



Dear Donna,

Empower Idaho, in partnership with the Region 1 Behavioral Health Board, is pleased to inform you that you have been chosen to receive the 2022 Mental Health Advocate Award in celebration of Mental Health Month. Each of Idaho's seven Behavioral Health Boards selected an individual in their respective communities who exemplifies community advocacy, resiliency, and passion for mental health. Your work embodies these qualities and deserves recognition and celebration.

A few words from the Region 1 Behavioral Health Board: Donna's assistance to people who seek mental health wellness within our community is not limited to those she serves at her full-time job with St. Vincent De Paul. No, it reaches far beyond those doors. Donna is active in the local Suicide Prevention Action Network of North Idaho group, she sits on the NAMI CDA Board, and is the chairperson of the Region 1 Behavioral Health Board Housing Subcommittee, helping create community contact opportunities and valuable resource guides to ensure the public knows where to turn when help is needed. Donna serves on the ALICE task force; is the Vice President of the Civic Engagement Alliance (they gave kindness cards to the essential workers during COVID); serves on the Region 1 Point in Time Committee that performs the annual homeless census; is a volunteer of the CDAide Organization, which provides funding to hospitality workers impacted by COVID; serves on the St. Luke's Community Outreach Committee which ties together and funds non-profits; and serves on the Region 1 Homeless Coalition and the Regional Growth and Housing Partnership as the Region 1 Behavioral Health Board representative. If there is a mental health event in our area, you can rest assured that Donna Brundage most likely was part of the planning and/or implementation. Her empathy for those she serves is unparalleled. Never to judge, Donna is always ready to either lend a hand directly or can help find a resource through her many contacts and general knowledge. Donna is an asset to those who struggle with mental health wellness in our community, and likely there isn't a more deserving person to be awarded the 2022 Idaho Mental Health Month Advocate Award.

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 you. In the meantime, please accept this certificate in recognition of all of your hard work and commitment to helping others!

Sincerely,

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Anna Guida, MPA Empower Idaho Program Manager