Name of jurisdiction: Idaho

Name of board: Idaho Board of Social Work Examiners

Number of board members: Six: three LMSWs or LCSWs, two LSWs, and one public member. Traditionally, the board has one member who is a social work educator. Also, the board is geographically diverse.

Licensure levels offered: LSW, LSW-I, LMSW, LMSW-I, LCSW, and Inactive. Idaho also requires clinical supervisors be approved and recertified every five years.

Number of licensees: Idaho has 4,495 licensees: LSW-1,829; LMSW-1,365; LCSW-1,301; and 436 approved clinical supervisors.

Biggest achievement in the past 12 months: Establishing a work group made up of the social work associations, students, social work educators, social work professionals, the other mental health licensing boards and their professional associations, as well six other allied health regulatory boards to begin writing rules for electronic practice. We also began the recertification of approved supervisors.

Biggest lesson learned in the past 12 months: Clearing the backlog of complaints was very expensive.

Biggest challenge facing the board: Legislative passage of the proposed fee increase. Ensuring great weather for ASWB’s Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly in Boise, Idaho, November 13-15, 2014, is difficult. But we are trying!

(complete the sentence) “I would really love to hear about how other jurisdictions... are progressing in writing rules for electronic practice. Are other jurisdictions facing the misperception that regulation is a barrier to implementing telehealth? Are there any boards or colleges that use private prosecutors?

Completed by: Robert Payne, LCSW, Board Member