



Spokane County

OFFICE OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

Josh Kerns, 1st District | Mary L. Kuney, 2nd District | Al French, 3rd District

June 10, 2019

Good Afternoon,

We are writing to invite you to participate in a regional planning subgroup associated with the implementation of the Trueblood Settlement. As you are likely aware, *Trueblood v. DSHS, a case challenging the constitutionality of competency evaluations and restoration services in Washington State*, reached a settlement agreement in December 2018¹. Funding for the Trueblood settlement was approved and passed by the State legislature in April 2019. The Trueblood settlement requirements will be met through a series of three implementation phases (I, II and III). The Trueblood Settlement funding and requirements are separate from the contempt funds that have accrued and been made available to agencies as grant funding over the past several years². Please refer to the attached one-page overview document for more details.

The Spokane Region, along with the Pierce and Southwest Regions, have been selected for Phase I Settlement Agreement with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services and Healthcare Authority (HCA) overseeing the settlement priorities.

To assist the State project team in their implementation framework, we would like to convene a subgroup of the Spokane County Regional Interlocal Leadership Structure (SCRILS) that also includes subject matter experts from public service areas involving class members. This group will discuss the alignment of State directed settlement priorities with local efforts within the six counties of our region. Initial recommendations for this subgroup composition include:

Spokane County Regional Behavioral Health – Administrative Service Organization (SCRBH-ASO), Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), Law Enforcement (SPD, SCSO and rural/frontier), northeast counties' designated County Coordinators, SCRILS designated Behavior Health Agency representatives, the, Criminal Justice Administrator, and SCRILS community hospital representatives.

We would also like to have one (1) class member involved in an advisory capacity. A Regional Project Manager will provide a support role to the subgroup. There will be more subject matter experts tapped for insight as needed by this subgroup. From a series of meetings that will be held over the next few weeks, the first deliverable of this subgroup is to make a recommendation presentation to the SCRILS group in late June 2019 regarding the Trueblood settlement priorities for our region.

Trueblood Settlement Letter

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Please remit your interest to Joanne Napier, Staff Assistant to Kathleen Torella, SCRBH-ASO Director, at your earliest convenience, and no later than June 14, 2019 at jnapier@spokanecounty.org. A meeting is expected to be scheduled by the second week of June for individuals participating in this workgroup.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership on behalf of all residents in our six-county region.

Sincerely,

Board of County Commissioners


MARY L. KUNEY, Chair


AL FRENCH, Vice Chair


JOSH KERNS, Commissioner

¹ <https://www.disabilityrightswa.org/cases/trueblood/#How>

² www.dshs.wa.gov and Search *Trueblood*