



Barrier Submission Form

Statewide System of Care Steering Committee

Regional Executive Council Information



Council name:	One Family One Path-Baker County
Date submitted:	September 22, 2020
Region:	EOCCO
Contact name and role:	Christina Barnes Executive Committee Chair Person
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Barrier Information



In rural Eastern Oregon, conducting the wraparound process to fidelity requires extensive travel. This is due to the large geographical area covered in each county. Currently there is no way to bill for the miles or time spent traveling. Lack of billable time becomes a financial burden to local community mental health programs that depend on productivity.



In Baker County, youth and families we serve in Wraparound live in frontier rural communities. Often Wraparound providers are traveling 50-108 miles round trip from Baker City, OR to outlying communities (Richland, Halfway, Huntington, and Unity) to provide quality services. Travel time during good weather can be one hour one way and up to 2 hours one way during the winter months. This means, to provide a one hour service; it can take 3-5 hours in an 8 hour shift. This time frame dramatically affects provider's productivity rates. Though New Directions offers telehealth services, often families who live in remote frontier rural communities are not able to access quality internet services, which make providing services in this manner difficult. As well, cell phone service over mountain passes and canyons can be spotty or not at all, which requires Wraparound providers to meet with families in person.



Barrier description: _____



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Actions Taken to Address Barrier

Summary of Practice Level Work Group action steps:

Sent to the Executive Committee with the recommendation that conversations with New Directions and EOCCO be had.

Summary of Advisory Committee action steps:

Currently the Advisory Committee and Executive Council Committee are combined.

Summary of Executive Council action steps:

Conversation with New Directions indicated they are currently tracking all time spent on travel and are paying teams for work time during any and all travel they do. They also provide a car to use for travel and all costs associated with the car are paid by New Directions. The conversation with EOCCO was about mileage and an encounterable code for paying. EOCCO has said the money is a finite amount of money and it is given to communities and they have the discretion to use it as needed accordingly. EOCCO has said they can take money from the pot to reallocate it specifically for travel but then that would lessen the amount of money for other items they use the money for currently.

This system barrier needs addressed at the state level. Barrier sent to the state steering committee.

Request of Statewide SOC Steering Committee

What policy changes or funding investments would ameliorate the identified barrier?

Allot additional moneys to CCO's to be used specifically for travel within rural communities so that the CCO's could then attach a reasonable dollar amount to miles and/or per 15 min for billing purposes of CMHP's. This would allow the local communities to accurately reflect the true cost of services in their communities.
