

LEP Recommendations 2024

The HIC's Lived Experience Panel (LEP) identified 5 key ways we can improve life for our homeless neighbors in Idaho!

"Take a step back and look at simple steps we can set people up with so they are not overwhelmed." LEP R5

1

CE/AP & Resources Roadmap

Better navigation and marketing of resources and Access Points in jails, hospitals, sober living facilities, gyms, libraries, motels, gas stations.... One-on-one, handholding is necessary for many until they begin to trust the process and themselves. More collaborative communication between agencies is needed.

2

Showers & Laundry

Look into partnering with local laundromats and gyms to have free days or hours for people with tokens. Utilize under-used facilities like day or night shelters, community centers, or non-24-hour gyms and laundry mats.

3

Transportation

Spread the news that people on Medicaid can use MTM to get free rides to medical appointments. Partner with buses, Uber or Lyft on vouchers for rides, like limit one a day or free or reduced for homeless and people on SNAP. Set up a volunteer rides program.

4

Counseling

Spread the news that those with Medicaid can get free counseling! Having a case worker to remind clients or get people to appointments is helpful. Utilize interns that need counseling case hours. Post flyers at common destinations.

5

Financial Literacy

Offer specific times and places for realistic budgeting classes at community centers or shelters. Educate on what bills to pay 1st, financial boundaries, and SSI. Connect them with financial repair programs can help them get out of debt and possibly get access to banking again.

We need "a place someone can get up to date information, shower, classrooms, counseling, budgeting help, food...." LEP R6

HIC Changes Made 2024

Our Lived Experience Panel (LEP) worked with our HIC to make these improvements to the HIC's systems!

1

Remove QOL Assessment

LEP and Access Points together deemed the Quality of Life (QOL) Assessment too invasive and removed it.

2

Changes to State of Homelessness Report

The LEP reviewed and made suggestions on the 2024 State of Homelessness in Idaho Report.

3

Offered Advocacy Training

The LEP requested information on how laws get made and how to advocate for themselves. IHFA and the LEP leadership provided this information along with how to interact with police officers.

4

Offered Warming Center Information

The LEP requested information on why there were not more warming and cooling centers in their areas. Randy Wasterdowski explained the process of creating and running a center.

5

Created an ETP for Non-HUD Funded Landlords

Patty at Safe Passage researched and created an Emergency Transfer Plan (ETP) for those needing to flee stalking, DV, and harassment to give to their Non-HUD funded landlords as a template.

6

Increase Funds to Shelters

Due to increased funding and input from the LEP and HIC, shelter funding slightly increased.

References

All data used was collected from the HIC's LEP members' suggestions in 2024. Data ranked and processed with the LEP in December 2024. Changes were made based on LEP input between January and December of 2024.