

Regional Behavioral Health Board

Readiness Criteria

Questions and Answers

The Planning Council intends to form and expand our relationships with the Regional Behavioral Health Boards in this Transformation effort. We plan to work diligently to see that each of the regions succeed in attaining the structure you choose. The Planning Council anticipates that additional work will need to be done for all involved as this new system is developed and evolves over time.

READINESS CRITERIA

- 1. Where do I find general information and sample documents to help Regional Behavioral Health Boards (RBHB) make informed decisions regarding Transformation, and make application to the Behavioral Health Planning Council (PC) to complete our region's Transformation process?**

Information regarding Transformation can be found on the Department of Health and Welfare website. When on the site (use link provided at the end of this response) go to the right side of the page and don the column of topics to Transformation. You will find a number of links there that are relevant to the work RBHB's will be doing.

<http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Medical/MentalHealth/BehavioralHealthPlanningCouncil/tabid/320/Default.aspx>

- 2. What are the powers and duties of the PC?**

At the link listed above, go to Transformation, hit on the Behavioral Health Planning Council Documents link and you will find a number of documents that will address this question and provide more information regarding what the PC will be looking for in a RBHB application. You will find some of the information is listed under more than one link.

- 3. What do I need to do to have a better understanding of the powers and duties of the RBHB?**

Review the Regional Behavioral Health Board Services Guidelines. These Guidelines are a synopsis of the current Idaho Statute.

- 4. When will the application for the RBHB be available?**

The projected date of availability is October 15, 2014.

- 5. What factors should the RBHB consider in deciding its future role under Transformation?**

Each Board has a wealth of experience represented in your membership. Use this knowledge and expertise to evaluate how to best serve the needs of the people in your region. As an independent board you may choose to partner with another entity such as the health district, county, or other Governmental entity. You may choose to become your own governmental entity and be responsible for, but not be limited to personnel, fiscal management, legal, liability and risk management, physical locations and more. The third option is not to make any changes and remain the same.

6. Can the RBHB lobby?

You cannot lobby if you are using State or Federal dollars. However, the RBHB may educate policy makers concerning the issues you are dealing with.

7. Will DHW be able to lobby for the RBHB if they choose to become an independent board?

No, DHW is not allowed to lobby. DHW is able to provide information to educate policy makers on issues and will continue to do so in regard to services and the wellbeing of those who it services.

8. Who will review the RBHB applications?

The PC will appoint a standing committee who will review the applications. The committee will send its recommendations in a report to the full Council membership. The PC membership will be given time to respond with comment. The final approval/denial rests with the standing committee of the PC.

9. How do the readiness and performance criteria differ?

RBHB readiness is determined through the successful completion of the application process. Performance criteria will be developed by the PC and then used in reviewing each RBHB for compliance to the application they submitted and that was approved by the PC.

10. What happens if the PC does not agree with the RBHB business plan for readiness?

The PC will provide the board with a list of question/concerns about the RBHB's plan. Upon receipt of the response from the RBHB, the PC will review the additional information and approve the plan, send a request for additional information or a document outlining the corrective action(s) that need to be taken for the plan be approved.

11. What is the PC's responsibility in asking for revisions?

The PC, as the entity charged with approving RBHB business plans, is responsible to seek the information they need to make a determination on the proposed plan. This may entail asking for additional information or requested corrective actions.

12. Do the RBHBs have legal support at this time and will they have legal support once they are approve to provide support services?

Currently the boards are considered advisory boards for DHW, and function under the legal umbrella of the Department. The answer to this question moving forward depends on the direction taken by the RBHB, and is one of the important areas that will need to be researched and answered by each board.

13. Are the RBHBs insured in the event something happens that would require a settlement or do they need to have their own insurance?

Just like legal support under question #11, the answer to this question moving forward depends on the direction taken by the RBHB, and is one of the important areas that will need to be researched and answered by each board.

14. Will there be additional information or changes to the Guiding Principles document?

This is a work in progress and as RBHBs develop your plans the Guiding Principles will also be updated.

15. How will the RBHB makes themselves more attractive to the other governmental entities for partnering opportunities?

Each community is different and it will depend on the value system of the regions. It is wise to work as a group and gather and educate key community players about the process, benefits, and short falls of the current systems. Healthcare is changing quickly, and in the environment we are in today, those with an expertise in behavioral health will be valuable partners in the development of a holistic system of care.

FUNDING

16. Is the \$45,000 just one time funding available to the RBHB?

No – The funding will be available to the RBHB each year. Once a RBHB is determined to meet the readiness criteria the \$45,000 will then be transferred to the RBHB and be used to direct your own infrastructure.

17. What is the current distribution of the \$45,000 to the RBHB?

Currently \$15,000 is considered operational funding and can be used to develop the infrastructure for the RBHB and the remaining \$30,000 is reserved by DHW to be used to fund the salaries of the CRDS in each region. This will continue until each RBHB decides on its direction.

18. Will the \$45,000 funding be the only funding available to the RBHB through DHW?

DHW has additional funding that may be available to transfer to the RBHB once they meet the readiness criteria. An example of the funding would be the Path Grant, which could be transferred to the RBHB to provide temporary rental relief for individuals with a diagnosable mental illness.

19. When would the RBHB start to receive funds once they are approved by the PC?

We wouldn't anticipate the transfer of funds taking long, but it will depend on the specifics of the option being taken, services being provided, and business arrangement being in place.

20. Once the RBHBs are funded when would they receive the next funding amount?

The RBHB's will operate on the State fiscal year and funding becomes available on July 1 of each year. How funding is provided however is always subject to the specifics of the funding source and what fiscal policies and legal arrangements that are in place, dictate.

21. How will the DHW know when to release the funds to the RBHB?

The SPC will ask DHW for the funding to be released to the RBHB once the RBHB meets the requirements to provide community support services as determined by the PC.

22. How should the RBHB handle the funding received through grants?

The response to this question is dependent on the option taken by the RBHB. If becoming a government entity under DHW, you will need to abide by all the requirements in place for the Department. If partnering with another entity such as a district health department, the RBHB will need to work under the structure set forth by them.

GAPS AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

23. When will the Gaps and Needs Analysis be available?

The PC is in the final stages of development and the G&N Analysis should be available by mid-October 2014.

24. How will the RBHB know when the Gaps and Needs Analysis is available?

Notification can be done via emails from the PC to the RBHB.

25. How will DHW and the PC know when the gaps and needs analysis are finished by the RBHB – who will monitor their return?

Someone will be assigned to monitor the receipt of the Gaps and Needs and give the RBHB a deadline of return.

26. Will there be instructions on completing the Gaps and Needs Analysis for the RBHB?

A sample document will be available to the RBHB to assist you in completing the document.

27. How will the information been recorded and who will do that?

Someone will be assigned that task from the PC to gather and compile the information.