Board of Health Meeting
Tuesday, October 27, 2026
13307 Miami Lane, Caldwell, ID 83607

Public comments specific to an agenda item for the October 27, 2026 Board of Health meeting can be submitted here or by mail to: SWDH Board of Health, Attn: Administration Office, 13307 Miami Lane, Caldwell, ID, 83607. The period to submit public comments will close at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, October 26, 2026. The meeting will be available through live streaming on the SWDH You Tube channel.

Agenda

A = Board Action Required **G =Guidance** **I = Information item**

9:00	A	Call Meeting to Order	Vice-Chairman Zach Brooks
9:01		Pledge of Allegiance	
9:03		Roll Call	Vice-Chairman Zach Brooks
9:05	A	Call for changes to agenda; vote to approve agenda	Vice-Chairman Zach Brooks
9:07		In-person public comment	
9:10	I	Introduction of new employees	Division Administrators
9:15	A	Approve September 29, 2026 Board of Health meeting minutes	Vice-Chairman Zach Brooks
9:20	I	September 2026 Monthly Expenditure and Revenue Report	Michele Hanrahan
9:30	I	Contract Services and Grant Applications	Don Lee
9:35	I	Emerging Topics: Vector Surveillance	Ben Shatto
10:20	I	Department of Environmental Quality Agreement	Ben Shatto
10:30		Break	
10:45	I	Director's Report	
		• Director approved agreements, contracts, and subgrants	
		• Tort claim follow up	
		• IADBH meeting overview	
		• 2027 Board of Health workplan input	
		• 2027 Board of Health meetings – Day of the week	
		• 2026 Public Health Symposium – Following November Board of Health meeting	
11:10	I	Future agenda items	
11:15		Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(b)	
11:50	A	Action taken pursuant to Executive Session	
12:00	I	Adjourn	

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 19: 9am – 11am followed by Public Health Symposium

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 29, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS:
Jennifer Riebe, Commissioner, Payette County – present
Jim Harberd, Commissioner, Washington County – present
Zach Brooks, Commissioner, Canyon County – present
Kelly Aberasturi, Commissioner, Owyhee County – present
Viki Purdy, Commissioner, Adams County – present
John Tribble, MD, Physician Representative – not present
Kirk Wille, Commissioner, Gem County – not present

STAFF MEMBERS:
In person: Nikki Zogg, Katrina Harshman, Ben Shatto, Don Lee, Michele Hanrahan, Beth Kriete

Virtual: Colton Osborne

GUESTS: Jordan Zwygart, Zwygart, John and Associates

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER
Chairman Kelly Aberasturi called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL
Chairman Aberasturi – present; Dr. John Tribble – not present; Commissioner Purdy – present; Commissioner Harberd – present; Vice Chairman Brooks – present; Commissioner Riebe –present; Commissioner Wille – not present

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Chairman Kelly Aberasturi asked for additional agenda items. Board members had no additional agenda items or changes to the agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Riebe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

PUBLIC COMMENT
No public comment was provided in person or through the online submission mechanism.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES
No new employees were introduced.

DRAFT

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 25, 2026 BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
Board members reviewed meeting minutes from the August 25, 2026 Board of Health meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Riebe made a motion to approve the August 25, 2026 Board of Health meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Harberd seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

AUGUST 2026 MONTHLY EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE REPORT
Michele Hanrahan, SWDH Financial Officer, shared the August 2026 monthly expenditure and revenue report. Millennium Fund and Environmental and Community Health Services (ECHS) show higher revenue due to the Millennium Fund one-time appropriation transfer and fees. Expenditures overall are just slightly lower than target.

Michele added another line to the report to show the Fiscal Year (FY26) budget revision fund amount based on board member feedback from the August meeting.

CONTRACT SERVICES AND GRANT APPLICATIONS
Michele Hanrahan shared new contract services or grant applications that are currently in process.

WIC LEASE RENEWAL
Since January 2025, WIC has leased space from the Idaho Hispanic Community Center. Staff see about 1,500 clients at this location each month, which is double the amount of the previous location. The lease is up for renewal. Beth noted the cost remains the same at $1,500 per month including utilities and asked that board members approve the lease addendum to the rental and use agreement with the City of Nampa.

MOTION: Commissioner Riebe made a motion to approve renewal of the lease with City of Nampa for space for WIC services at the Idaho Hispanic Community Center at a rate of $1,500 per month. Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

FISCAL YEAR 2025 (FY25) AUDIT OVERVIEW
Jordan Zwygart, Zwygart John & Associations, PLLC, shared an overview of the recently completed FY25 financial audit. Revenue and expenditures were slightly under budget for fiscal year 2025. He noted that use of the cash basis accounting system is often impacted by timing of receipt of invoices and payment receipts. He also noted that the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) had some interest payments not reflected in the accounting. To prevent this, monthly reconciliations of the account are recommended.

The overall opinion of the audit reflects materially correct recording. Auditors also review control mechanisms including receipts and invoices and timecard approval. No deficiencies were found.

The WIC (Women, Infants, Children) program was also audited and no deficiencies were reported.

MOTION: Commissioner Riebe made a motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2027 (FY25) audit overview as presented. Commissioner Harberd seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

HOME VISITING PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

Kristen Koprowski, a Registered Nurse working in the Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) program, shared an overview of the evidence-based voluntary program connecting families with registered nurses. The program is available to first time moms who meet eligibility requirements and begins in early pregnancy and lasts until the child is aged 2. The nurses are specially trained registered nurses with backgrounds in labor and delivery, maternal health and serve 21 to 25 families at a time. The program supports immediate health needs while supporting a long-term vision for the family.

The relationship between mother and nurse is central as the nurse walks alongside the mom through the pregnancy and infant phases. Moms are empowered to care for their babies, care for themselves and their mental health, and build strong futures for their children.

Patty Kennings, SWDH Program Manager, shared an overview of the Parents as Teachers (PAT) home visiting program. The program started in 2018 and the founding principle is that a parent is a child's first and most influential teacher. Curriculum is used to provide themes and topics for the first eight visits then program staff can branch out to topics the family would like to learn about.

The program goals include increasing parent knowledge, increasing children's school readiness and school success, and improving family economic well being.

NUTRITION ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

Daniel Adams, Health Education Specialist, and Denice Ahlstrom, Registered Dietitian with the WIC program, shared information on how SWDH programs support nutrition. Denice explained how SWDH programs contribute to reducing barriers and increasing access to healthy foods by providing correct, simple, and relevant nutritional education.

Nutrition education is built into each WIC visit. To ensure alignment around nutrition education, the WIC staff go through frequent education to address emerging and ongoing issues. District 3 has about 6,300 active participants in SWDH WIC.

Daniel shared information on nutritional support that is available in addition to the WIC dietitian. Cooking Matters class, offered in cooperation with the Idaho Foodbank, provides lessons and education for cooking budget friendly recipes.

The Senior Produce Program launched in 2021 provides nutritional support in the form of vouchers for produce for seniors. The program has 2,098 participating households and has a 90% voucher redemption rate. This year, the program is being piloted in Emmett and 37 voucher sets are being distributed each week. 2026 data from this program will be available later this year.

DIRECTOR'S CONTRACT – FINAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Board members provided a final review of the contract incorporating the changes requested. The contract was approved at last month's meeting. No motion made.

PUBLIC HEALTH SYMPSOIUM PLANNING
Last year, there were over 80 legislative bills impacting public health to some extent. Nikki is working with the Think Tank team to develop topics to share at a late fall or early winter Public Health Symposium to help raise awareness for legislators and local officials. The intent is to engage legislators in our district to help them understand what public health districts do and do not do. The Legislative Services Office suggested the event be held before Committee assignments. Nikki asked for Board member support with encouraging legislators and local officials to attend.

RESOLUTION: LAWFUL PRESENCE
Nikki shared a resolution that District 4 plans to present at the Idaho Association of District Boards of Health (IADBH) asking that lawful presence verification not apply to septic permit applications and food vendor permits.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director approved agreements, contracts, and subgrants
Summary pages for grants, contracts, agreements, and subgrants are included in the meeting packet.

Tort claim
A tort claim related to the sub surface sewage disposal work has been received. The claim is being reviewed by SWDH staff and state risk management.

Idaho Association of Counties (IAC) Workgroup Meeting Summary
The workgroup has not met since the topic was last discussed. A meeting may be planned for the spring.

Idaho Association of District Boards of Health Annual Meeting
The 2026 annual Idaho Association of District Boards of Health (IADBH) meeting will be a virtual meeting hosted by District 2 on October 22, 2026 from 10am to 5pm MT. Board members are invited to participate in the meeting from our main office.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
No future agenda items were suggested.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO IDAHO CODE 74-206(b)
Pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(b), board members entered executive session at 11:41 a.m. Commissioner Purdy made a motion to go into executive session. Commissioner Riebe seconded the motion. Roll call taken.

At 12:20 p.m. board members came out of executive session.

ACTION TAKEN PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION
No action was taken pursuant to the Executive Session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Approved as written:

Nikole Zogg Zach Brooks Date: October 27, 2026
Secretary to the Board Vice-Chairman

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT HEALTH

REVENUES & EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR FY2027

Modified Accrual Basis

September-26

Target **25.00%**

Fund Balances	FY Beginning	Sept 2026 Ending
General Operating Fund	$1,647,008	$2,026,052
LGIP Operating	$5,938,205	$6,008,295
LGIP Vehicle Replacement	$118,520	$119,668
LGIP Capital	$1,299,174	$1,299,174
Total	**$9,002,908**	**$9,453,189**

Income Statement Information	YTD	Month
Net Revenue:	**$4,174,844**	**$1,600,225**
Expenditures:	($4,009,699)	($1,423,671)
Net Income:	**$165,145**	**$176,554**

Revenue

	County Conributions	Fees	Subgrant/Grant/ Contract Revenue	Sale of Assets	Interest	Other	Monthly Total	YTD	Restricted / Committed Funds	Total Budget	Percent Budget to Actual
Administration & BoH	-$501,726.70				-$24,120.32		-$525,847.02	-$864,987.45	-$506,887.00	-$3,974,462.00	34.52%
District Operations Div			-$20,367.22			-$315,200.23	-$335,567.45	-$369,596.72		-$441,787.00	
FCS											
Medical Clinic		-$15,573.31					-$15,573.31	-$53,484.09		-$226,200.00	23.64%
Immunizations		-$7,462.41	-$9,941.06				-$17,403.47	-$31,624.23		-$175,000.00	18.07%
HIV/STI/DIS Prevention			-$5,543.83				-$5,543.83	-$20,959.23		-$118,750.00	17.65%
Women's Health Check			-$1,175.60				-$1,175.60	-$4,211.31		-$22,560.00	18.67%
Oral Health		-$339.58	-$6,026.39				-$6,365.97	-$9,539.44		-$56,004.00	17.03%
Nurse Family Partnership		-$12,246.12	-$32,117.98				-$44,364.10	-$150,724.84	-$17,500.00	-$567,854.00	29.62%
Parents as Teachers		-$18,009.00	-$26,698.39				-$44,707.39	-$128,063.56	-$17,500.00	-$504,462.00	28.86%
Behavioral Health Admin		-$5,063.04					-$5,063.04	-$12,738.63	-$247,422.00	-$328,422.00	79.22%
WIC			-$123,804.73				-$123,804.73	-$322,136.19		-$1,362,024.00	23.65%
Adult Crisis Center						-$125,000.00	-$125,000.00	-$375,000.00	-$139,527.00	-$1,657,335.00	31.05%
Youth Crisis Center						-$125,000.00	-$125,000.00	-$375,000.00	-$395,672.00	-$1,895,672.00	40.65%
Pre-Prosecution Diversion			-$20,070.58				-$20,070.58	-$79,047.13		-$358,892.00	22.03%
Other FCS						$0.00	$0.00	-$37,950.28		-$230,990.00	16.43%
ECHS											
Fit & Fall Proof							$0.00	-$6,935.43	-$38,825.00	-$85,000.00	53.84%
Prescription Drug Overdose							$0.00	-$13,583.86		-$100,000.00	13.58%
Suicide Prevention			-$3,422.05				-$3,422.05	-$8,133.86		-$45,000.00	18.08%
Millennium-Tobacco							$0.00	-$360,000.00	-$15,660.00	-$375,660.00	100.00%
Partnership for Success/SAMSHA							$0.00	-$30,823.74		-$392,969.00	7.84%
Food Programs		-$6,299.00	-$14,025.12				-$20,324.12	-$32,409.12		-$337,900.00	9.59%
Child Care Inspections			-$1,263.96				-$1,263.96	-$39,803.46		-$150,534.00	26.44%
Land Programs		-$113,392.00	-$2,334.28				-$115,726.28	-$383,995.70		-$1,333,193.00	28.80%
Epi Investigations			-$24,438.45				-$24,438.45	-$46,074.96		-$221,261.00	20.82%
Public Health Preparedness			-$37,062.22				-$37,062.22	-$96,604.07		-$552,000.00	17.50%
WICHC							$0.00	$0.00	-$35,000.00	-$85,000.00	41.18%
Other ECHS			-$2,501.86				-$2,501.86	-$321,416.90	-$76,172.00	-$151,480.00	262.47%
Monthly Revenue	**-$501,726.70**	**-$178,384.46**	**-$330,793.72**	**$0.00**	**-$24,120.32**	**-$565,200.23**	**-$1,600,225.43**				
						Year-to-Date Revenue		**-$4,174,844.20**	**-$1,490,165.00**	**-$15,750,411.00**	**35.97%**

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT HEALTH

REVENUES & EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR FY2027

Modified Accrual Basis

September-26

Target **25.00%**

EXPENDITURES

	Personnel	Operating	Capital	T/B	Monthly Total	YTD	Restricted / Committed Funds	Total Budget	Percent Budget to Actual
Administration & BoH	$35,063.45	$43,668.74			$78,732.19	$257,004.95		$1,085,190	23.68%
District Operations Div (and blanks-unidentified programs)	$119,216.91	$355,098.54			$474,315.45	$892,685.32		$2,545,273	35.07%
FCS									
Medical Clinic	$50,698.76	$12,898.65			$63,597.41	$196,701.57		$856,170	22.97%
Immunizations	$10,376.22	$3,104.26			$13,480.48	$54,487.64		$327,328	16.65%
HIV/STI/DIS Prevention	$4,791.94	$1,540.06			$6,332.00	$18,538.41		$58,862	31.49%
Women's Health Check	$700.71	$367.65			$1,068.36	$2,750.89		$21,488	12.80%
Oral Health	$8,228.53	$653.54			$8,882.07	$26,743.77		$115,374	23.18%
Nurse Family Partnership	$29,509.72	$2,007.91			$31,517.63	$142,331.05		$591,638	24.06%
Parents as Teachers	$31,941.01	$3,830.70			$35,771.71	$117,742.78		$493,748	23.85%
Behavioral Health Admin	$19,842.18	$207.15			$20,049.33	$69,719.33		$322,836	21.60%
WIC	$97,942.93	$8,008.02			$105,950.95	$365,791.76		$1,603,269	22.82%
Adult Crisis Center	$999.37	$121,208.66			$122,208.03	$382,559.54		$1,647,350	23.22%
Youth Crisis Center		$133,110.00			$133,110.00	$407,874.37		$1,837,772	22.19%
Pre-Prosecution Diversion	$12,788.90	$611.07			$13,399.97	$46,152.88		$295,504	15.62%
Other FCS	$17,392.28	$789.30		$15,360.83	$33,542.41	$128,936.38		$318,110	40.53%
ECHS									
Fit & Fall Proof	$7,253.05	$4,818.97			$12,072.02	$29,113.42		$106,519	27.33%
Prescription Drug Overdose	$3,188.15	$165.98			$3,354.13	$17,303.74		$23,531	73.54%
Suicide Prevention	$2,135.08				$2,135.08	$8,807.20		$74,916	11.76%
Millennium-Tobacco	$16,201.72	$2,329.96			$18,531.68	$58,463.22		$287,511	20.33%
Partnership for Success	$10,797.24	$17,257.59		$1,952.40	$30,007.23	$58,342.76		$357,245	16.33%
Food Programs	$51,186.39	$5,224.85			$56,411.24	$189,453.29		$694,210	27.29%
Child Care Inspections	$8,001.63	$743.29			$8,744.92	$35,718.28		$179,083	19.95%
Land Programs	$75,639.11	$6,699.51			$82,338.62	$267,387.24		$1,046,295	25.56%
Epi Investigations	$19,249.32	$259.64			$19,508.96	$68,262.53		$209,007	32.66%
Public Health Preparedness	$23,655.69	$1,123.75			$24,779.44	$89,665.38		$344,535	26.03%
WICHC	$3,063.59	$10.50			$3,074.09	$12,347.26		$43,693	28.26%
Other ECHS	$18,126.96	$2,628.67			$20,755.63	$64,814.29		$263,954	24.56%
Monthly Expenditures	**$677,990.84**	**$728,366.96**	**$0.00**	**$17,313.23**	**$1,423,671.03**				
				Year-to-Date Expenditures		**$4,009,699.25**		**$15,750,411.00**	**25.46%**

As of: *September 30, 2026*

Summary of Restricted and Committed Funds - FY 2027

Restricted Funds - Cash on hand from third party restricted by contract, grant, or donation terms

Note: Restricted fund balances carry from year to year until expended or grant ends

Committed Funds - Cash on hand committed by the Board of Health for a specific purpose

Fund Balances as of last prior month reported

	Restricted Funds	Committed Funds
Fund 290000, 290001, 290002		
Citizen's Review Panel	$18,217	
OPIOID Settlement	$1,669,357	
Alzheimer HBI	$29,572	
Parents As Teachers	$33,795	
NFP	$34,366	
Tobacco Cessation - MF	$333,039	
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	$52,478	
SSBG -Ongoing & MHBG-Addtl (BC3687-01)	$1	
IDJC - YROC	$3,427	
Youth Crisis-Magellen & Donations	$309,340	
Adult Crisis	$131,082	
MRC	$5,747	
WICHC	$36,462	
County Offset FY27 and FY28		$201,163
Replacement of Expiring Lease Vehicles		$136,191
Employee Development & Engagement		$37,866
County Collaborations		$70,000
Sale of Land		$284,684
FY26 CF for FY27 Budget Revision		$513,544
27th Pay Period		$337,600
Facility Improvements		$1,095,557
	$2,656,882	$2,676,606

Total Restricted/Committed: $5,333,488

Total Operating Cash(as of end of prior month)		$8,034,347
3 months(Expenses/12 - Contract Revenue /12) *3	$	(2,648,997)
Restricted/Committed	$	(5,333,488)
Cash requiring additional commitment	$	51,862

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT HEALTH	CONTRACT SERVICES AND GRANT APPLICATIONS					Updated 10/26/2026
Due Date	**Program Applying**	**Grant Opp**	**Funder**	**Amount Req.**	**Duration**	**Purpose**	**Status**
No grants in process that are $50,000 or more							
9/18/2026	Behavior Health Michelle S, Beth	**Idaho Rural Health Transformation-Behavioral Health Prevention**	ID Health & Welfare	$200,000	1 years	Add a second licensed counselor to SWDH to serve rural clinets in-person and virtually	**AWARDED**
10/19/2026	Nikki, Cas, Behavioral Health	**Idaho Rural Health Transformation-Infrastructure Grant**	ID Health & Welfare	$ 461,680	1 year	equip two vehicles for Mobile Health EMT program	**AWARDED**

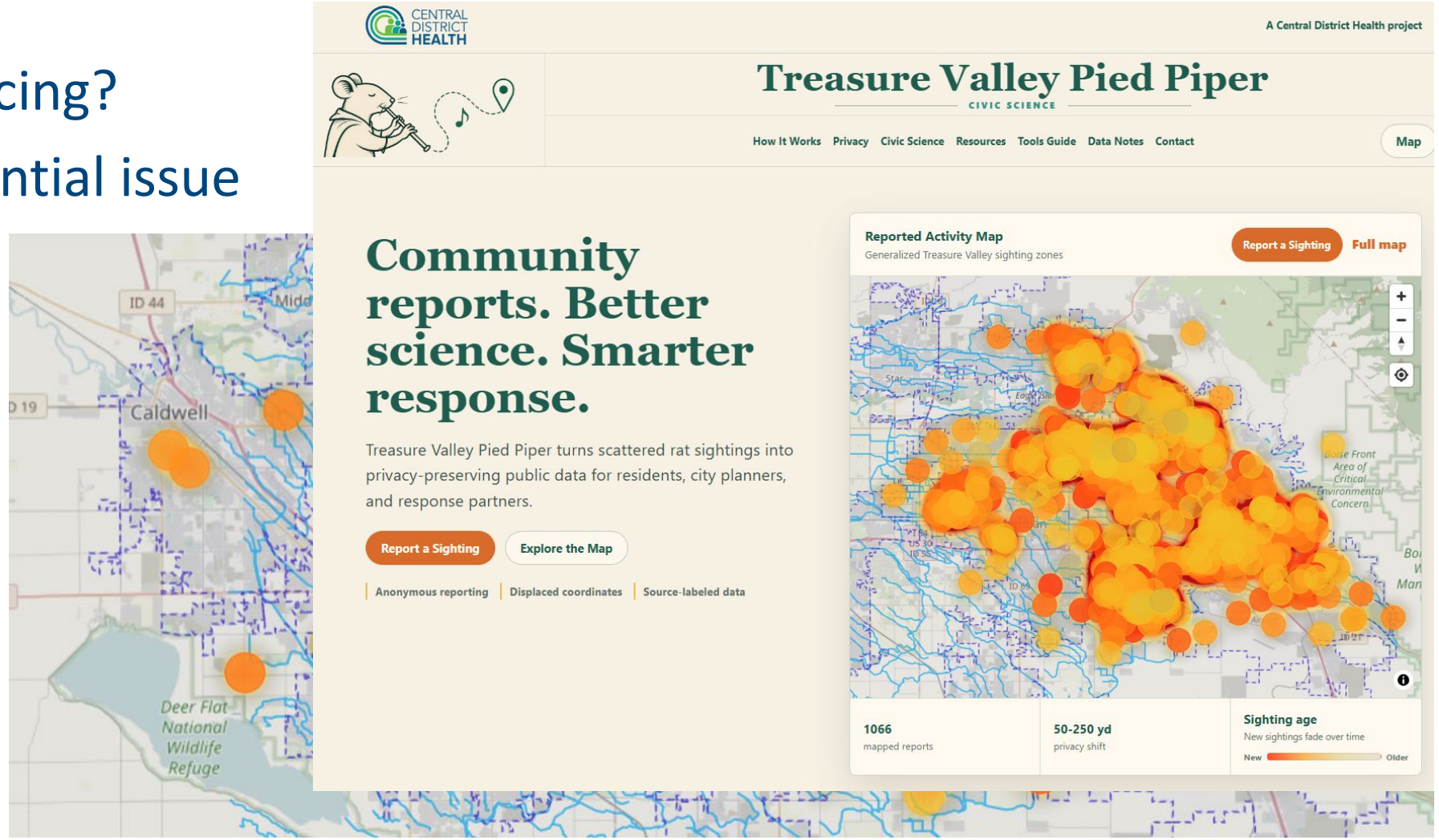
Rats in the Treasure Valley

Ben Shatto, DPT

Division Administrator for Environmental Health, Community Health and Emergency Preparedness and Response

Overview

- What are we facing?
- Why is it a potential issue
- Current status
- Next steps



Rats

- Non-native (Invasive) Norway rats – Primary Concern
- Non-native (Invasive) roof rats – Primary Concern





- Native packrats (woodrats) – No concern and part of normal ecosystem.



Identification: Norway Rats

- Brown or Gray in Color
- Tail no longer than body
- Smaller ears and eyes than roof rats with more bulky body
- Tend to nest in below or level ground burrows
- Two to three times longer and can weigh up to ten times more than an adult house mouse

(7-9 inches long vs 3-4 inches)



Identification: Roof Rats

- Dark in color
- Larger eyes and ears
- Tail longer than body
- Prefer to nest in attics and soffits
- Twice as long and several times heavier than a house mouse. 6–8 inches (body) vs. 3–4 inches (body) and 5–10 oz vs. 0.5–1 oz



Identification: Pack Rats

- Very large ears that can cover their eyes
- Fully furred to bushy tails
- Rounded/squared nose
- Builds large nests, often in rocky areas
- A keystone species. Other animals use their nests for protection/dens



Why This Matters



Health: Spread disease, including leptospirosis, salmonellosis, rat-bite fever, and flea-borne typhus.

*(Norway and roof rats do not carry hantavirus, which comes from deer mice.)

Pets and animals: Dogs can get leptospirosis. Rodenticides can poison pets and wildlife. Rats prey on chicken eggs and chicks and contaminate livestock feed.

Fire hazard, an overlooked risk: Rats gnaw on electrical wiring causing fires. These fires put lives at risk and can bring property damage and higher insurance costs for homes and businesses.

Economic: Property damage, fires from chewed wiring, crop losses, and contaminated food. Nationally, rats cause an estimated US$27 billion in damage each year in the United States.*

*G. W. Witmer, W. C. Pitt, and K. A. Fagerstone, editors. 2007. Managing vertebrate invasive species: proceedings of an international symposium. USDA/APHIS Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA

Current Status

Ada County Board of Commissioners Meeting, Sept 2, 2026

- **Who attended**
  - Cities: Boise, Meridian, Garden City, Eagle, Kuna, and Star
  - State: Idaho State Dept of Agriculture, Representative Gannon, Senator Nichols
  - Central District Health
  - Private industry: Idaho Pest Management Association (IPMA)

- **What we heard**
  - Most sightings: Boise Bench, northeast Boise, and Eagle
  - Nothing noted in public facilities; all are monitoring
  - Consensus: Other than Boise, no funding available at the city level
  - Commissioners hope for state or federal assistance
  - Central District Health has committed $250,000

Additional Take aways from Ada County BOCC Meeting

- Private industry indicates they have capacity to and want the chance to address issues
  - Also, be advised that rats learn quickly making the problem worse
  - Want to be included as a resource option as well as direct remediation
  - Will share data for tracking purposes

- Determine true scope of problem
  - *Dept of Agriculture* cannot engage but will work with CDH to set up GIS tracking of the area to allow for accurate reporting of sightings Rats in Idaho — Invasive Species of Idaho
  - CDH planning to buy and promote *Treasure Valley Pied Piper* mapping https://tvpiedpiper.com/

Central District Health (CDH) Proposed Strategies

CDH has committed $250,000 for rat remediation in Ada County

- Education
- Contraception
- Owl box partnership with local high-schools
- Mapping and outreach, with ISDA and Pied Piper
- Pest control assistance (up to $600 per household, income based)

Department of Agriculture & CDH are setting up ongoing surveillance & tracking

What have others done? (Alberta)

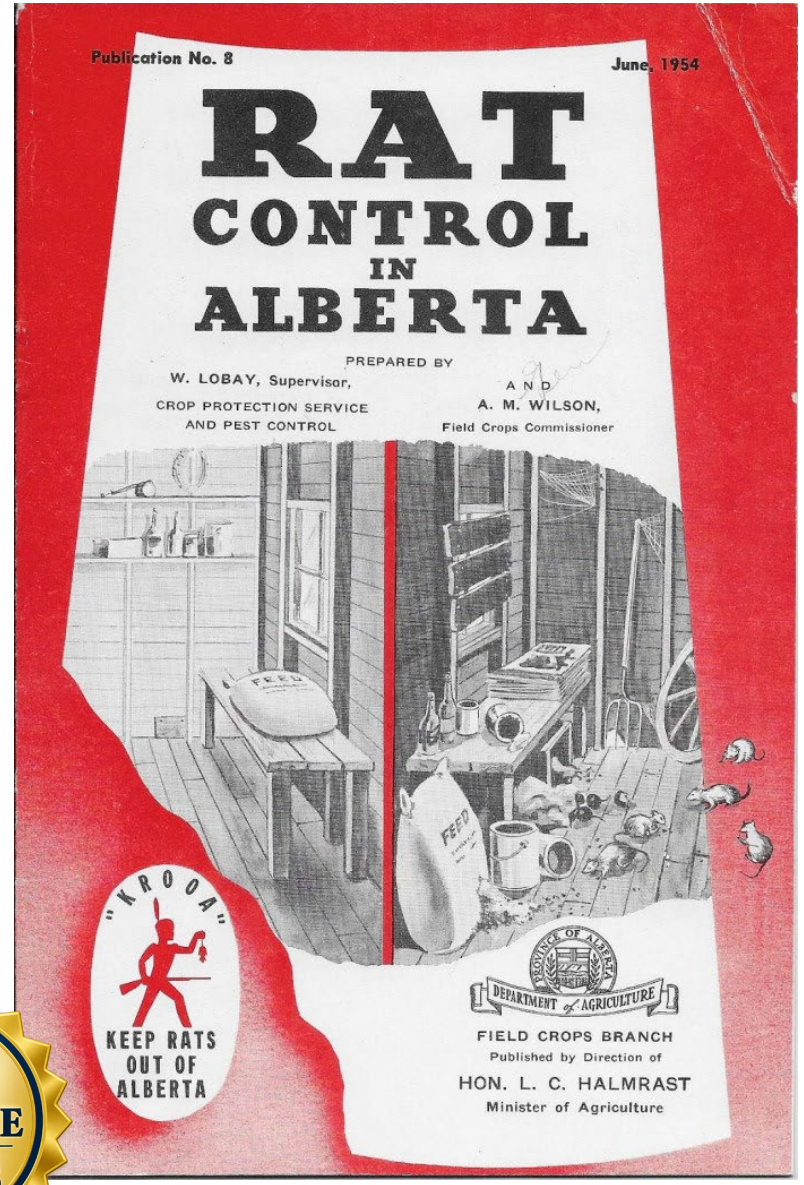
Rapid Action

- Must stay ahead of the problem
- All agricultural and municipal areas are inspected 2 times a year to detect and eliminate rats before they breed.
- All modern methods utilized…(trapping, baiting, monitoring and intercepting before breeding populations are established).

Strict laws

- Dept of Agriculture takes the lead
- Illegal to have pet rats ($5000 fine)
- Mandatory reporting

Continuous surveillance





Coordinated Next Steps:

Education

- Public education campaign with the same core messages as CDH, so residents who live in one district and work in the other hear one story

Mapping and surveillance

- Promote ISDA's rat reporting form
- Use ISDA and/or Pied Piper mapping to track District 3 activity (try to align with CDH)

Partnerships

- Work with CDH and ISDA on shared messaging, mapping, and data

SWDH Next Steps

Social media campaign: Know, Prevent, Act

- Know: signs of rats, where they get in, and safe cleanup of droppings
- Prevent: clean up food, trash, and clutter
- Act: seal entry points, use snap traps, and dispose of rodents safely
- Act: report sightings to ISDA; find a licensed pest control professional

Education

- Toolkits for homeowners, landlords, tenants, food businesses, and chicken keepers
- Rodenticide and glue trap safety

Surveillance

- Train and reinforce staff to record rat sightings, complaints, and calls
- Document rodent findings in food establishment, childcare inspections and nuisance complaints
- Ask about rodent exposure in cases of rodent exposure associated human illnesses; protocol ready for an increase in cases

Response

- SWDH answers questions and routes residents to pest control, landlords, code enforcement, or ISDA's form/Pied Piper

Final Thoughts

- Look towards areas that have had success.
- Don’t wait for the problem to develop. Look to actively eliminate the potential now.



Special Thanks

- Lekshmi Venugopal: Epidemiology Manager
- Rhianna Rehl: Epidemiology/Environmental Health Specialist, Senior

Questions?



Alex O'Neal, CC BY-SA 2.0 <Brown Rat (Rattus norvegicus), Struy by Mike Pennington, CC BY-SA 2.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>,

NORWAY RAT

Rattus norvegicus

Subfamily Murinae,
the Old World rats and mice

FACTSHEET INFORMATION

Description

- Often brown or gray in color, but with a wide range of hues.
- Tail sparsely haired/naked, shorter than or as long as the body.
- Droppings: Blunt ends, 3/4 - 1 inch long, 1/4 - 3/8 inch diameter.
- Can weigh over a pound! Larger than many cats care to tackle.
- Similar to their smaller invasive cousin, the Roof Rat, but with relatively smaller eyes and ears, bulkier body, and blunter nose.
- See Rat Species ID sheet for differences between other rats.

Introduction and Movement

- Originally from Eurasia, now distributed worldwide.
- Closely tied to human activity and development.
- Invade via shipping - ships, trains, planes, trucks, containers, etc.
- Prefer to nest at or below ground level in burrows.

Summary of Invasiveness

- Outcompete other rodents and cause crop destruction.
- Generalist omnivores – eat seeds, nuts, fruit, livestock feed, eggs, insects, wax, soap, and even meat.
- Can breed year-round, having about 8 pups in each of up to 5 litters. Young rats can start reproducing in 3-4 months.
- Spreads disease and contaminates food and water sources
- Although pet and lab rats are domesticated Norway rats, rarely do they become established outside of captivity.

Prevention Strategy

- Invasive rats are closely tied to humans and development. Prevention requires changes in human behavior that discourage rat spread. Eliminate entry into homes. Dispose of trash in ways rats cannot access. Reduce human and animal food availability to rats.
- Rats, like other animals, are behaviorally flexible, capable of learning, and adaptable through generations. No one method is likely to fully eradicate infestations or populations. A mixture of rat-catching with dogs or other carnivores, poisonous baits, and various types of trapping help control rat populations.



Darius Regnier, iNaturalist (CC0)



Carter Dorscht, iNaturalist (CC0)



Irene Saltini, iNaturalist (CC0)

Sources

- Feng, Alice YT, and Chelsea G. Himsworth. "The secret life of the city rat: a review of the ecology of urban Norway and black rats (Rattus norvegicus and Rattus rattus)." *Urban Ecosystems* 17.1 (2014): 149-162.
- Rattus Norvegicus (Brown Rat) | INFORMATION | Animal Diversity Web. animaldiversity.org/accounts/Rattus_norvegicus.

Idaho Rat ID







Type:	**Roof rat** *(Rattus rattus)*	**Norway Rat** *(Rattus norvegicus)*	**Packrat/Woodrat** *(Neotoma spp.)*
Status	Invasive	Invasive	Native
Size	Length: 11-16 inches (body & tail) Weight: 2-8 oz	Length: 10-20 inches (body & tail) Weight: 5-18 oz in the wild	Length: 11-18 inches (body & tail) Weight: up to 21 oz
Tail	Naked/sparsely haired. Longer than body length	Naked/sparsely haired. Shorter than body length	Fully furred to bushy, often bicolored
Ears	Relatively large – reach eyes when bent forward	Relatively small – do not reach eyes when bent forward	Very large – can cover eyes
Snout	Pointier than Norway rat	Blunter and more slanted than Roof rat	Rounded/squared
Color	Usually dark, but variable	Usually brown or gray, variable	Variable
Scat	Pointed ends	More rounded ends	Blunt ends
Nesting	Prefer elevated areas: attics, soffits, vines, trees	In burrows or at ground level	Builds large nests and middens of branches and debris, often in rocky areas
Impact	One of the most invasive species in the world. Damages food, crops, property, and infrastructure	Can out compete Roof Rats in urban areas. Damages food, crops, property, and infrastructure.	A keystone species. Other animals use packrat nests as protection or dens

Sources:

- Rivadeneira, Paula, and Dawn H. Gouge. "Roof Rats: Identification, Ecology, and Signs." (2018).
- "Mammals." Idaho State University, www.isu.edu/digitalatlas/biology/mammals.



ROOF RAT

Rattus rattus

Subfamily Murinae, the Old World rats and mice

Alex O'Neal, CC BY-SA 2.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>, via Wikimedia Commons

FACTSHEET INFORMATION

Description

- Often dark in color, but with a wide range of colorations.
- Body length 6-8 inches, tail longer than body (can be brought to nose tip).
- Sparsely haired, naked tail.
- Droppings: Pointed, banana-shaped, 1/4 - 1/2 inch long, 3/16 inch diameter.
- Very similar to their larger invasive cousin, the Norway Rat, but with relatively larger eyes and ears, more slender body, and pointier nose.
- See Rat Species ID sheet for differences between other rats.



laiet17, iNaturalist (CC0)

Introduction and Movement

- Originally from Eurasia, now distributed worldwide.
- Closely tied to human activity and developments.
- Invade via shipping - ships, trains, planes, trucks.
- Home ranges up to 5 acres in rural areas, but in urban areas where resources are plentiful, they may stay within 100 yds of their nests.
- Prefer to nest in elevated areas such as attics and soffits.



Ben Keen, iNaturalist (CC0)

Summary of Invasiveness

- One of the most invasive species in the world.
- Generalist omnivores – eat seeds, nuts, livestock feed, eggs, insects, wax, soap, and even meat. They especially love fruit.
- Can breed year-round, having 5 to 8 pups in each of up to 5 litters. Young rats can start reproducing in 3 months.
- Spreads disease , destroys crops, and contaminates food and water.

Prevention Strategy

- Invasive rats are closely tied to humans and development. Prevention requires changes in human behavior that discourage rat spread. Eliminate entry into homes. Dispose of trash in ways rats cannot access. Reduce human and animal food availability to rats.
- Rats, like other animals, are behaviorally flexible, capable of learning, and adaptable through generations. No one method is likely to fully eradicate infestations or populations. A mixture of rat-catching with dogs or other carnivores, poisonous baits, and various types of trapping help control rat populations.



Jaco Grundling, iNaturalist (CC0)

Sources

- Rivadeneira, Paula, and Dawn H. Gouge. "Roof Rats: Identification, Ecology, and Signs." (2018).
- Rattus Rattus (House Rat) | INFORMATION | Animal Diversity Web. animaldiversity.org/accounts/Rattus_rattus.

Southwest District Health

Originator	Parties
Southwest District Health	Marsing School District

Document Type

Subgrant	☐	Amendment

Summary

Name/Title:	2027-ECHS-06
Description (long title):	Marsing Southwest Idaho Communities for Youth
FAIN#:	H79SP083777
Funding Source:	Federal
SWDH Project Code:	41128
Original Effective Date:	09/30/2026
Current Expiration Date:	09/29/2027
Total [Funding Amount or Cost of Service]:	12500
Allowable Indirect Rate:	10%
Match Required:	NO
Match Amount:	0
FTE Supported:	N/A
District Funds Budgeted in Current FY:	11887.19
Restrictions:	Listed in cost/billing section, follows federal guidance.
Target Population:	Youth 10-19 and their families

If this is an amendment, briefly describe the change.

The indirect rate for this new grant phase is 15%, rather than 10%. MH 9/22/26

Contacts

Contact Name (Internal & External)	**Contact [Agency, Organization, Contractor, Vendor, Partner]**	**Contact Email or Phone Number**
Tara Woodward	SWDH, subgrant monitor	tara.woodward@swdh.id.gov
Norm Stewart	Marsing School District Superintendent	nstewart@marsingschools.org

Applicable Law and/or Agreement

Idaho Statutes or Rules (select up to 3)	39-409, IC	N/A	N/A
Agreement	N/A		

Public Impact

Scope of Work Summary (3-5 bullets)	- Maintain a community-led coalition in Marsing focused on youth well-being and substance use prevention, meeting monthly (8-10 times a year) using an action plan informed by youth well-being survey. - Annually administer a youth well-being survey with parental consent. - In partnership with the coalition, implement action plan through initiatives that that build life skills, promote well-being
Summary Public Impact (3-5 bullets)	- Coalition developed action plan will result in strategies and activities implemented in the Marsing community to support data findings, and prevent youth substance use/support youth mental well-being. - Anticipated reach of 150+ youth, 50+ parents/caregivers - Anticipated increase of protective factors/decrease of risk factors over the 5 year partnership period - Anticipated 12 coalition members meeting monthly
Summary of Evidence-based (3-5 bullets)	- The Icelandic Prevention Model is an evidence-informed approach focused on addressing community based risk and protective factors. - The approach is based on the annual administration of a youth well-being survey that allows understanding of current conditions positively or negatively contributing to youth's health and well-being/substance use. - Strategies are built off of data, community developed and implemented. Progress is checked every year through the youth well-being survey. - Article: https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC6918020/

Reviewer/Approve

	Program Manager	PM2	Division Administrator	Financial Officer	Legal*	Director
Date		09/22/2026	09/22/2026	09/22/2026		09/23/2026
Initials		Charlene Cariou	BS	MH		NZ

** The necessity of legal review will be determined by the Financial Officer, Division Administrator, or Director.*

Southwest District Health

Originator	Parties
IDHW	SWDH

Document Type

Subgrant	☐	Amendment

Summary

Name/Title:	Fit and Fall Proof
Description (long title):	Implementation of the Fit and Fall Proof program
FAIN#:	By request
Funding Source:	Federal
SWDH Project Code:	95341025
Original Effective Date:	10/01/2026
Current Expiration Date:	09/30/2027
Total [Funding Amount or Cost of Service]:	66104.28
Allowable Indirect Rate:	31.86%
Match Required:	NO
Match Amount:	
FTE Supported:	.71
District Funds Budgeted in Current FY:	52537.4
Restrictions:	None
Target Population:	Older adults
If this is an amendment, briefly describe the change.	

Contacts

Contact Name (Internal & External)	**Contact [Agency, Organization, Contractor, Vendor, Partner]**	**Contact Email or Phone Number**
Charlene Cariou	SWDH	Charlene.cariou@swdh.id.gov
Archer Ward	IDHW	Archer.ward@dhw.idaho.gov

Created July 17, 2025

Applicable Law and/or Agreement

Idaho Statutes or Rules (select up to 3)	39-409, IC	N/A	N/A
Agreement	N/A		

Public Impact

Scope of Work Summary (3-5 bullets)	Support the maintenance of FFP sites across SW Idaho Support the infrastructure, evaluation, and sustainability of FFP program
Summary Public Impact (3-5 bullets)	Decreased falls Increased community capacity to prevent and respond to falls
Summary of Evidence-based (3-5 bullets)	FFP is an Idaho-developed, evidence-informed and peer reviewed fall prevention program.

Reviewer/Approve

	Program Manager	PM2	Division Administrator	Financial Officer	Legal*	Director
Date		09/23/2026	09/23/2026	09/23/2026		09/23/2026
Initials		Charlene Cariou	BS	MH		WZ

** The necessity of legal review will be determined by the Financial Officer, Division Administrator, or Director.*

Southwest District Health

Originator	Parties
Southwest District Health	Nampa School District

Document Type

Subgrant	☐	Amendment

Summary

Name/Title:	2027-ECHS-07
Description (long title):	Nampa Southwest Idaho Communities for Youth
FAIN#:	H79SP083777
Funding Source:	Federal
SWDH Project Code:	41128
Original Effective Date:	09/30/2026
Current Expiration Date:	09/29/2027
Total [Funding Amount or Cost of Service]:	20000
Allowable Indirect Rate:	10%
Match Required:	NO
Match Amount:	0
FTE Supported:	0
District Funds Budgeted in Current FY:	11887.19
Restrictions:	0
Target Population:	Youth 10-19 and their families
If this is an amendment, briefly describe the change.	

Contacts

Contact Name (Internal & External)	**Contact [Agency, Organization, Contractor, Vendor, Partner]**	**Contact Email or Phone Number**
Tara Woodward	SWDH, subgrant monitor	tara.woodward@swdh.id.gov
Waylon Yarbrough	NSD Deputy Superintendent	wayarbrough@nsd131.org

Created July 17, 2025

Applicable Law and/or Agreement

Idaho Statutes or Rules (select up to 3)	39-409, IC	N/A	N/A
Agreement	N/A		

Public Impact

Scope of Work Summary (3-5 bullets)	- Provide support and NSD representation in a community-led coalition in Nampa focused on youth well-being and substance use prevention, meeting monthly (8-10 times a year) using an action plan informed by youth well-being survey. - Annually administer a youth well-being survey with parental consent. - In partnership with the coalition, support the implement ation of school and community based action plan through initiatives that that build life skills, promote well-being
Summary Public Impact (3-5 bullets)	- School and community coalition developed action plan will result in strategies and activities implemented in the Nampa community to support data findings, and prevent youth substance use/ support youth mental well-being. - Anticipated reach of 200+ youth, 85+ community members/parents/caregivers - Anticipated increase of protective factors/decrease of risk factors over the 5 year partnership period - Anticipated 12 coalition members meeting monthly
Summary of Evidence-based (3-5 bullets)	- The Icelandic Prevention Model is an evidence-informed approach focused on addressing community based risk and protective factors. - The approach is based on the annual administration of a youth well-being survey that allows understanding of current conditions positively or negatively contributing to youth's health and well-being/substance use. - Strategies are built off of data, community developed and implemented. Progress is checked every year through the youth well-being survey. - Article: https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC6918020/

Reviewer/Approve

	Program Manager	PM2	Division Administrator	Financial Officer	Legal*	Director
Date	10/06/2026		10/06/2026	10/07/2026		10/07/2026
Initials	Charlene Cariou		BS	MH		NZ

** The necessity of legal review will be determined by the Financial Officer, Division Administrator, or Director.*

Southwest District Health

Originator	Parties
IDHW	SWDH

Document Type

Subgrant	☐	Amendment

Summary

Name/Title:	Drug Overdose Prevention Program
Description (long title):	Implement prevention initiatives surrounding drug misuse and overdose
FAIN#:	By request
Funding Source:	Federal
SWDH Project Code:	95341055
Original Effective Date:	09/21/2026
Current Expiration Date:	08/31/2027
Total [Funding Amount or Cost of Service]:	96000
Allowable Indirect Rate:	31.86%
Match Required:	NO
Match Amount:	
FTE Supported:	.79
District Funds Budgeted in Current FY:	-$69345.00
Restrictions:	None
Target Population:	Populations disproportionately impacted by opioid overdose
If this is an amendment, briefly describe the change.	

Contacts

Contact Name (Internal & External)	**Contact [Agency, Organization, Contractor, Vendor, Partner]**	**Contact Email or Phone Number**
Hailee Ketchum	SWDH	Hailee. Ketchum@swdh.id.gov
Natalie Bodine	IDHW	Natalie.Bodine@dhw.idaho.gov

Created July 17, 2025

Applicable Law and/or Agreement

Idaho Statutes or Rules (select up to 3)	39-409, IC	N/A	N/A
Agreement	N/A		

Public Impact

Scope of Work Summary (3-5 bullets)	Faciliate Public Health and Safety Team (PHAST) Conduct overdose prevention activities Provide technical assistance to organizaitons who support treatment/recovery for people who use drugs.
Summary Public Impact (3-5 bullets)	Decrease opioid overdose deaths Increase community capacity to respond to overdose Increase collaboration among organizations responding to overdose
Summary of Evidence-based (3-5 bullets)	Follow Centers for Disease Control OD2A Framework, toolkits and resources

Reviewer/Approve

	Program Manager	PM2	Division Administrator	Financial Officer	Legal*	Director
Date	09/23/2026	09/22/2026	09/23/2026	09/23/2026		09/23/2026
Initials	LA	Charlene Cariou	BS	MH		NZ

** The necessity of legal review will be determined by the Financial Officer, Division Administrator, or Director.*

Southwest District Health

Originator	Parties
Elevate Academy	Southwest District Health

Document Type

Contract	☐	Amendment

Summary

Name/Title:	Nicotine Intervention Program Implementation
Description (long title):	Alternative to Suspension or Citation Nicotine Intervention Program Implementation
FAIN#:	n/a
Funding Source:	State
SWDH Project Code:	95341260
Original Effective Date:	10/01/2026
Current Expiration Date:	06/01/2027
Total [Funding Amount or Cost of Service]:	7900
Allowable Indirect Rate:	0
Match Required:	NO
Match Amount:	0
FTE Supported:	n/a
District Funds Budgeted in Current FY:	0
Restrictions:	none
Target Population:	Youth in grades 6-12.
If this is an amendment, briefly describe the change.	

Contacts

Contact Name (Internal & External)	**Contact [Agency, Organization, Contractor, Vendor, Partner]**	**Contact Email or Phone Number**
Hailee Ketchum	SWDH	Hailee.Ketchum@swdh.id.gov
Heather Ramos	Elevate Academy	hramos@elevate208.org

Created July 17, 2025

Applicable Law and/or Agreement

Idaho Statutes or Rules (select up to 3)	39-409, IC	N/A	N/A
Agreement	N/A		

Public Impact

Scope of Work Summary (3-5 bullets)	Elevate Academy to implement alternative to suspension/citation INDEPTH intervention program with students. Students referred to program if they violate school tobacco/vaping policy. Program implemented in four lessons 45-50 minutes each by Elevate Academy.
Summary Public Impact (3-5 bullets)	To provide a supportive, educational alternative to suspension or citation for students who violate school tobacco or vaping policies. Increases knowledge of nicotine addiction, vaping risks, and tobacco industry influences. Supports reductions in youth nicotine and tobacco use through education, behavior change, and cessation support.
Summary of Evidence-based (3-5 bullets)	The INDEPTH program by the American Lung Association was developed in partnership with the West Virginia University Prevention Research Center using established educational and public health frameworks. Evidence-informed intervention that addresses youth nicotine use through education and behavior change rather than punitive discipline.

Reviewer/Approve

	Program Manager	PM2	Division Administrator	Financial Officer	Legal*	Director
Date	09/24/2026	10/06/2026	10/06/2026	10/07/2026		10/07/2026
Initials	HA	Charlene Cariou	BS	MH		WZ

** The necessity of legal review will be determined by the Financial Officer, Division Administrator, or Director.*

Southwest District Health

Originator	Parties
Nampa School District	Southwest District Health

Document Type

Contract	☐	Amendment

Summary

Name/Title:	GGC Program Child Care
Description (long title):	Guiding Good Choices Program Child Care
FAIN#:	n/a
Funding Source:	State
SWDH Project Code:	95341260
Original Effective Date:	10/05/2026
Current Expiration Date:	12/10/2026
Total [Funding Amount or Cost of Service]:	$1464.00
Allowable Indirect Rate:	0
Match Required:	NO
Match Amount:	0
FTE Supported:	n/a
District Funds Budgeted in Current FY:	0
Restrictions:	N/A
Target Population:	Nampa School District families with children between 9-14 years ol
If this is an amendment, briefly describe the change.	

Contacts

Contact Name (Internal & External)	**Contact [Agency, Organization, Contractor, Vendor, Partner]**	**Contact Email or Phone Number**
Niall Trimble	Nampa School District	ntrimble@nsd131.org
Raquel Nuñez	SWDH	raquel.nunez@swdh.id.gov

Created July 17, 2025

Applicable Law and/or Agreement

Idaho Statutes or Rules (select up to 3)	39-409, IC	N/A	N/A
Agreement	N/A		

Public Impact

Scope of Work Summary (3-5 bullets)	• Nampa School District to provide childcare for families participating in Guiding Good Choices (GGC) program facilitated by SWDH. • Childcare is provided to parent/guardian participants to reduce barrier to attending class.
Summary Public Impact (3-5 bullets)	• GGC is a research-based, family-focused prevention program designed to equip parents and caregivers with skills and strategies to reduce the risk of substance use, delinquency, and other problem behaviors. • The program emphasizes strengthening family bonds, improving communication, and fostering healthy decision making among youth. • Program goals include promoting positive family interactions and reducing risk factors.
Summary of Evidence-based (3-5 bullets)	• GGC is recognized by SAMSHA and other national registries as an effective prevention program. • Studies show significant reductions in youth substance use and improvements in family functioning among participants.

Reviewer/Approve

	Program Manager	PM2	Division Administrator	Financial Officer	Legal*	Director
Date	10/01/2026	10/01/2026	10/02/2026	10/02/2026		10/02/2026
Initials	HA	Charlene Cariou	BS	MH		NZ

** The necessity of legal review will be determined by the Financial Officer, Division Administrator, or Director.*

Southwest District Health

Originator	Parties
Southwest District Health	SWDH & Weiser Ambulance District

Document Type

Subgrant	☑ Amendment

Summary

Name/Title:	Community Paramedic Program
Description (long title):	Behavioral Health Partnership for Early Diversion of Adults and Youth
FAIN#:	5H89SM089492-04
Funding Source:	Federal
SWDH Project Code:	32288
Original Effective Date:	10/26/2024
Current Expiration Date:	09/29/2028
Total [Funding Amount or Cost of Service]:	$ 93,621.00
Allowable Indirect Rate:	15.00%
Match Required:	NO
Match Amount:	$ 0.00
FTE Supported:	.75
District Funds Budgeted in Current FY:	$ 50,777.30
Restrictions:	NA
Target Population:	Residents of Washington County

If this is an amendment, briefly describe the change.

Cost revision, and changes in reporting.

Contacts

Contact Name (Internal & External)	**Contact [Agency, Organization, Contractor, Vendor, Partner]**	**Contact Email or Phone Number**
Alan Foster	Weiser Ambulance District	weiserdirector@gmail.com
Wendy Young	Southwest District Health	Wendy.young@swdh.id.gov

Created July 17, 2025

Applicable Law and/or Agreement

Idaho Statutes or Rules (select up to 3)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Agreement	N/A		

Public Impact

Scope of Work Summary (3-5 bullets)	* Develop a Community Paramedicine Program to serve patients with behavioral health needs in Washington County and divert appropriate populations from law enforcement and other unnecessary higher levels of care. * Document and report on the program using SWDH approved reporting tools. * Build community support through outreach, partnerships and a CIT program.
Summary Public Impact (3-5 bullets)	* Washington County community members will have behavioral health supports during a crisis. * Behavioral health support will decrease involvement with law enforcement and unnecessary hospital stays when not appropriate for the situation. *This program will result in a decreased burden on the emergency response system.
Summary of Evidence-based (3-5 bullets)	* opportunity to...better support community needs and generate upstream solutions: https://doi.org/10.1155/2024/4079061 * community paramedicine is a growing field and acceptance is gradually increasing: 10.1186/s12913-023-09537-x * focus more broadly on prevention and address the social determinants of health to aid the de-escalation of distress: https://doi.org/10.1111/hsc.13189

Reviewer/Approve

	Program Manager	PM2	Division Administrator	Financial Officer	Legal*	Director
Date	09/29/2026	09/29/2026	09/29/2026	09/29/2026		09/29/2026
Initials	WY WY	MS MS	EAK EAK	MH		NZ

** The necessity of legal review will be determined by the Financial Officer, Division Administrator, or Director.*