

Brad Little
Governor



Sara Omundson
Ross Edmunds
Co-Chairs

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATE OPIOID FUND EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2028

August 28, 2026

Dear Governor Little, Senator Grow and Representative Tanner,

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.

To make informed recommendations, the council solicited input from state agencies, the courts, private entities, and the public. The IBHC received 26 submissions with 46 individual recommendations.

During the June 26, 2026 meeting, council members discussed priorities for the opioid settlement fund as general spending categories. After deliberation, they developed an overarching recommendation and four (4) specific spending priorities.

The Idaho Behavioral Health Council recognizes there is a disparity in resources and services between our rural and frontier parts of the state compared to the population areas. We recommend that as the Legislature and the Governor implement priorities for the opioid settlement fund and consider our recommendations, services and resources that are available statewide or target our rural and frontier areas in the state be prioritized.

Prevention for the highest risk populations

Behavioral health support for first responders

Workforce development

Treatment using MOUD (medication for opioid use disorder)

The attached spreadsheet includes each of proposals submitted to the IBHC. Each proposal is summarized and categorized according to how it fits within the IBHC behavioral health system framework. Each proposal also identifies the council's understanding of why it is an allowable use from the Opioid Settlement Exhibit A and if it potentially aligns with one of the priority spending categories. 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.

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Sara Omundson

A black ink signature, appearing to be "RE", written in a cursive style.

Ross Edmunds

Attachment

cc: Keith Bybee, Lori Wolff, Juliet Charron