

Brad Little
Governor



Sara Omundson
Miren Unsworth
Co-Chairs

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATE OPIOID FUND EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

June 24, 2024

Dear Governor Little, Senator Grow and Representative Horman,

The Idaho legislature has tasked the Idaho Behavioral Health Council (IBHC) with the responsibility of making recommendations to the Governor and the joint finance-appropriations committee as to how moneys from the state-directed opioid settlement fund should be used. See I.C. § 57-825.

In order to make informed recommendations, the council solicited input from state agencies, the courts, private entities, and the public. The IBHC received 33 submissions with 70 individual recommendations.

During the June 14, 2024 meeting, council members discussed priorities for the opioid settlement fund as general spending categories. The IBHC considered 8 spending categories, and members each voted for their top four (4) priorities. After tabulating the votes, the priority categories were ranked as follows:

Top Priority (8 votes)

Increase the supply of behavioral health professionals

High Priorities (6 votes)

Prevention
Housing

Next Priorities (4 votes)

Treatment
Supportive services for individuals in treatment or recovery

Other Priority (3 votes)

Recovery services

The attached spreadsheet reflects the specific recommendations and the spending categories to which each was assigned. Each recommendation also identifies the council's understanding of why it is an allowable use from the Opioid Settlement Exhibit A and an assessment of whether the recommendation aligns with the Idaho Behavioral Health Council's current strategic plan. An exact copy of the original submission to the council is linked to each recommendation.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the council's recommendations on priorities.

A blue ink signature of Sara Omundson, consisting of a stylized 'S' and 'O' followed by a horizontal line.

Sara Omundson

A black ink signature of Miren Unsworth, consisting of a stylized 'M' and 'U' followed by a horizontal line.

Miren Unsworth

Attachments

cc: Keith Bybee, Lori Wolff, Alex Adams