**Mission:**

Our mission is to improve the state system of care for mental health and substance use challenges by magnifying the voice of the individuals with lived experience and their families, and by making specific recommendations for improvements.

**Vision:**

The QIC wants every person in Maine to have access to the highest quality mental health and substance use services in an environment of respect and empowerment.

**Values:**

1**.** We are focused on improving the system as a whole (the mental health and substance use disorder system).

2. We believe in equal access to a fair system of high-quality services.

3. We respect all individuals.

4. We value diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.

5. We value input from all stakeholders.

6. We are especially interested in hearing, amplifying and acting on the voices of those with lived experiences and their families.

7. We earn trust by demanding integrity, passion, and the commitment to all of our work.

Welcome, Announcements, Adjustments to the Agenda (9:00-9:05) (5 mins)

Establish Quorum

Attending: Diane Bouffard, Sarah Ferguson, Virginia Jewell, Liz Wing, Christina Hardy, ~~Joel Gilbert~~, Sarah Ferguson, ~~Ariel Linet~~, Vickie McCarty, Richard Ladd, Sr., Stephanie Farquhar, Bill Lowenstein, ~~Jeff Tiner~~, Sharon Jordan, Liz Remillard, Narissa Seamans, Robin Levesque, Malory Shaughnessy, Susan Parks, Dean Bugaj

Any changes to the agenda? - none

(9:05-10:00) (55 mins)

Vote on Mission and Vision and Values

Motion passes to accept the new Values.

1. We are focused on improving the system as a whole (the mental health and substance use disorder system).

2. We believe in equal access to a fair system of high-quality services.

3. We respect all individuals.

4. We value diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.

5. We value input from all stakeholders.

6. We are especially interested in hearing, amplifying and acting on the voices of those with lived experiences and their families.

7. We earn trust through demonstrating integrity, passion, and commitment to all of our work.

Motion passes to accept new Mission

Next Steps to work on action plan and who will be responsible

Goal A:

Strategy 1 - Legislative Team, will plan an event for January. Co-Sponsor with Consumer Council.

Strategy 2 – OBH will provide data and links to information.

Goal B:

Provide informational brochures and ask for feedback at events sponsored by other agencies and organizations.

Connect with website contractor for updates and FB advertising

Departmental, Committee and Workgroup Updates: 10:00-10:45 (45 Minutes)

* OCFS, DOE, OBH, DVR, DOC update
  + DOE –
    - Grant Will Help Increase the Number of Rural School Psychologists in Maine - The Maine Department of Education (DOE) has partnered with the Department of Educational and School Psychology at the University of Southern Maine as they implement a new a 5-year, $1.6 million grant sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Elementary and Secondary Education to help increase the number of school psychologists in rural areas of the state. <https://mainedoenews.net/2023/04/03/grant-will-help-increase-the-number-of-rural-school-psychologists-in-maine/>
    - US DOE - Secretary Cardona and U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy participated in a youth mental health town hall with students from John R. Lewis High School of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS), Virginia.
    - Sarah has contact information for DOE listservs for school nurses, guidance officers, and SROs
  + **MHBG:**
    - Application work is getting underway
    - Planning Council TA on April 18
    - BSCA Spend Plan still underway
    - **Training Opportunity:**

Early Childhood Education has extended the RUBI training opportunity for an additional year. RUBI is a manualized parent training program developed to decrease challenging behaviors in children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and Developmental Delay.

Questions? Please refer to [Jessica.Wood@maine.gov](mailto:Jessica.Wood@maine.gov)

[**https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MEHHS/bulletins/34c3821**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcontent.govdelivery.com%2Faccounts%2FMEHHS%2Fbulletins%2F34c3821&data=05%7C01%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C8ed21a0015f84f52861f08db39cabe41%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638167315182665544%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=O3tLq1Tlyfzrq%2FFFY4XxDN%2FWrKXHs5GEPzDg8loDz4g%3D&reserved=0)

* + **OCFS Highlights:**
    - Updated website for Rising Stars for Me
    - Maine’s Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), Rising Stars for ME, is a rating system designed to:
    - Increase awareness of the basic Standards of Early Care and Education.
    - Recognize and support Early Care and Education Programs (Program) providing care above and beyond those Standards; and
    - Educate the community about the benefits of higher quality care.
    - [**https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MEHHS/bulletins/3535dc4**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcontent.govdelivery.com%2Faccounts%2FMEHHS%2Fbulletins%2F3535dc4&data=05%7C01%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C8ed21a0015f84f52861f08db39cabe41%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638167315182665544%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=P45frQ8mwbEpfjyhfLvo9xI3uaitsexZyqDZrBWc5b0%3D&reserved=0)
  + **Previous month Children’s Committee question:**
    - **Can children refuse to go into the hospital? Is this a DHHS law/rule?**

Please refer to the following link: consent is allowable for services as outlined in [Title 22, §1502: Consent (maine.gov)](https://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/22/title22sec1502.html)

* + - **Can we get data on child care’s doing well to amplify those services? Including information on Educare.**

I have spoken to Crystal Arbor, Child Care Services Program Manager for OCFS, in regards to doing an Early Childhood Education presentation as discussed during our March meeting. She would be happy to give everyone an overview of all of their programs and trainings. I was thinking the May meeting would be a good time? If you wish to proceed, could you provide me a time slot so I can book her calendar for the presentation? If there is particular information that the members wish to be informed of during the presentation, I would be happy to pass along a list to Crystal.

* + OBH Updates for April 2023:
    - Full application year
    - TA is being offered through SAMHSA
    - Currently working on drafting contracts for the 3 EBPs identified to strengthen mental health emergency response in the community.
    - There were 13 responses for 9 target regions for the RFP for MH Peer Centers. They are currently under review. We look forward to sharing the results once they have been determined.
    - Crisis rate work underway all provider surveys were submitted, 1:1 provider meeting currently happening, and we anticipate within the next few weeks sharing publicly with providers for comment.
    - OBH has been working with DRM on improvements to the KEPRO system to track and referrals via KEPRO allowing us to monitor those waiting for services and providers adhering to policy language related to hold for service.
    - OBH staff are in full swing of Contract site visits
    - Provider training associated with ACT fidelity to take place in April and on site reviews this June
  + DVR – providing PEERS group, interviewing for positions for central intake, has summer dates for college tours for students in transition, continue to hire counselors, we share and gather information on feedback on services. The information can be found on theBureau of Rehabilitation’s website on our goals and objectives. The Bureau of Rehabilitation (BRS) utilizes the input of several advisory councils. These councils are comprised of professionals and members of the public interested in furthering the Bureau's mission.  Listed below is that break down of our specific State Rehabilitation Councils with a link for easy access. Also included is a link about some success stories under BRS Highlights.
    - **DBVI State Rehabilitation Council**

[**https://maine-src-dbvi.org/**](https://maine-src-dbvi.org/)

* + - **Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened**

<https://www.maine.gov/rehab/advisory_councils/dod/index.shtml>

* + - **DVR State Rehabilitation Council**

[**https://mainesrc.org/**](https://mainesrc.org/)

* + - **Maine Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)**

[**https://mainesilc.org/**](https://mainesilc.org/)

* + - **DVR State Plan and Needs Assessment**

<https://www.maine.gov/rehab/dvr/stateplan/index.shtml>

* + - **DVBI State Plan and Needs Assessment**

<https://www.maine.gov/rehab/dbvi/state_plan/index.shtml>

* + - **BRS Highlights**

<https://www.maine.gov/rehab/brs_highlights/index.shtml>

Final Items (10:45-11:00) (15 Minutes)

Minutes - approved

Treasurer report - approved

Any remaining business – Susan Parks is again an approved member

Set the next agenda –

* Crystal Arbor will be invited to Children’s Committee in May
* Continue to work on Action Plan and Persons Responsible