IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

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INTRODUCTION TO THE STANDARDS

As the State Behavioral Health Authority, the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) is tasked with the development of best practice standards aimed at improving behavioral health care in the State of Idaho. The following Standards are provided here:

- Care Management
- Case Management
- Intensive Care Coordination
- Homes for Adult Rehabilitation Treatment (HART)
- Wraparound Intensive Services (WInS)
- Substance Use Disorders (SUD) Life Skills
- Substance Use Disorders (SUD) Recovery Residences
- Staffed Safe and Sober Housing
- Enhanced Staffed Safe and Sober
- Crisis System
- Crisis Call Line
- Mobile Crisis Response

Each Standard contains guidelines that are intended to apply to only those entities that offer the services or serve the populations identified in the standard. Please note that, as the behavioral health system evolves, these standards may be modified and/or additional standards may be developed that apply to all behavioral health treatment and recovery support service providers in Idaho.

Throughout the development process, careful consideration is paid to: a) evidence-based behavioral health practices; b) widely accepted standards of behavioral health care; c) Idaho Administrative Rule (program specific); d) State and Federal requirements; e) current practice; need throughout the state; and g) input from community providers, consumers, and stakeholders.

Purpose of Standards

The purpose of these Standards is to provide minimum requirements, best practices, standard protocols, and other guidance for those providing services to adults, children, and youth. The guidelines within the Standards were developed and refined through input from Idaho behavioral health professionals and providers, consumers, advocates, acknowledged national experts, and other stakeholders as appropriate, and represent a consensus of appropriate practice guidance. They are intended to provide a basis for those providing the service to establish policies and procedures that reflect the standard and its guidelines.

Expectations for Implementation

The basis for implementation of these Standards will initially be opt-in; however, as the DBH moves to contracting for services, the Standards will be implemented as practice for participating in a provider network and used by the contractor for auditing purposes.

DISCLAIMER: These Standards are not rules of procedure and have no effect of law. They are not intended to take the place of written law or regulations nor are they a legal description of aspects of Medicaid's Idaho Behavioral Health Plan. While every effort has been made to ensure that the guidelines in each standard are current and in keeping with accepted standard of practice, they do not preclude the use of additional standards imposed by Medicaid or other third-party funders.

As of January 2025, Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) and Community Crisis Centers have been removed from these standards