Boise County Health Coalition
Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 18th, 2026
12:00pm – 1:00pm
Horseshoe Bend Middle School Building
Room M8- Check in at Middle School Office
398 School Dr. Horseshoe Bend, ID

Welcome & Introductions:
See all attendees and contact information here.

Community Presenter: Hand in Hand Family Mentorship - Valerie McCauley & Christine Dunn
(See 2:30- 27:00 in recording here)

- Valerie explained that Hand in Hand Family Mentorship was inspired by her experiences as a foster parent, recognizing the need for support not just for children but also for parents in crisis. The program focuses on providing community-based mentorship to individuals and families, emphasizing authentic, supportive relationships rather than professional casework or therapy.
- Christine described how Hand in Hand receives referrals from various agencies and pairs mentees with mentors based on proximity and life circumstances. Mentors are ordinary community members who undergo background checks, and the program encourages organic, flexible relationships tailored to the needs and preferences of both parties.
- Valerie shared a detailed story of a long-term mentee who overcame significant life challenges with the support of the program, illustrating how ongoing mentorship can help individuals move from crisis to stability. She emphasized that the relationships often become genuine friendships, with many continuing beyond the formal one-year tracking period.
- The program serves both men and women, accepts referrals statewide, and allows for self-referrals or agency referrals through a simple online form. The team strives to match mentees with mentors who have relevant experience, especially for special needs cases.
- Additional program offerings such as monthly newsletters with resource information, various educational classes, and annual community events.
- Brochure about the program to share is attached. Let Valerie know if you'd like printed copies or have other questions: val.mccauley@handinhandmentoring.org

- *Important links and information from Valerie:*
  - *You can learn more about us on our website at: www.handinhandmentoring.org*
  - *You can also find us on Facebook at:*

- *https://www.facebook.com/handinhandmentoring*
- *Click link below for a brief video of what we are trying to accomplish:*
- *https://youtu.be/7646qG7KNbU*
- *Click the link below to submit a referral to our program or apply as a mentor:*
- *https://portal.handinhandmentoring.org/refer/mentee*
- *https://handinhandmentoring.org/mentoring/become-a-mentor/*

Old Business

2026 Health Fair Planning- Updates?

- Horseshoe Bend: Date and location solidified; utilizing the school annex building and library parking lot area. A planning meeting for the HSB wellness fair will be happening June 4th. Please reach out to Mindy if you'd like to join in the planning.

- Idaho City: First Saturday in October. Mindy needs to continue to solidify this.

- Garden Valley, some tentative date have been discussed. No updates up yet.

New Business

Roundtable Announcements, Needs and Ideas

- **Shannon-** Reported a donation of 200 food bags from Amazon for local families, noting the absence of a summer feeding program due to funding issues. She described efforts to distribute the bags to students and mentioned a grant from Central District Health to support a school garden and nutrition program, with take-home kits for interested students.
- **Heather-** Provided updates on gardening programs in Horseshoe Bend and Idaho City, expressing willingness to collaborate on nutrition, cooking, and gardening classes, and inviting ideas from the group for further outreach.
- **Brent-** Announced the resumption of AA meetings at the Idaho City Christian Center, with both in-person (Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 6:30pm) with online options available. Brent also highlighted the upcoming bike rodeo event (June 3rd) at the Idaho City school, which will provide bikes and gear to children in need. Brent shared that the recent drug take back day was successful, collecting about 30 pounds of medications, including both human and pet prescriptions, and plans are underway for another event in the fall.
- **Traci-** Announced the early stages of establishing an office for counseling, case management, and resource services at the Garden Valley Clinic in Horseshoe Bend.
- **Ashley:** Provided teasers about potential new initiatives with the Western Idaho Community Health Collaborative and the Idaho Commission for Library, with more details expected at future meetings.
- **Mindy:** Informed about:
    1. Guiding Good Choices Workshop Leader Training. GGC is an evidence-based parenting curriculum, which teaches classes for parents of children aged 9 to 14. Click here to learn more about upcoming trainings and the Guiding Good Choices program. Mindy is taking the July training. Let Mindy know if you're interested in the training. Must be able to commit to all training days and times.

2. Free water testing for private well owners. Mindy was able to touch base with the Environmental Health manager, Brent, and get more information on this program: Interested people would fill out an application (see attached as example), send application to Brent Copes (bcopes@cdh.idaho.gov), and CDH would come out and collect the sample and send it in on the owners behalf. CDH has approximately 44 test bottles left for free testing. Please reach out to Mindy or Brent if you'd like an application packet, or know someone that would!

3. Mindy promoted a summer challenge for teens through the tobacco and vaping prevention program, which includes a pool party kickoff and weekly prize opportunities for healthy activities, noting positive engagement from local youth. Learn more about the challenge here. Boise County kids are encouraged to participate as well! Flyer attached to email to promote.

Action Items:

☐ Mindy: Schedule health fair coordination meetings with each community
☐ Everyone: **EVERYONE:** Review and make comments with any ideas or thoughts about strategies here.
☐ Mindy: Work with Natalie to plan boothing opportunities at Senior Centers in HSB and Idaho City
☐ Mindy: Look into getting SWIAA ads into newspapers
☐ Mindy: Investigate child daycare solutions
☐ Mindy: Schedule follow up meeting for LEAP/ Idaho City Affordable Housing taskforce
☐ Mindy: Talk with Bart about LEAP presentation in HSB
☐ Mindy: Communicate with Amanda to find a contact for HSB Bike rodeo.
☐ Valerie: Drop off Hand-in-Hand brochures to the food bank in Horseshoe Bend.

Next Meeting: Garden Valley Senior Center (June 22nd @ 12pm)