

Region VI Behavioral Health Board
Recovery Support Services Sub-Committee September 2020

This form is designed to collect information for the annual report to the Governor and Legislature about behavioral health services in Idaho. If you have any pictures of community events in your region, please attach them. Thank you for your help in improving the quality of behavioral health services for Idahoans!

Person Completing Form: *JoAnn Martinez / Recovery Support Services Subcommittee*

Region: *Region VI Behavioral Health- Recovery Support Services Sub-Committee*

Contact Email: *joannm@bannockcounty.us*

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Please list your Behavioral Health Board's Sub-Committees along with each sub-committee's Chair name and contact information:

Region VI Behavioral Health Board / Shantal Laulu-Chair shantal@bannockcounty.us

Recovery Support Services / Bob Gehrke robertjmary@gmail.com & JoAnn Martinez
joannm@bannockcounty.us

Children's Mental Health / Brad Baker Brad.Baker@dhw.idaho.gov

Please list your region's top three goals: For Recovery Support Services Subcommittee

- 1. Provide Public Awareness through community outreach at various events and organizations.*
- 2. Assist in planning and participate in the 2020 SIPH/Region VI Behavioral Health Board Legislative Update on the region's gap and needs.*
- 3. Identify the current housing options throughout the region, and formulate a plan to address accessibility to safe housing options that promote wellness through advocacy.*

Please list the top 3 action items for these goals: For Recovery Support Services Subcommittee

- 1. Presence at community events; Farmer's Market, Welcome Back Orange and Black, Recovery Fest. We will explore alternative methods to provide outreach and support throughout our current health crisis.*
- 2. Continually updated Brochure of Crisis and Immediate Needs resource contact for all counties within the region. Due to COVID -19 pandemic this brochure is to be distributed within community venues and county contacts.*
- 3. Legislative update dinner to educate appointed legislators of the needs for the region.*
- 4. Update the Gaps and Needs to be used as yearly action plan for the committee.*

Please provide short answer on your success or outcome. If not, explain why.

We have succeeded in supporting Medicaid expansion, to the extent possible. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Medicaid expansion is being utilized along with the telehealth platform throughout our region, and is gaining more popularity in the more rural counties. We continue to collaborate and educate within our region on available community resources and current trainings available. We are continually updating our current resource brochure and will continue to disseminate this information to our communities through organizations and events.

What education and/or community events did you participate in?

We support and share information with Hope & Recovery Resource Center, Recovery Fest and Welcome Back Orange and Black event. We helped in planning and attending the 2019 SIPH/BHB Legislative Update dinner. Since March 2020 there has been limited opportunities to attend community events in person for outreach and education, due to the COVID-19 health situation. We continue to explore new and innovative ways for outreach and education with our region such as promotion of telehealth services, on line training opportunities are shared with community partners.

Please list your region's top 3 greatest gaps and needs in behavioral health?

1. Accessibility to the continuum of care, which includes detox, inpatient treatment, outpatient treatment and recovery support services. This not only refers to direct services, consideration should be given to professionals to make a user-friendly process to help their clients access the appropriate level of care.

2. The need for more accessible supervised safe and sober housing.

3. More certified recovery coaches are needed within the state of Idaho. Easier certification process for the recovery coaches, there is a lack of coordinated certification process throughout the regions.

Do you feel access to Mental Health services in your Region has improved, decreased, or is staying the same? Please explain why.

Stayed the same: Funding for mental health services has increased due to Medicaid expansion along with the Crisis center availability to link those individuals to treatment. Amid the COVID - 19 situation, it is our understanding that providers are struggling to find clinicians to fill the need, while individuals struggle with telehealth, meaning to the access of technology and lack to face to face contact. This committee believes the greatest present needs are long term counseling and supervised housing within the area.

Do you feel access to Substance Use Disorder services (Prevention, Treatment, Recovery) in your Region has improved, decreased, or is staying the same? Please explain why.

Stayed the same: Funding for substance use disorder services has increased due to Medicaid expansion along with the Crisis center and Hope & Recovery Center's availability to link those individuals to treatment. It is our understanding that providers are struggling to find clinicians to fill the need, while individuals struggle with telehealth, meaning to access of technology and lack to face to face contact. This committee believes the greatest present needs are long term counseling, supervised housing, peer support specialist and recovery coaches within the area.

Improved: Due to the Partnership for Success Grant in our region, we have put a plan in place to address prevention. Through this grant we have been able to distribute drug deactivation pouches, implement the Strengthening Families program, provide outreach on “Be the Parents”, work with schools on prevention programs and coordinated life skills training at Sho-Ban middle school. Through this grant we will continue our outreach, work with Health West to conduct mental health screenings, provide drug impairment training and work with community partner to implement afterschool programs. We are excited to have a prevention specialist join the Region VI Behavioral Health Board.

Please provide a brief 20-50 word quote from a community member, peer, or BHB member about the importance of mental health services in your region.

“Mental Health Court saved my life-”-anonymous

Behavioral Health Gaps and Needs

Rate each category with 1 being the most critical in your area.	1-13
Access to treatment providers	3
Stable Housing	1
Community Crisis Center	10
Anti-Stigma education	12
Suicide Prevention Resources	4
Children/Adolescents Mental Healthcare	2
Veteran’s Mental Healthcare	5
Caregiver supports (including education, training, emotional support, respite care, etc.)	8
Peer supports (including education, training, emotional support, etc.)	7
Substance use disorder treatment centers	6
Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for law enforcement officers	9
Mental Health Court	11
Other:	13

If you chose “other”, please provide more information:

- *Understanding of prevention strategies- more information*