



Executive Department  
State of Idaho

State Capitol  
Boise

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF IDAHO  
BOISE**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-04**

**CREATING THE IDAHO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNCIL**

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*WHEREAS, tremendous social and economic value will inure to the people of Idaho with the strategic development of a more effective behavioral health system which is devised, implemented, and sustained statewide; and*

*WHEREAS, all three branches of Idaho government, local governments, and community partners play an integral role in ensuring a reliable and productive behavioral health system for the people of Idaho; and*

*WHEREAS, behavioral health issues, consisting of mental health and substance use disorders, are currently both chronic and pervasive, detrimentally impacting both a significant and growing portion of Idaho's population, as well as the economy of Idaho; and*

*WHEREAS, Idaho has demonstrated a commitment to improving the behavioral health system and has previously made considerable improvements to the system; and*

*WHEREAS, despite the state having already invested significant resources to meet the needs, the Idaho behavioral health system continues to require a more coordinated, integrated, and collaborative structure; and*

*WHEREAS, an organized and strategic response, developed and implemented collaboratively, provides an unprecedented opportunity for continued improvement and sustained access to effective behavioral health outcomes for Idahoans, and a better return on the investment of public resources.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brad Little, Governor of the State of Idaho, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Idaho, do hereby establish the Idaho Behavioral Health Council ("Council"), and in so doing do also order that:*

- 1. The scope and mission of the Council is to:
  - a. Bring together all three branches of state government, local governments and community partners to develop a recommended statewide strategic plan; and*
  - b. Oversee the implementation of the approved statewide strategic plan, ensuring an effective, efficient, recovery-oriented behavioral healthcare system for all Idahoans in need of those services.**
- 2. The statewide strategic plan will:
  - a. Define a plan to inventory current expenditures, utilization, and accessibility;*
  - b. Assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the current system, including where more efficient organization and effective coordination of existing resources could create better outcomes;*
  - c. Determine Idaho citizen's unique needs via broad stakeholder input and known best practices, and*
  - d. Recommend actions that will materially improve Idaho's behavioral health system.**
- 3. The Council will produce the statewide strategic plan recommendation by October 31, 2020 which will be delivered to the Governor, the Chief Justice, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.*
- 4. The Council shall consist of thirteen (13) members. The Council's membership shall be as follows:
  - a. Ex Officio Members:
    - i. The Administrative Director of the State Courts or designee;*
    - ii. The Director of the Idaho Department of Correction or designee;***

- iii. *The Director of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare or designee*
  - iv. *The Director of the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections or designee.*
  - b. *Members appointed by the Governor:*
    - i. *A representative from the Idaho Department of Education;*
    - ii. *One (1) county elected official;*
    - iii. *One (1) member of the public.*
  - c. *Members appointed by the Chief Justice:*
    - i. *A presiding judge of a treatment court;*
    - ii. *One (1) member of the public.*
  - d. *Legislators:*
    - i. *One (1) member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;*
    - ii. *One (1) member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;*
    - iii. *One (1) senator appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;*
    - iv. *One (1) senator appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;*
5. *The Director of the Department of Health and Welfare or designee and the Administrative Director of the State Courts or designee shall serve as co-chairs of the Council.*
6. *All members of the Council, except ex officio members, serve at the pleasure of their respective appointing authority.*
7. *The Council shall receive administrative support from the agencies or departments represented by the co-chairs of the Council.*
8. *The Council shall create an advisory board to assist and advise the Council. The Council should consider including on the advisory board, but is not limited to, the following:*
- a. *An adult consumer of behavioral health services;*
  - b. *Family of a child consumer of behavioral health services;*
  - c. *A representative from the Idaho Medical Association Primary Care;*
  - d. *A representative from the Idaho Psychiatric Association;*
  - e. *A representative from the Idaho Hospital Association;*
  - f. *A substance use disorder provider;*
  - g. *A mental health provider;*
  - h. *A representative from a public health district;*
  - i. *A representative from the Idaho Sheriff's Association;*
  - j. *A representative from the Idaho Chiefs of Police Association;*
  - k. *A representative from the Idaho Prosecuting Attorney's Association;*
  - l. *The State Appellate Public Defender or designee;*
  - m. *A representative from the Office of Drug Policy*
  - n. *At least one (1) tribal representative; and*
  - o. *Any additional advisory board members the Council deems necessary.*



*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho in Boise on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-fourth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred thirtieth.*

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BRAD LITTLE  
GOVERNOR

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LAWRENCE DENNEY  
SECRETARY OF STATE