

REGION II  
*Behavioral Health Board*

**Subcommittee: Adult Behavioral Health**

Date/Time of Meeting: May 13, 2021 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location of Meeting: Virtual - <https://smh-cvhc.zoom.us/j/92727294595?pwd=OElaemtzbWpwOGtFN2NBK3FrU0Zudz09>  
website: [www.riibhb.idahopublichealth.com](http://www.riibhb.idahopublichealth.com)

Attendees:

x	Shari Kuther	x	Todd Hurt		Jim Rehder	x	Lana Schuerman
	Teresa Shackelford		Jenny Teigen		Tom Lamar		
	Beverly Fowler	x	Mike Ponzozzo		Sara Bennett		
x	Dean Allen		Terema Carlin		Nina Woods		
x	Diane Kovach	x	Pam Lopardo		Tammy Lish-Watson		

Agenda	Meeting Minutes Discussion/Outcomes
<b>Meeting Called to Order, Roll Call:</b>	5/13/21 12:20 p.m.
<b>Approval of March 11, 2021 meeting minutes (Action Item)</b>	Motion to approve minutes made by: Mike Ponzozzo Second by: Dean Allen Minutes approved
<p><b>Topics to Discuss:</b></p> <p><b>Old Business:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Needs and Gaps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Competency Restoration</li> </ul> </li> <li>- New Project discussion cont'd <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Access to Medication management</li> <li>o Attracting BH professionals to Frontier areas</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>New Business:</b></p>	<p>Todd shared the committee had 4 additional meetings after March 11, and presented concepts that had been reviewed and refined by SME to the Idaho Behavioral Health Board to be voted on at their upcoming meeting.</p> <p>Medical management continues to be a problem in the region for both children and adults. We discussed the challenges for case management, referrals to counseling, ACT type services, especially for higher needs clients.</p> <p>Discussed Payers awareness of shortage of workforce in rural/frontier areas. Possible options of different payment models for those working in those rural/frontier areas. Also discussed the availability of Peer to Peer support, Recovery Coaches, CVRS workers and what reimbursement for those services looked like.</p> <p>Dean discussed work being done on portability between state lines. This is anticipated to come before the legislature in the 2022 session. Dean believes they will be looking for support and will keep us posted on what that will look like and when it will be needed. This has tele-health implications as well as potentially being able to recruit BH</p>

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providers to the rural/frontier areas with the opportunity to increase revenue using tele-health.

Identified a potential focus area for our group related to lack of licensed clinicians and how to stretch their services.

Discussed possibly using the SMH-CVHC Community Health Worker team, and other CHW's in the region to compliment the peer to peer counselors, recovery coaches, CVRS specialists, etc in areas where the CHW is available and the others, including clinicians are not.

Also discussed ways to possibly help increase salaries and compensation for recovery coaches, Peer to peer counselors, etc.

Shari will present these ideas to the full board to seek possible written support of these issues to the insurance companies. A second possible letter would be to encourage the Legislature to include in the RFP for administration of the Medicaid program a goal of increasing service availability in the rural/frontier areas of our state.

With no further business, Motion to adjourn was made , seconded and approved

**Next Meeting**

**June 10 , 2021 @ 12:15 pm**

**Meeting Adjourned**

Time Meeting Adjourned: \_\_\_\_\_ 1:05 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_