Idaho Health Professions Education Council

IHPEC History
- Established by Executive Order of the Governor in February 2009
- Makeup of council is representative of healthcare organizations, Idaho colleges and universities, and the public at large
- Currently nine members with current chair Tony Fernandez (President, Lewis-Clark State College) transitioning to David Schmitz (Associate Director, Family Medicine Residency of Idaho) as incoming chair
- In coordination with the Idaho Department of Labor

IHEPC Purpose
- Conduct workforce analyses
- Assess Idaho’s capacity for training healthcare professionals
- Advise the Governor and legislators on healthcare workforce issues
- Develop healthcare workforce objectives for the State of Idaho and provide policy recommendations for achieving the objectives
- Recommend strategies to address healthcare provider shortages in rural locations
- Develop strategies to increase public/private partnerships to increase the healthcare providers for Idaho

Activities
- Annual report to the Governor
- Meetings in preparation of annual report (twice in FY 2011)
- FY 2011 meetings:
  - Focus on recruitment, training, education and workforce status of Idaho healthcare professionals
  - Included representatives of the following: Idaho Area Health Education Consortium, Idaho Office of Rural Health and Primary Care, Idaho State Board of Education, Idaho Department of Labor, Idaho Legislature (Policy Analyst), Idaho Medical Association, Idaho Alliance of Leaders in Nursing, Idaho State University Department of Pharmacy, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Behavioral Health

Upcoming Activities
- Preparation of annual report to the Governor (summer 2011)
- Meetings approximately quarterly arranged with representatives from groups and agencies as pertinent to the IHPEC purpose and vision
- The Governor’s vision for Idaho’s health care system is that “Idahoans will have the opportunity to access quality, effective and efficient healthcare that provides a coordinated delivery system with affordable and accessible health insurance options.”

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