

FINAL REPORT

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL INTERIM COMMITTEE

**MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE
TREATMENT DELIVERY SYSTEM
2006**

**Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment
Delivery System Interim Committee
HCR 63 (2006)**

Members

Senator Joe Stegner, Co-chair
Senator Dick Compton
Senator Chuck Coiner
Senator Joyce Broadsword
Senator Elliot Werk

Representative Kathy Skippen, Co-chair
Representative JoAn Wood
Representative Sharon Block
Representative Kathie Garrett
Representative Margaret Henbest

Staff: Caralee Lambert, Amy Castro, Cathy Holland-Smith, Lisa Kauffman and Charmi Arregui

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall report its findings, rec-
2 ommendations and proposed legislation, if any, to the First Regular Session of
3 the Fifty-ninth Idaho Legislature.

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**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
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TREATMENT DELIVERY SYSTEM
INTERIM COMMITTEE
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Charge

The Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment Delivery System Interim Committee (“Committee”) was a one-year Committee formed in 2006 pursuant to the authority of HCR 63. The resolution authorized the Committee to undertake and complete a study of the current mental health and substance abuse treatment delivery systems in Idaho and to review alternative ways to provide these services. The Committee was also directed to make recommendations for any appropriate changes, with specific attention paid to a system that meets the needs of, and provides accountability to, Idahoans. The resolution further required that the Committee report its findings, recommendations and proposed legislation, if any, to the First Regular Session of the Fifty-ninth Idaho Legislature.

The members of the Committee were: Senator Joe Stegner (Co-chair), Representative Kathy Skippen (Co-chair), Senator Dick Compton, Senator Chuck Coiner, Senator Joyce Broadsword, Senator Elliot Werk, Representative JoAn Wood, Representative Sharon Block, Representative Kathie Garrett and Representative Margaret Henbest.

Meetings

The Committee held a total of four meetings from the date of its formation to its expiration in December 2006. Following is a list of the meeting dates and locations:

June 27, 2006	Idaho State School and Hospital, Nampa, Idaho
August 14, 2006	State Hospital South, Blackfoot, Idaho
September 19, 2006	State Hospital North, Orofino, Idaho

October 31, 2006

State Capitol, Boise, Idaho

Scope of Study

The Committee reviewed the current mental health and substance abuse treatment delivery systems in Idaho and examined proposals designed to improve the system and the delivery of such services.

Presenters

The Committee took testimony from a wide range of individuals and groups. Following is a list of people, groups or agencies that testified during one or more of the four interim Committee meetings:

Sue Broetje	Idaho State School and Hospital (ISSH)
Kathleen Allyn	Division of Behavioral Health, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW)
Bethany Gadzinski	Substance Abuse Program, IDHW
Chuck Halligan	Children's Mental Health Care Program, IDHW
Anne Bloxham	Adult Mental Health Program, IDHW
Tom Beauclair	Department of Correction
Brent Reinke	Department of Juvenile Corrections (DJC)
John Triplett	Region 2 Juvenile Detention Center, Nez Perce County
Patti Tobias	Idaho Supreme Court
Justice Daniel T. Eismann	Idaho Supreme Court
Judge Brent J. Moss	District Judge, Seventh Judicial District
Judge John F. Varin	Magistrate Judge, Fifth Judicial District
Tony Poinelli	Idaho Association of Counties
Captain Dana Maxfield	Canyon County Sheriff's Office
Corporal Scott Booth	Canyon County Sheriff's Office
Tracy Farnsworth	State Hospital South
Leslie Clement	Division of Medicaid, IDHW
Judge Randy Smith	District Judge, Sixth Judicial District
Judge Bryan Murray	Magistrate Judge, Sixth Judicial District
Mary Beth Wells	Department of Education
Gary Crow	Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Richard Sidwell	Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Dr. John Hanks, D.O.	Pediatrician
Doug Call	National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI)
Lynne Whiting	Idaho Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
Cynthia McCurdy	Idaho Council for Children's Mental Health (ICCMH)
Dr. Linda Hatzenbuehler	Idaho State Planning Council on Mental Health & Idaho Council on Children's Mental Health (ICCMH)

Christa Henderson	Mental Health Transformation Work Group
Rick Huber	Mental Health Transformation Work Group
Robert Bourassa	State Hospital North
Judge John Bradbury	District Judge, Second Judicial District
Teresa Wolf	Nez Perce County Indigency Program
Bud Langerak	Bonneville County Sheriff's Office
Carol Moehrle	North Central District Health Department
Mary Perrins	Department of Correction

Recommendations

The Committee voted in support of the following concepts:

1. Mandate that multiple agencies collaborate to develop standard statewide assessments for substance abuse and for mental health with such assessments to be determined by January 1, 2008.
2. Endorse the proposal by the Department of Correction for the establishment of a secure mental health treatment facility.
3. Support legislation to modify the regional mental health board grant program to broaden the scope of such grants to include multiple agency, multiple year programs to address mental health as well as substance abuse needs, provided such grants shall be made on a competitive basis on an accelerated timeframe.
4. Support increased funding and capacity for substance abuse services, and require the designated funding agency to track by individual spending and effectiveness through outcome-based measures for treatment based upon the various substance-addicted population.
5. Support legislation to allow judges to order community-based treatments from standard statewide assessments and provide for tracking of exceptions to assessments.
6. Request that the Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Medicaid, present in the 2007 legislative session to the Senate and House Health and Welfare Committees a cost analysis and consequences to include therapeutic foster care, residential care, respite care and family support services, as well as an analysis of Medicaid funding for juveniles in detention and any other federally-paid services not currently included in the Children's Mental Health treatment system.
7. Support ongoing efforts to improve and enhance psychiatrist residency programs in Idaho.
8. Support funding for an independent contractor to review Idaho's current mental health and substance abuse treatment delivery system. The contractor would assess treatment capacity, cost, eligibility standards, and areas of responsibility and would make recommendations for how to improve Idaho's current system by creating appropriate oversight and service levels for a state system. Study areas and

components would include but not be limited to:

- a. Creation of a mental health and substance abuse treatment system specifically designed for children and their families to receive immediate treatment.
- b. Determine whether there is a lead agency in Idaho responsible for paying for and coordinating services regardless of where an individual enters the mental health or substance abuse system and study the possibility of restructuring the current system via the creation of a separate agency combining mental health and substance abuse services in Idaho.
- c. Review capacity of the current state hospital system as well as the need for voluntary commitments, beds for children in psychiatric crisis, and the need for state hospital services in the Treasure Valley.
- d. The need for crisis intervention training at all levels of public safety.
- e. Regarding the offender population, creation of one specific agency responsible to conduct a range of assessments prior to sentencing in order to coordinate treatment and support alternatives to incarceration.
- f. Increase the number of probation officers so caseloads shrink and probation officers can more closely interact with the rehabilitated offenders.
- g. Evaluation of the concept of a regionally-based mental health and substance abuse treatment delivery system, including a review of other states with such a system and any positive results or shortcomings of such systems.

The legislative Health Care Task Force would be the oversight body for the study and the results of the study would be reported to the legislative Health & Welfare and Judiciary & Rules germane committees during the 2008 legislative session.