

Curtis Johnson, L.C.S.W.
14 July 2021



Dear Curtis,

Each of Idaho's seven Regional Behavioral Health Boards held a vote to select an individual in their respective communities who exemplifies community advocacy, resiliency, and passion for mental health. Empower Idaho is pleased to inform you that you have been selected by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's Region 5 Behavioral Health Board to receive the 2021 Mental Health Advocate Award in celebration of Idaho Mental Health Month!

To illustrate why the Board felt compelled to nominate you for this award I will share a few statements from statements that were provided, the first is from Mick Hodges, Magistrate Judge: "I serve on the Board of the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare's Regional Behavior Health Board and have been pleased to serve on the Mental Health Awareness month organizing community with Curtis the last several years. That means I stood back and marveled at Curtis's creativity and energy as he literally did all the work. In addition, I am not the only one who appreciates his humanitarian efforts as he has created this celebration's template for the State of Idaho." The next is a statement by the R5 IDHW-DBH Program Manager Scott Rasmussen: "I am in complete support of his nomination. Curtis was the first to spearhead Mental Health Awareness month activities from within the Division of Behavioral Health on a regional level. As the success of the activities grew, so did the desire across the state to participate in similar events. Eventually activities were even being coordinated at the Central Office level within the division and statewide. Curtis is a great champion/advocate bringing awareness to the state on issues related to mental illness. He continues to serve on Crisis Team while still providing treatment to participants of Mental Health Court." Lastly, a statement from Karen C. McCarthy, Attorney at Law: "[Curtis] is dedicated to advocacy of mental health. He continues to expand his training (grief counseling is, I believe his most recent). He is always active in the community at any event promoting mental health. I suspect (have not calculated) that a majority of his posts on Facebook promote mental health and advocacy for mental health. And he does it all with that wonderful smile of his."

Congratulations on receiving this meaningful recognition. The Empower Idaho team is grateful for the opportunity to honor you in this way. We are in the process of creating a physical award to

commemorate what you mean to the Idaho Mental Health Community, which will be mailed to the Behavioral Health Board, or directly to you. In the meantime, please accept this certificate in recognition of all of your hard work and commitment to helping others!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anna Guida". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Anna" and last name "Guida" clearly distinguishable.

Anna Guida, MPA
Project Manager - Empower Idaho