



YES News & Updates

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SERVICES NEWSLETTER

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Wraparound Intensive Services continues to expand, adapts to navigate COVID-19 pandemic

Idaho WInS (Wraparound Intensive Services) continues to expand in 2020. In January and February 2020, a Wraparound planning process was provided to approximately 165 youth and their families across the state. To date, approximately 360 youth and their families have received Wraparound.

With the stay-at-home order issued by the governor in March, WInS saw a decline in youth enrollment. It is likely that this is due to a few factors: either families wanted to put a “hold” on their Wraparound process or they chose to leave Wraparound at that time. Many families were willing to continue with their planning process and learned ways to conduct their team meetings through a different format.

In March, Central Office and the contracted training and consultation entity, Portland State University, focused coaching around navigating the COVID-19 pandemic. Coaching delivered through weekly state-wide calls or monthly regional calls focused on identifying new tools for delivering services through telehealth and strategizing ways to engage youth and families.

Coordinators incorporated new strategies such as developing ice breaker exercises, supporting engagement through the WebEx format, or having team members drive by the youth’s home to wish them well. Many coaching conversations discussed altering Wraparound practice to ensure health and safety for the youth, families, team members, and Wraparound Coordinators while maintaining adherence to the Wraparound principles.

Coordinators actively utilized the flex funds available to encourage youth and families to engage in activities together to help manage the stay-at-home order. Flex funds provided support with puzzles, games, family-based activities, and crisis support for basic needs.

In quarter three and four of the state fiscal year, Quality Monitoring in Idaho WInS focused on conducting a quality service review of the Wraparound records. The results will be published in the quarter four Wraparound Report. The quality service review will look at decisions points in care and fidelity to the Wraparound model.

