

Founding Recovery Idaho

In March 2014, nearly 50 allies of recovery convened to lay the foundation for Recovery Idaho. Roughly half the workshop participants identified as being in long-term recovery, and many attended as volunteers. This group was composed of recovery coaches and recovery coach trainers, Community Resource Development Specialists from IDHW, staff of the Office of Consumer Affairs (representing peer specialists), treatment and counseling providers, social workers, graduates of Drug Court, Idaho State employees, individuals working in corrections and criminal justice, a former tribal council member, and six County Commissioners.

CCAR consultant Jim Wuelfing facilitated the workshop. Each day, Mr. Wuelfing used a “consensus” method, in which he asked whether participants “could not live with” draft language or a decision before moving ahead. This allowed participants to incorporate a variety of ideas and ensure they were satisfied with group decisions. Participants also voted on different options in order of preference—1-least preferred to 6-most preferred—and adopted those that earned the highest total scores.

Participants developed the major components of a 501(c)(3) recovery organization, including:

Name	<i>Recovery Idaho</i>	
Vision Statement	<i>We envision an Idaho where Recovery is understood, valued and supported to promote healthy communities.</i> <i>We support the recovery community by collaborating with local groups and organizations in the development and delivery of community driven recovery support services. We work on behalf of all those impacted by recovery (including family members, friends, and allies) through service, education, and advocacy, to remove the stigma and discrimination surrounding addiction and mental illness.</i> <i>Recovery Idaho does this by:</i> <i>Providing coaching services to individuals in recovery with the goal of maintaining long term individual wellness, regardless of their recovery path.</i> <i>Providing opportunities for individuals in recovery to build on their potential, rather than focusing on their pathology.</i> <i>Putting a face on recovery to ensure the recovery community is treated with dignity and respect.</i> <i>Creating an environment where citizens and their communities can collaborate to create positive change and eliminate barriers for those in and those impacted by recovery.</i>	
Mission Statement		
Core Values	<i>You are in recovery when you say you are.</i> <i>Support all pathways to recovery.</i> <i>Focus on recovery potential not pathology.</i> <i>Everyone has a strength to share.</i>	<i>Recovery is a gift; expect to pay it forward.</i> <i>The path of recovery is life-long.</i> <i>Ongoing community support is vital to successful outcomes.</i> <i>We support the wellness of the full person.</i>