

Murdo, Patricia

Subject: FW: Info for other states

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From: Foster, Michael [mailto:Michael.Foster...]

Sent: Sunday, August 18, 2013 11:44 PM

Subject: Info for other states

Below is information about what our border states do regarding rehab programs. This indicates that none of the states operate their program as "in-house" under the equivalent of our Department of Labor and Industry.

Mike

Idaho Physician Recovery Network (PRN):

<http://www.fsphp.org/idaho.html>

The PRN consists of an Idaho Medical Association Committee of 16 volunteer members (13 physicians, two physician assistants and one lay person) from around the state. The PRN Committee is the decision making body and is responsible for running the PRN program, supervision of the PRN contractor, Southworth Associates, as well as oversight of each PRN participants' recovery program.

The Legislature recognized that impaired professional programs do not work unless a confidential environment is provided that encourages people to self-report or to report colleagues suspected of practicing while impaired.

The Idaho Medical Association, through the PRN Committee, contracts with John Southworth and Southworth Associates to provide impaired-physician services that the Idaho Medical Association cannot possibly perform in-house. These services include: performing interventions, monitoring participants, providing educational outreach, and performing administrative support.

North Dakota Physicians' Health Program

In 2013 Senate Bill 2135 authorized the board to move the existing Physicians' Health Program from under the direct authority of the board to a separate entity.

SB 2135 was a culmination of over a year of study by the board, which concluded that a free standing physicians' health program, one able to attract additional funding and employ additional staff, could better facilitate the treatment and monitoring of physicians with alcohol or chemical dependencies or mental health diagnoses and do so at an earlier stage of the disease process, thus better protecting the public from impaired physicians.

The intent of the legislation is to allow the Physicians' Health Program to operate separately from the board, with additional funding and staff, while maintaining the current reporting of matters that require discipline by the board.

South Dakota Health Professionals Assistance Program:

<http://www.fsphp.org/southdakota.html>

Participating boards required by statute to establish a program service committee consisting of one representative appointed by each participating board from its board membership or staff. The committee shall meet at least annually or as often as necessary to transact its business. The duties of the committee include, among other things:

- Hiring program personnel or contracting with entities;
- Approving policies and procedures for the health professionals assistance program and providing guidance to the program personnel; and
- Approving treatment facilities and services to which health professionals assistance program participants may be referred.

Washington Physicians Health Program:

<http://www.fsphp.org/washington.html>

The Washington Physicians Health Program was founded in 1986 by a group of concerned members of the Washington State Medical Association who represented the “Committee on Personal Problems of Physicians.” The Washington State Medical Association initially established the Washington Monitored Treatment Program with both the legislative and financial foundation to function as an independent, nonprofit, organization. In 1993, the name was changed to the Washington Physicians Health Program (WPHP). WPHP is a nonprofit 503(b) organization under contract with the Department of Health to provide services for healthcare providers.

The Washington Physicians Health Program is operated by an Independent Board of Directors approved by the Washington State Medical Association. WPHP offers a variety of different programs for healthcare providers struggling with addiction. WPHP provides initial assessment, intervention, referral and monitoring services for potentially impaired providers who may be suffering from an addictive illness or substance use disorder.

Wyoming Professionals Assistance Program, Inc:

<http://www.fsphp.org/wyoming.html>

The Wyoming Professionals Assistance Program is an independent not for profit organization that was established to provide resources and support. The program is recognized by Wyoming statute 33-1-115(a)(iii) for intervention, evaluation, referral and monitoring to provide assistance to licensed professionals suffering from chemical dependency.

The assistance program has partnerships with the Wyoming Board of Medicine, Wyoming Board of Pharmacy, Wyoming Board of Dental Examiners and the Wyoming Board of Veterinary Medicine. In addition, the program has a memorandum of understanding with the Wyoming Board of Nursing to accept self-referred LPN, RN and APRN participants.

Summary

Idaho: Operated by State medical society and State licensing agency, contracts with independent 3rd party for services.

North Dakota: Operated by an independent corporation

South Dakota: Operated under statute – required to create a committee with representatives from each participating board. Committee approves independent treatment facilities.

Washington: Operated by an Independent Board of Directors approved by the Washington State Medical Association that provides referrals for treatment services.

Wyoming: Operated by an independent not for profit organization that provides referrals for treatment services.