

REGION II
Behavioral Health Board

MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

December 8, 2022-- 1:30 PM

In Person meeting at 3rd floor Health and Welfare Conference Room

Webex option for those who cannot attend in person

Webex Meeting Link <https://idhw.webex.com/idhw/j.php?MTID=m57796118e7a4bd4cce6d47c482dcadf4>

1. Roll Call, Welcome, and Introductions

	Dianne Baumann	x	Shaun Hogan	x	Pam Lopardo	x	Jenny Teigen
x	Sara Bennett	x	Sharlene Johnson		Lisa Martin	x	Laura Treat
	Terema Carlin	x	Darrell Keim	x	Shawn McDowell		
x	Megan Comstock		Shari Kuther	x	Michelle Mendenhall		
	Beverly Fowler	x	Kathie LaFortune	x	Mike Ponozo		
x	Chris Goetz	x	Tom Lamar	x	Jim Rehder	x	<i>Theresa Shackelford</i>
x	Shaun Hollace	x	Tammy Lish-Watson		John Rusche		

Others Attending: Rep. Lori McCann, Senators Cindy Carlson and Dan Foreman; Amanda Holcomb, Elaine Dufford, Karen Kopf, Teresa Graber-Gimmeson, Mark Hand, Alejandra Del Toro, Meredith Spelbring, Kaylie Bednarczyk, Sharlisa Davis, Tammy Everson, Heidi Wilson, Meredith Spelbring, Michelle King, Commissioner Don Beck, April Christianson

3. Approval of November BHB Minutes (**Action Item**): Motion by Mike P. Seconded by Chris G. Motion passed.

4. General discussion with Board members—1:30pm

Lewiston school district continues to work on Holiday food boxes for families. They are looking to do another parent night in January or February.

Jenny discussed the State Planning Council meets in February. Jenny will be the new SPC Chairperson. The last two meetings have been focused working with the Advocates for Human Potential for Strategic Planning. They are focused on advocacy throughout the state. They are working on implementing some of what comes from the Behavioral Health Council.

Mike P. is attending his last meeting. Commissioner Beck is succeeding him.

Shawn McDowell returned from Boise. Data shows in 2001, 450 kids, yesterday 139 have been working hard to divert kids to other appropriate places.

Tom Lamar discussed they were not able to get funding for the Youth Crisis Center.

Shaun Hogan reports Vandal Recovery has been very busy following the tragic situation that occurred in Moscow. They will be doing Christmas to Go at the Latah recovery center, distributing meals to families. They are doing a gift exchange, sharing tree in the center. The reentry program is going well. They had a roundtable in Moscow to discuss mental health resources.

Chris Goetz discussed NACO taking over Mental health First Aid and they plan to grow and market the program nationwide. Clearwater county has been working to partner with public health to develop a plan for connecting their released inmates with benefits when they get released. Chris discussed his concerns about Fentanyl testing strips and the reasons why the Sheriff's Association will be opposed.

Shaun Hollace discussed his efforts to get a warming shelter opened in Lewiston.

Tammy Lish discussed her thoughts about fentanyl testing strips.

Laura Thayer discussed the reorganization and reduced staff with Division of Behavioral Health and their focus on forensic efforts with adults and kids.

Kathie Lafortune discussed the good news the Moscow Oxford House is full. Latah Commissioners are using some of their Opioid settlement funds for fentanyl testing and training.

Sharlene Johnson had the "Old Fashioned Christmas Event" and are providing telemental health. Providing snacks and dinner every day. Two teen centers Kamiah and Kooskia.

Teresa Graber-Gimmeson talked about the lack of resources in Grangeville which makes it difficult to meet the needs of individuals.

April Christianson – ex officio member -

Tammy Everson – no work has been done on the crisis center at this time.

Laura Treat – The Division is still working to make an award for the service contract for Medicaid services. It is delayed and they are hoping later in December or earlier in the new year. This new contract will cover inpatient and outpatient services.

Jim thanked the Board members who are leaving the Board on Dec 31--John Rusche, Terema Carlin, Darrell Keim, Mike Ponzozzo and Dean Allen-ex-officio member and welcomed the new members to the Board—Don Beck, Beverly Kloepfer, Summer Overberg, Theresa Graber-Gimmeson and April Christenson-ex-officio member.

5. Welcome Regional State Legislators—2:10pm—Rep. Lori McCann and Sen Cindy Carlson attended in person and Sen Dan Foreman attended via Webx.
6. Behavioral Health Board Services and Subcommittee brief reports (3 minutes or less)

--Reg 2 Dispersed Crisis Center model—The crisis center continues to operate within 3 communities in our region. There are community partners who manage and operate each center.

--Reg 2 Recovery Centers—Shaun Hollace with First Step 4 Life discussed they have a Grangeville office open 3 days a week. Orofino has opened two recovery men's houses and they are doing well. They did a large Thanksgiving event across the different centers. They are now focused on trying to find a warming shelter in the Lewiston area.

Latah Recovery center collaborates with the crisis center to provide integrated services.

--Adult Behavioral Health—Pam Lopardo reported Mike Ponozzo has been encouraging funding for quiet rooms in libraries where people can connect with providers through zoom or Webex. Ongoing work with Clearwater Valley Hospital streamlining transportation of individuals on psychiatric holds.

--Children's Mental Health—Children's mental health subcommittee has been focused on pulling resources and events together and sharing information about what is happening across the region. Discussed events within the schools. Cindy Harris-Lindauer has been working with SPIN to educate our community. They have also worked within the HUB to meet with the administrators within the schools and sharing information about Youth Empowerment Services (YES) Medicaid.

--Housing—Shaun Hollace reported they are gathering housing information resources. There are various recovery houses within the different communities in the region. Warming shelter continues to be a struggle. United Gospel Ministry (UGM) is close to the core of funds to get there center started. 110 students are homeless in the Lewiston School District. Interlink is looking to develop a senior housing program. The shortage of housing for the district treatment courts who reside in the jail until there are appropriate housing options. Housing costs and availability are a huge concern. Michelle from the Lewiston School district discussed many families are living with other families or living in motels. The youth resource center is helpful in filling the gap for homeless youth.

--Prevention—Partnership for success grant has numerous advertisements running. Kaylie Bednarczyk is the program coordinator and she spends time doing trainings throughout the region.

--Legislative—Chris Goetz discussed the benefit of Medicaid expansion. Affordable housing is important to address. He discussed the importance of fully funding the recovery centers and ensuring that it is consistent and steady for a timeframe. He requested continued funding for treatment courts as it helps divert individuals from the criminal justice system. Chris discussed fentanyl test strips. He also discussed the need for Master's level programs and loan forgiveness. Action promotes school curriculum prevention/suicide education efforts.

7. Individual Legislator introductions and committee assignments—each legislator (3 minutes ea.)

Representative McCann reported she has been approached to carry a bill on Fentanyl test strips. She discussed the research she has gathered so far and her thoughts about the benefits. Chris reported Law Enforcement opposes the bill because it can be used by drug dealers to use test strips to verify the drugs they are selling. Jenny discussed the risks of individual dying due to overdose. Commissioner Beck reports they passed picking up a scanner for the local jail to do body scanning. Tammy Lish-Watson discussed the benefit of harm reduction in getting individuals engaged in the recovery process. Darrell discussed the benefits of the safe needle exchange program. Teresa Shackelford discussed the research that supports harm reduction including fentanyl strips.

Rep McCann reported she is on the house education committee and will be the vice chair. She believes there are a lot of connections between education and mental health. She discussed the various social issues that will come up this year. She discussed abortion issues and the possible fall out if the state says no. Discussed the surplus and how that could be used to pay off outstanding school bonds.

She is on the agriculture committee but does not believe there will be many mental health issues within that committee. There is a shortage of veterinarians throughout the country and large animal vets are mostly near retirement. Discussed the agricultural mindset and difficulties in accessing treatment for addiction.

She discussed concerns with property taxes and the many people that are on fixed incomes that cannot afford the increases. She discussed raising the homeowner's exemption to raise to \$200,000. She wants individuals to come together and review how they are working across the country.

Senator Carlson is on the education committee, agriculture committee and transportation committee. She discussed education is her passion. She had a personal situation that "woke" her up to the situation. She discussed the need for additional funding. She discussed the lack of providers. Discussed the lack of psychiatric providers.

Senator Foreman has a law enforcement and military background and feels he would be against the Fentanyl test strip. He discussed the need to shift more into education rather than enforcement.

8. Board discussion with Legislators to learn expectations for Behavioral Health this year in the 2023 Legislature.

Michelle King discussed that at the youth center they have had 22 suicide interventions. There was one child that sat there for 5 weeks. Michelle is also the new chair for the homeless count conducted in January.

Jenny Teigen discussed the decline in clinicians throughout the state. She discussed the lack of support for the professionals.

Chris Goetz discussed the benefits of the new upcoming contract that will offer inpatient and outpatient treatment options.

9. Next BHB Meeting – January 12, 2023 via Zoom. Jim said it was great the Board was able to meet In person. He said the plan would be to have another in-person meeting In June during the election of officers meeting.

10. Meeting Adjourned at 3:20pm