

State recognizes champions in children's mental health

Parents, agencies, and community partners will be recognized for their outstanding efforts in children's mental health at the first annual awards reception on Monday, May 1, from 6-7pm, at the Boise State University Student Union. Awardees were nominated by children's mental health councils across the state.

The awards reception hosted by the Idaho Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health will include an awards presentation, entertainment, and door prizes. It also provides an opportunity for families to meet with other families and agency representatives.

"We thought that it was time for our System of Care for Children's Mental Health to acknowledge the champions in our communities," said Chandra Story, public information officer for the Department of Health and Welfare. Councils nominated awardees based on their own regional criteria.

The Federation is a partner in the Idaho System of Care, serving as an advocacy organization for families affected by serious emotional disturbances. Serious emotional disturbances are a range of mental health disorders that affect the way children act at home, school, and in the community.

A system of care is a coordinated network of services and supports for families affected by serious emotional disturbances. Idaho's children's mental health councils are a part of that network by providing information to families and conducting community outreach. Council members are parents, agency representatives and community members with an interest in children's mental health.

List of awardees is available.