

# LOCAL IMPACT BRIEFING – REGION 2

## *Fiscal, Public Safety, and Human Impacts of Eliminating ACT, HART, ESMI/CSC, Peer Support, Half-Day PHP, and the 15% IOP Reduction*

Prepared for Local Government, Public Safety, Healthcare Systems, and Community Leadership

The following information is extrapolated using local level data from:

[SPMI PROGRAM CUTS: STATEWIDE FISCAL IMPACT WHITE PAPER — IDAHO 2025](#)

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**Idaho Region 2 – Nez Perce, Latah, Clearwater, Lewis, Idaho Counties**

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## Executive Summary

Region 2, anchored by the Lewiston–Moscow corridor, functions as a multi-county stabilization hub for high-acuity behavioral-health needs across north-central Idaho. The elimination of Idaho’s stabilization programs for individuals with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI)—including ACT, HART, ESMI/CSC, Peer Support, half-day PHP, and the 15% IOP reduction—will create a significant fiscal and public-safety burden.

Based on statewide modeling and Region 2’s actual service-use dynamics, Region 2 is projected to absorb:

### **\$12–\$16 million per year**

in new downstream costs across hospitals, police, EMS, jails, shelters, housing systems, and courts.

An additional **\$7–\$10.5 million per year** will be lost in **federal Medicaid funding** and **state/local tax revenue**, bringing the total regional fiscal impact to:

### **\$19–\$26.5 million per year.**

The majority of these impacts fall directly on **Lewiston** and **Moscow**, which serve as the region’s behavioral-health, hospital, and crisis-response hubs.

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# 1. Regional Population Structure and Service-Hub Dynamics

## A. Region 2 Population Overview

- Nez Perce County – ~42,000
- Latah County – ~40,000
- Idaho County – ~16,000
- Clearwater County – ~8,500
- Lewis County – ~3,800

**Total: ~110,000 residents**

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## B. Lewiston and Moscow as Regional Behavioral-Health Centers

Lewiston and Moscow contain the majority of Region 2's high-acuity SPMI population because they host:

- St. Joseph Regional Medical Center (Lewiston)
- Gritman Medical Center (Moscow)
- Nearly all behavioral-health clinics, prescribers, and outpatient programs
- Most Peer Support, ACT, and CSC providers historically serving the region
- The region's emergency shelters and transitional housing
- The main crisis-response, law-enforcement, and EMS infrastructure
- Medicaid-compatible housing and transportation access

Most high-acuity clients from Idaho, Clearwater, and Lewis Counties ultimately deteriorate or stabilize in **Lewiston** or **Moscow**.

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## C. Rural Counties Depend on Lewiston and Moscow for Crisis Services

When stabilization programs disappear:

- Individuals in Idaho, Clearwater, and Lewis Counties deteriorate into Lewiston or Moscow, not locally
- Cross-county transports increase sharply
- Lewiston and Moscow ERs and jails absorb the full regional impact

These effects are tied to **service patterns**, not population ratios.

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## 2. Fiscal Impact: \$12–\$16 Million Per Year in New Costs

Region 2 is projected to incur:

**\$12–\$16 million per year**

in new costs due to loss of stabilization services.

### Breakdown by System

System	Annual Cost Increase
St. Joseph Regional Medical Center + Gritman Medical Center	<b>\$5–\$7 million</b>
Nez Perce & Latah County Jails	<b>\$1.5–\$2 million</b>
Lewiston PD, Moscow PD, Sheriff’s Offices, EMS, Fire	<b>\$2–\$2.5 million</b>
Shelters, housing, encampment response	<b>\$1.2–\$1.6 million</b>
Child welfare, juvenile court, guardianship	<b>\$0.8–\$1.2 million</b>
Rural county ER, jail, transport (Idaho, Clearwater, Lewis)	<b>\$1.5–\$1.7 million</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12–\$16 million/year</b>

### Where Costs Fall

- **70–75%** fall on **Lewiston and Moscow**
- **25–30%** fall on rural counties

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## 3. Public Safety Impact

### A. Law Enforcement

Agencies will experience:

- Increased welfare checks, trespass, disorderly conduct, psychosis-driven calls
- Higher repeat-call volume
- Longer ER clearance times
- More cross-county psychiatric transports

- Higher risk of officer injury and public victimization

**Estimated cost: \$2–\$2.5 million/year**

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## **B. EMS & Fire**

Lewiston Fire/EMS, Moscow Fire/EMS, and rural districts will face:

- Increased psychiatric transports
  - Higher-acuity presentations
  - More combined police/EMS responses
  - Longer out-of-service times due to boarding and transport distance
  - Increased overtime, fuel, and staffing strain
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## **C. County Jails**

Nez Perce and Latah County Jails will see:

- Higher census
- Increased suicide watch and medical needs
- Higher psychotropic medication costs
- Longer MH-driven stays
- More bookings from rural counties unable to stabilize locally

**Estimated impact: \$1.5–\$2 million/year**

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# **4. Hospital Impact**

## **St. Joseph Regional Medical Center (Lewiston) & Gritman Medical Center (Moscow)**

Hospitals will experience:

- Increased psychiatric ER volume
- Significant increases in boarding
- Increased unreimbursed care
- More medical admissions tied to destabilized SPMI
- Increased inflow from rural counties
- Higher staffing and security pressure

**Projected impact: \$5–\$7 million/year**

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## **5. Housing, Shelter, and Community Impact**

Lewiston and Moscow will see:

- Increased homelessness
- Heavier shelter demand
- Longer stays and more repeat discharges from ERs/jails
- Increased motel voucher use
- Encampment growth
- Increased cleanup and nuisance-abatement costs
- Greater strain on charitable housing services

**Projected impact: \$1.2–\$1.6 million/year**

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## **6. Child Welfare & Court Impacts**

Region 2 courts and child-welfare systems will face:

- More CPS investigations and emergency placements
- Youth homelessness tied to parental destabilization
- More guardianship and family court cases
- Increased GAL and appointed-attorney demand
- Higher juvenile court involvement

**Projected impact: \$0.8–\$1.2 million/year**

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## **7. Human Impact: Suicide, Mortality, Crisis Volume**

Region 2 is expected to experience:

- 10–20% increase in suicide risk among high-acuity individuals
- Approximately **3–6 additional deaths per year**
- Dozens to hundreds of severe suicide attempts

- Hundreds of additional ER visits and jail admissions
- Increased victimization and preventable mortality

The majority of impacts fall on **Lewiston** and **Moscow**.

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## 8. Bottom Line for Region 2 Leaders

Region 2 will face substantial increases in:

- ER boarding
- Law enforcement and EMS calls
- Jail census
- Homelessness and encampments
- Child welfare involvement
- Suicide and severe crisis episodes
- Uncompensated hospital care
- City cleanup and abatement costs
- Workforce burnout and turnover

These cuts **do not reduce costs**; they shift them directly to local taxpayers.

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## 9. Lost Federal Funding and Lost State/Local Tax Revenue

Eliminating these programs results in major financial losses beyond downstream costs.

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### A. Lost Federal Medicaid Revenue

Region 2 loses:

**\$4.5–\$6 million per year**

in federal matching funds that previously flowed into:

- Hospitals
- Clinics
- Peer Support programs

- ACT/HART teams
- CSC/ESMI services
- PHP and IOP programs

With the cuts, Idaho forfeits the **70%–90% federal match**, meaning all downstream costs now fall on local governments with **no federal cost-sharing**.

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## **B. Lost State & Local Tax Revenue**

### **1. Provider Workforce Contraction**

Loss of ACT/HART/CSC/Peer Support results in reduced staffing, lower payroll, clinic closures, and:

**\$1–\$1.5 million/year in lost tax revenue**

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### **2. Reduced Economic Activity from Clients and Caregivers**

Destabilization leads to:

- Clients losing employment
- Caregivers missing work
- Lower retail spending
- Increased housing instability

**\$0.7–\$1 million/year in lost sales and income tax revenue**

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### **3. Lost Hospital Revenue**

Hospitals lose:

- Medicaid-billable services
- Reimbursable psychiatric and medical admissions
- Staffing capacity and local spending power

**\$1–\$2 million/year in lost revenue**

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#### 4. Rural County Economic Loss

Long-distance transports drain staff time and county resources:

**\$250,000–\$400,000/year in lost local productivity**

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## Combined Fiscal Loss to Region 2

When combining:

- **\$12–\$16 million** in downstream public costs
- **\$7–\$10.5 million** in lost federal and tax revenue

Region 2 faces:

**Total Annual Impact: \$19–\$26.5 million**

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