



Executive Department
State of Idaho

State Capitol
Boise

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF IDAHO
BOISE

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2024-01

CONTINUING THE IDAHO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNCIL

WHEREAS, on February 19, 2020, the Idaho Supreme Court and leaders from the Legislative Branch joined me as I signed an executive order creating the Idaho Behavioral Health Council (“Council”). The Council was to be a collaborative effort with all three branches working to address the behavioral health needs of Idahoans. In support of this three-branch effort and the Council’s creation, the Idaho Supreme Court issued a proclamation and the Sixty-fifth Idaho Legislature adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 126 (2020); and

WHEREAS, all three branches of state government recognized at that time the tremendous social and economic value would inure to the people of Idaho with the strategic development of a more effective behavioral health system that was devised, implemented, and sustained statewide; and

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

WHEREAS, in nearly four (4) years of existence, the Council has recommended numerous policy accomplishments that have been successfully enacted, adopted, and funded, including, but not limited to:

1. Strengthening the state’s crisis response system by establishing the 988 statewide crisis and suicide hotline and funding four (4) youth crisis centers across the state.
2. Supporting and facilitating partnerships to stand up five (5) Certified Community Behavioral Health Centers based on the successful nationwide model to provide comprehensive behavioral health care.
3. Sponsoring Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) workshops in each of the seven (7) judicial districts, empowering local stakeholders to implement action plans to improve local access to behavioral health resources, such as connecting additional services to individuals leaving jail or the crisis center.
4. Developing a Behavioral Health Workforce Plan, resulting in the Recovery Coach Academy, the Behavioral Health Center of Excellence, and other initiatives to expand the number and quality of credentialed behavioral health care workers.
5. Opening Safe Teen Assessment Centers, including in rural areas, to provide a resource for law enforcement, schools, and families to prevent and divert youth from entering the juvenile justice or child welfare systems.
6. Providing funding to stand up three Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF) in Idaho to bring home over one hundred (100) children/youth being cared for in other states.
7. Improving the civil commitment process by passing Senate Bill 1327 (2022) and drafting further revisions to be proposed in future legislative sessions; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, recognizing the success of the Council in recommending the statewide strategic plan, Idaho Code § 57-825 was enacted empowering the Council to make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature on how moneys deposited in the State-Directed Opioid Settlement Fund should be used; and

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

WHEREAS, notwithstanding these significant improvements and investments—particularly over the last four (4) years—it is in the best interest of all Idahoans that the Council be reauthorized so that it can lead and coordinate across all branches and levels of government, and make recommendations to policymakers for the continued improvement of the state’s behavioral health system;

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 order that Executive Order 2020-04-A is repealed and replaced by this order, and in so doing do also order that:

- 1. The Idaho Behavioral Health Council is authorized to continue as provided in this order.*
- 2. 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 and recommend an updated statewide strategic plan;*
 - 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; and*
 - c. In compliance with Idaho Code § 57-825, make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature how moneys deposited in the State-Directed Opioid Settlement Fund should be used.*
- 3. 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, giving emphasis to:*
 - i. where more efficient organization and effective coordination of existing resources could create better outcomes; and*
 - ii. the recommendations of the Council that have been adopted, enacted, or funded;*
 - 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.*
- 4. The Council will produce an updated statewide strategic plan recommendation by October 31, 2024, 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.*
- 5. The Council shall consist of fourteen (14) 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; and*
 - v. The Executive Director of the Idaho Commission of Pardons and Parole.*
 - b. Members appointed by the Governor:*
 - i. A representative from the Idaho Department of Education;*
 - ii. One (1) county elected official; and*
 - iii. One (1) member of the public.*
 - c. Members appointed by the Chief Justice:*
 - i. A judge who has experience presiding over a treatment court; and*
 - ii. One (1) member of the public.*
 - d. Members from the Legislature, who shall serve during their legislative terms of office:*
 - 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; and*
 - iv. One (1) senator appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate.*
- 6. 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.*
- 7. All members of the Council, except ex officio members, serve at the pleasure of their respective appointing authority.*
- 8. The Council shall receive administrative support from the agencies or departments represented by the co-chairs of the Council.*
- 9. 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. *Appellate and/or trial-level public defenders;*
- 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 at the Capitol in Boise on this 31st day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-eighth, and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred thirty-fourth.

PHIL MCGRANE
SECRETARY OF STATE

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR