



September 19, 2014

TO: Recovery Idaho Members
FROM: Recovery Idaho Secretary Jon Meyer
SUBJECT: Monthly Recovery Idaho Update

The following is an update on some of the activities of the Recovery Idaho board over the past month:

1. The Recovery Idaho board is excited to announce the addition of Ferne Brandt as its newest member. Ferne is from Canyon County and is also a member of the Region 3 Behavioral Health Board. She is passionate about removing the stigma that surrounds mental illness and substance use disorders. She is currently enrolled in school to get a degree in social work, and wants to work in the drug and alcohol counseling field. In the past, Ferne has worked in the outpatient clinic at the Walker Center. Ferne's passion and her connections to the Region 3 community and behavioral health board make her a perfect fit as the work of Recovery Idaho moves forward.

2. Recovery Idaho President Price Worrell attended RecoveryFest in Pocatello's Old Town Pavilion on Friday, Sept. 12. The event was attended by about 400 people, including treatment professionals, community service providers, the medical community and local officials and residents. The ceremony included a presentation by the mayor of Chubbuck, and a local judge also spoke. Price delivered a speech reflecting on his own recovery and the effects of addiction, mental illness and recovery on our communities and families. He also mentioned the work of Recovery Idaho. RecoveryFest provided a great networking opportunity for Price to spread the message of Recovery Idaho, and he was able to speak with members of the public as well as local officials and some media representatives.



Recovery Fest



3. Jon Meyer and Tom Stroschein discussed Recovery Idaho during a meeting of the Idaho Association of Counties' Health and Human Services Committee on Sept. 16 in Moscow. Jon discussed the work Recovery Idaho has done since the kickoff workshop in March, including work on bylaws and Articles of Incorporation, additional board members, and defining local chapters and affiliated groups. Tom, Jon and Canyon County Commissioner Steve Rule also discussed what they were able to learn when they visited Recovery Community Centers established by the Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR).

4. The Bylaw and Local Chapter Subcommittee is working to define the roles and requirements of Recovery Idaho local chapters and affiliated groups. The subcommittee is also working to determine what will be required to become a local chapter or affiliated group, and how each entity will work in conjunction with Recovery Idaho. When a document has been completed defining these items, it will be brought to the full Recovery Idaho board for approval, and will be sent out to all Recovery Idaho members. The Recovery Idaho board is currently planning a face-to-face meeting of the full board in the Boise area. This meeting will allow members of the subcommittee to finish their work on the bylaws and quickly receive board approval. By streamlining this process, the work of Recovery Idaho should be able to move forward quickly.

5. A survey designed to distribute to Recovery Idaho members has been placed on hold temporarily. The board would like to define more information about the structure and ongoing work of Recovery Idaho before distributing the survey.