location of the patient



● Treatment #7: – Crisis Response System

Develop and implement a crisis response system model for youth. Strengthen and broaden a crisis response system model for adults based on community capacity.

Sponsor: Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Contributors:

▪ Jennifer Burlage	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Juliet Charron	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Nicole Coleman	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Liza Crook	Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
▪ Ross Edmunds	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Betsy Hammar	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Brook Heath	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Ryan Hoseid	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Vallenthia Johnson	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Palina Louangketh	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Ellie Merrick	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Adam Panitch	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Ryan Phillips	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Monty Prow	Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
▪ Scott Rasmussen	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Kelly Rhoads	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Beth Rumpel	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
▪ Jason Stone	Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
▪ Holly Walund	Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
▪ Mike Wraith	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Accomplishments:

- ★ *Strengthened the state's crisis response system by establishing the 988 statewide crisis and suicide [hotline](#)*
- ★ *Continued support of seven [adult crisis centers](#)*
 - Northern Idaho Crisis Center
 - Pathways Community Crisis Center of Southwest Idaho
 - Western Idaho Community Crisis Center
 - South East Behavioral Crisis Center
 - Behavioral Health Crisis Center of East Idaho
 - Crisis Center of South Central Idaho
 - Rural Crisis Center Network
- ★ *Funded [youth crisis centers](#) across the state (YBHCCCs)*
 - Rise Up Child and Teen Crisis Center - Idaho Falls
 - ProActive Youth and Family Support Center - Twin Falls
 - Pathways Youth Community Support Center - Boise
 - Western Idaho Youth Support Center - Nampa (January 2024)

Ongoing Work:

Expand mobile crisis teams across the state

● Recovery #3: Long Term Recovery Support

Identify services to support long-term recovery for individuals in Idaho by leveraging existing and newly created recovery community centers as a strategy to promote long-term recovery.

Sponsor: Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Contributors:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| ▪ Rosie Andueza | Idaho Department of Health and Welfare |
| ▪ Ross Edmunds | Idaho Department of Health and Welfare |
| ▪ Norma Jaeger | Recovery Idaho |
| ▪ Adam Panitch | Idaho Department of Health and Welfare |

Accomplishment:

★ *Obtained* funding support for recovery centers in each region



● Recovery #5: Protective Factors for Youth Resiliency

Identify and enhance protective factors that promote long-term wellbeing in youth and their families, which can mitigate negative life outcomes. This effort will strengthen families and communities through resiliency promoting practices. We will work to identify targeted resources to educate stakeholders in order to effectively partner in a statewide system of support.

Sponsors: Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections and Idaho State Department of Education

Workgroup Members:

- Rhonda Allenger LCSW, Private Provider, League of Women Voters
- Kathy Dawes League of Women Voters
- Jason Dye Idaho Supreme Court
- Luis Granados Youth Advocate
- Kyle Hanson Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Region 6
- Marianne King Idaho Office of Drug Policy
- Jeanie Mutchie Idaho Resilience Project
- Dr. Thomas Patterson Family Residency Program of Idaho
- Dave Peters Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Region 6
- Monty Prow Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Dr. Vinita Sharma Boise State University
- Roger Sherman Idaho Children's Trust Fund
- Dr. Eric Studebaker Project ECHO
- Dr. Noreen Womack St. Luke's Children's Mobile Care clinic
- Brianna Woosley Spark!

Contributors to Assessment Centers Project:

- Liza Crooks Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Jason Stone Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Holly Walund Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections

Accomplishments:

★ *Passed HCR 29 on ACEs awareness, 2022 Idaho Legislative Session*

House Concurrent Resolution recognizing the impacts of adverse childhood experiences or “ACEs” and encourages efforts for state government to become trauma-informed and to implement interventions and practices to develop resiliency in children and adults who have suffered from traumatic childhood experiences.

★ *Opened [Safe Teen Assessment Centers](#)*

In collaboration with National Assessment Center Association, Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections developed grants to open safe teen assessment centers, including in rural areas, to provide a resource for law enforcement, schools, and families to prevent and divert youth from entering the juvenile justice or child welfare systems.

- Children's Village – Coeur d'Alene
- LC Valley Youth Resource Center – Lewiston
- Youth Resource and Opportunity Collaborative Center YouthROC – Caldwell
- The Bridge Youth and Family Resource Center – Boise

- Simply Hope Safe Teen Assessment Center – Burley
- Twin Falls Youth Service Center – Twin Falls
- The Village a place for youth and families – Pocatello
- Idaho Falls – Safety, Prevention, & Resource Center – SPARC

★ *School Resource Officer Training*

Additional support provided for the Idaho Association of School Resource Officers through training, professional conferences, enhancing the association, and identifying additional support and resources.

★ *Targeted education and awareness for the medical field – Protocols for ACE and Resilience screening*

★ *Supported statewide conferences on Prevention and Behavioral Health*

★ *Develop and prioritize community and agency grants for early assessment of trauma, provide interventions, mentoring, and build resiliency factors*

★ *Partnered with Project Echo to support professional learning for educators and school service providers on behavioral health issues*

★ *Partnered with Idaho Resilience Project to build parent training and engage grandparents*

Ongoing Work:

Work is continuing on all initiatives and partnerships listed above.



Legislative Investments in Behavioral Health

The Governor recommended and the Legislature saw fit to fund a number of investments in behavioral health during past legislative sessions. These projects and programs were funded from a variety of funding sources, including federal funds, state funds, and monies received from tobacco and opioid court settlements obtained by the Idaho Attorney General. Many of these initiatives were recommended by the Idaho Behavioral Health Council.

Details of these appropriations are described in the following two memorandums published by the executive branch.

2023 Legislative Session for State Fiscal Year 2024



State of Idaho
Division of Financial Management
Executive Office of the Governor

BRAD LITTLE
Governor

ALEX ADAMS
Director

The Idaho Behavioral Health Council (IBHC) was established in 2020 through a partnership between the three branches of Idaho state government. The mission of the Council is to develop and implement a strategic plan to improve access and provide better outcomes for Idahoans in need of behavioral health resources.

Pursuant to Idaho Code 57-825, the IBHC is also responsible for making recommendations to Governor Brad Little for the state portion of the Opioid Settlement Funds. The Idaho Intrastate Allocation Agreement provides that the funds received must be split 40% to the State, 40% to participating cities and counties, and 20% to participating health districts. To date, the state portion received is \$12,127,346. Using projections provided by the Office of the Attorney General for settlement disbursements, a conservative estimate of the ongoing portions of these funds is approximately \$2 million. This estimate is based on calculations which at the time did not include the most recent settlements.

After a public comment process open to state agencies, private entities, and members of the public, the Council collected fifteen (15) general spending recommendations. The Council voted on these recommendations and provided the top five (5) priorities to the Governor on September 8, 2022. Through a collaborative effort between the IBHC, the Office of the Governor, and the Division of Financial Management (DFM), the five (5) recommendations were included within the Governor’s FY 2024 Idaho First Executive Budget and appropriated by the 2023 Idaho Legislature’s Joint Finance Appropriation Committee (JFAC) in the following ways.

RECOMMENDATION #1: One-time funding for housing initiatives

The Governor recommended and JFAC appropriated ongoing General Fund in the Idaho Department of Corrections (IDOC) FY 2024 budget for the Transitional Housing Program. Often, people granted parole by the Idaho Commission for Pardons and Parole do not have the resources necessary for basic living needs during the first 60 to 90 days of their release. This program provides stable housing for parolees to successfully begin their parole while also lowering recidivism rates.

Funding Source	FY 2024
General Fund	\$750,000

RECOMMENDATION #2: Ongoing funding for community recovery centers

The Governor recommended and JFAC appropriated one-time Millennium Fund in the Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) FY 2024 budget as pass through funding for the operation of recovery centers. Recovery centers serve as a location for people in recovery from behavioral health and/or substance use disorders to receive support and are largely staffed through volunteers. Due to insufficient ongoing funding needed to sustain operations, these additional funds will allow recovery centers to remain open to provide critical services to people in recovery seeking additional support.

Funding Source	FY 2024
Millennium Fund	\$1,350,000

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RECOMMENDATION #3: Ongoing funding for a pilot pre-plea intervention program

The Governor recommended and JFAC appropriated ongoing Opioid Settlement Fund in the Idaho Judicial Branch FY 2024 budget for a pilot pre-plea intervention program that would identify adults and juveniles who would benefit from an early alternative to traditional case processing that have behavioral health needs to be addressed. The goal of this pilot is to evaluate if implementing a diversionary program could increase connectivity to services for those in need, as well as increase efficiencies and reduce recidivism.

Funding Source	FY 2024
Opioid Settlement Fund	\$286,500

RECOMMENDATION #4: One-time pilot low risk/high need treatment court or track within existing treatment court

The Governor recommended and JFAC appropriated one-time Opioid Settlement Fund in the Idaho Judicial Branch FY 2024 budget for a pilot low risk/high need treatment track for criminal justice involved individuals who have been placed on probation and are required to follow through with treatment. This funding would serve ten participants in three separate treatment courts. The goal of this pilot is to understand if these tracks create better outcomes for an underserved population by taking an evidence-based approach towards treatment courts.

Funding Source	FY 2024
Opioid Settlement Fund	\$104,300

RECOMMENDATION #5: Inpatient treatment

Idaho Behavioral Health Plan

The Governor recommended and JFAC appropriated ongoing General Fund and ongoing federal fund spending authority in the DHW FY 2024 budget for the Idaho Behavioral Health contract. The new contract transitions the direct delivery of inpatient services, such as Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF) and crisis centers, to the contractor.

Funding Source	FY 2024
General Fund	\$21,600,000
Federal Funds	\$50,400,000

Secure Mental Health Facility

The Governor recommended but JFAC did not appropriate one-time General Fund in the Permanent Building Fund (PBF) FY 2024 budget for the construction of a secure, forensic 26-bed mental health facility for patients committed and determined to be dangerously mentally ill (DMI) by Idaho courts. The facility would be operated by DHW but would also include 10 beds to provide acute and intensive behavioral health services to IDOC residents that require a higher level of clinical intervention. Currently, patients deemed DMI are admitted to the Idaho Maximum Security Institution and are being treated in a prison setting.

Funding Source	FY 2024
General Fund	\$0

State Hospital South (SHS) Patient Treatment Facility (PTF) Addition

The Governor recommended but JFAC did not appropriate one-time General Fund in the PBF FY 2024 budget for the expansion of the PTF Building at SHS to address an increase in patient admittance and the changing patient population. Currently, the SHS Security department and the rooms used for therapeutic activities are in other buildings. This expansion will allow those to be included in the PTF building to provide additional patient and staff safety.

Funding Source	FY 2024
General Fund	\$0

Idaho Department of Juvenile Correction Center Lewiston (JCCL) Modifications

The Governor recommended and JFAC appropriated one-time General Fund in the PBF FY 2024 budget for building modifications at JCCL to provide a multi-space suitable for multiple types of youth populations. IDJC and DHW are partnering to provide joint services to the youth population. These services include the establishment of a state-run short term (<120 days) inpatient substance abuse treatment for youth on probation and the establishment of treatment beds for youth requiring residential treatment services.

Funding Source	FY 2024
General Fund	\$6,176,000

ADDITIONAL INVESTMENTS RECOMMENDED

Safe Teen Reception Centers

The Governor recommended and JFAC appropriated a one-time General Fund supplemental to the IDJC FY 2023 budget for the creation of additional Safe Teen Reception Centers across the state and to expand capabilities of the eight (8) centers that were established with the funding IDJC received during the 2022 legislative session. These centers provide a placement option for arrested or runaway youth and help to provide families with resources. Of the eight (8) established centers, five (5) are Tier I Assessment Centers while the remaining three (3) are Tier II Assessment Centers. Tier I centers have the ability to conduct screening only and require referring out for assessment. Expanding these centers to Tier II will allow them to conduct both screening and assessment.

Funding Source	FY 2023
General Fund	\$4,100,000

Opioid Interdiction Team (Operation Esto Perpetua)

The Governor recommended and JFAC appropriated ongoing General Fund and Opioid Settlement Fund in the Idaho State Police FY 2024 budget for the creation of an Opioid Interdiction Team to continue prioritizing the Operation Esto Perpetua objective to reduce the flow of fentanyl and methamphetamine into the state. This team will aid in increased seizure of drugs which will result in a decrease in overdoses throughout the state.

Funding Source	FY 2024
General Fund	\$1,043,300
Opioid Settlement Fund	\$500,000

Homes with Adult Residential Treatment

The Governor recommended and JFAC appropriated General Fund and federal fund spending authority to support the transition of the Division of Behavioral Health 2018 pilot program for the Homes with Adult Residential Treatment (HART) model to a Medicaid-funded program. The HART model provides for residential assisted living services that integrate behavioral health treatment services with support for basic activities of daily living for people with a serious and persistent mental illness who are unable to maintain independent living.

Funding Source	FY 2024
General Fund	\$830,000
Federal Fund	\$2,330,000

TOTAL FUNDS

General Fund	\$34,449,300
Other Funds	\$54,970,800
Total	\$89,420,100

2022 Legislative Session for State Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023



The Idaho Behavioral Health Council (IBHC) was established in 2020 through a partnership between the three branches of Idaho state government. Upon the implementation of the Council’s strategic plan, investments for behavioral health that aligned with the mission of the Council were recommended to Governor Brad Little. Through a collaborative effort between the IBHC, the Office of the Governor, and the Division of Financial Management (DFM), the following Council recommendations were included within the Governor’s FY 2023 Leading Idaho Executive Budget and were successfully appropriated by the Idaho Legislature.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE

Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention Line

The Governor recommended and the Idaho Legislature appropriated \$4.4M of funding to provide additional resources for the implementation of the 988 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The 988 Line is part of a larger crisis continuum of care to help connect individuals in crisis with the appropriate care and services they need, alleviating the strain on our hospital emergency departments, our law enforcement agencies, and jails.

Funding Source	FY 2022	FY 2023
ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds	-	\$4,400,000

Community Behavioral Health Clinics

The Governor recommended and the Idaho Legislature appropriated \$6M to allow the department to explore the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) model to improve access and the quality of behavioral health services in Idaho. CCBHC’s provide a comprehensive array of services needed to create access, stabilize people in crisis, and provide the necessary treatment for those with the most serious, complex mental illnesses and substance use disorders, as well as integrate additional services to ensure an approach to health care that emphasizes recovery, wellness, trauma-informed care, and physical-behavioral health integration.

Funding Source	FY 2022	FY 2023
ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds	-	\$6,000,000

Recovery Support Center

The Governor recommended and the Idaho Legislature appropriated additional funding for recovery centers. Recovery centers serve as a location for people in recovery from behavioral health and/or substance use disorders to receive support and are largely staffed through volunteers, however each have a paid director and operating costs. Due to not having an ongoing funding source sufficient to remain in operation, these additional funds will allow recovery centers to remain open to provide critical services to people in recovery seeking additional support.

Funding Source	FY 2022	FY 2023
Millennium Fund	-	\$900,000

Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities

The Governor recommended and the Idaho Legislature appropriated a supplemental of \$15M one-time funding to the department’s FY 2022 budget to award three start-up grants to Idaho residential treatment facilities to become psychiatric residential care facilities and qualified residential treatment programs. These funds will help the facilities with necessary facility upgrades to meet requirements, training, programming, staffing, and development and will also allow Idaho to bring children/youth back to Idaho because the state does not currently have placements available in these programs for children/youth so they are required to be placed elsewhere.

Funding Source	FY 2022	FY 2023
One-time General Funds	\$15,000,000	-

Substance Use Disorder Direct ARPA Funding

The Governor recommended and the Idaho Legislature appropriated \$2.5M of additional federal fund spending authority for the Division of Behavioral Health to utilize an increase in substance use disorder block grants from ARPA for prevention activities through the Office of Drug Policy, substance use disorder system analysis, Medication Assisted Treatment for alcohol use disorder, recovery coach academy, telehealth improvements, recovery center expansion, anti-stigma campaigns, and workforce development.

Funding Source	FY 2022	FY 2023
ARPA Funds directly received	-	\$2,500,000

Community Mental Health Direct ARPA Funding

The Governor recommended and the Idaho Legislature appropriated \$3M of additional federal fund spending authority for the Division of Behavioral Health to utilize an increase in community mental health block grants from ARPA for early serious mental illness programs, crisis training and services, the 988 line, crisis beds for patients dually diagnosed with serious mental illness and developmental disabilities, Assertive Community Treatment training, outreach programs in schools and community for children with serious emotional disturbance, Adverse Childhood Events training, competency restoration training, redevelopment of a psychiatric bed registry, and anti-stigma media campaign development and implementation

Funding Source	FY 2022	FY 2023
ARPA Funds directly received	-	\$3,000,000

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Pre-prosecution Diversion Grants

The Governor recommended and the Idaho Legislature appropriated a supplemental of \$2.5M one-time funding to the department's FY 2022 budget for pre-prosecution grants to local community diversion efforts that create early interventions for people with behavioral health problems that direct them into treatment and divert them from the criminal justice system when appropriate.

Funding Source	FY 2022	FY 2023
One-time General Funds	\$2,500,000	-

Trauma Informed Treatment

The Governor recommended and the Idaho Legislature appropriated a supplemental of \$500,000 one-time funding to the department's FY 2022 budget to allow the department to pilot test several specific interventions that directly address trauma, including neurofeedback, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing, and mindfulness. The department would contract with experts in the field of trauma treatment to design a rigorous randomized, control trial to measure the efficacy of trauma interventions in improving correctional outcomes. Additionally, the funds will support contract staff who provide the direct trauma services and will fund a third-party evaluator to measure and report the impacts of the interventions.

Funding Source	FY 2022	FY 2023
One-time General Funds	\$500,000	-

DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE CORRECTIONS

Safe Teen Reception Centers

The Governor recommended and the Idaho Legislature appropriated a supplemental of \$6.5M one-time funding to the department's FY 2022 budget for the department to partner with city and county providers, non-profit organizations, law enforcement, and courts through a grantor/grantee partnership to establish safe teen reception centers to provide a placement option for law enforcement for arrested, delinquent, ungovernable, or runaway youth who do not meet local admission guidelines for security detention. The youth reception centers will connect youth families with long term community-based resources within their area, thus avoiding further entrance into the juvenile justice and child welfare systems.

Funding Source	FY 2022	FY 2023
One-time General Funds	\$6,500,000	-

Youth Crisis Centers

The Governor recommended and the Idaho Legislature appropriated a supplemental of \$4.4M one-time funding to the department's FY 2022 budget for the department to partner with city and county providers, non-profit organizations, law enforcement, and courts through a grantor/grantee partnership to establish youth crisis centers located across the state for youth safety, stabilization, and immediate case management services.

Funding Source	FY 2022	FY 2023
One-time General Funds	\$4,420,000	-

STATE CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

Interagency Data Sharing

The Governor recommended and the Idaho Legislature appropriated a supplemental of \$2.5M one-time funding to the State Controller's FY 2022 budget for the Administration Program to enhance the existing integrated data system to ensure that statewide behavioral health data is securely reported and measured at an aggregate level. It will allow for earlier and additional capacity for the development of necessary protocols, software, hardware, and reporting applications.

Funding Source	FY 2022	FY 2023
One-time General Funds	\$2,500,000	-