

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 as required by federal and state statutes. Federal Title 42 § 300x-3, State Title 34-B §3609

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 through demonstrating integrity, passion, and commitment to all of our work.

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

- In Attendance:

Ariel Linet	Jessica Wood	Richard Ladd, Sr
Bill Lowenstein	Joel Gilbert	Robin Levesque
Bobbi-Jo Bechard	Katherine Temple	Sarah Ferguson
Brianne Masselli	Liz Remillard	Sharon Jordan
Christina Hardy	Liz Wing	Stephanie Farquhar
Diane Bouffard	Malory Shaughnessy	Susan Parks
Gabrielle Gallucci	Michael Freysinger	Vickie McCarty
Jeff Tiner	Narissa Seamans	Virginia Jewell
	Polly Finlay	

Guests: Tracy O'Clair, Shelly Boggs, Kimberly McGee, Mari Hawkes Vail, Helen Jones (new parent member to be voted on)

- Establish Quorum - YES
- Any changes to the agenda – NO
- What should the committees be for 11-12pm? Should we alternate adult and child?
 - We will keep the Children's and Adult services committees at 11am each month.
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2. Social Media: 9:05-10:00 (55 mins)

- We have contracted with Tracy O'Clair, President, TOC Media
 - Have set up a website, FB group, and MailChimp to reach out to people that sign up.

- Seeking QIC members to share FB group, reach out to other groups to find more content to add, share emails to add to the MailChimp outreach.
- Tracy will send an email to all QIC members to share how they can help.
- Will add FB group and website to brochure.
- Need data to add to the Facebook group to share. And once we have more information to add to it, we will make the FB page active again.

3. Membership application process – Susan Parks

- Susan shared a new guide for steps to recruit new members – Link here.
- Protocol for bringing quests to the meeting – Link here.
 - All new materials voted on and accepted with no changes.

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

OCFS update: Working on Grant submission.

DOE update:

- Emily Poland from the Maine Department of Education (DOE) was recently awarded the Outstanding State School Nurse Consultant Achievement Award. This award is given by the National Association of State School Nurse Consultants (NASSNC) to recognize individuals making incredible contributions to the organization and to their profession.
- The NASSNC presents this award to State School Nurse Consultants based on their involvement in research impacting the delivery of quality healthcare service in schools and their involvement in the development and passage of important legislation, policies, standards, or regulations relevant to school nursing. The awardee also serves as a resource expert and catalyst from the state level for the development and implementation of policies and school health programs that promote and maintain the well-being of students.
- One example of Emily's work is her collaboration with the Governor's Opioid Task Force to pass legislation for the supply and use of Naloxone in a school setting. She has also helped improve the quality of school health screening programs by securing funding to support national certification for vision screening. She worked on upscaling supports to meet the needs of schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. This included the expansion of access to school nursing services through telehealth in areas with limited school healthcare resources.

New DOE Rules:

Chapter 101 – allows Special Purpose Private Schools to bill for student enrollment, not for student attendance days. This stabilizes SPPS budgets.

- Rule Title: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age 20
- Filing Agency: This is a rule of the Maine Department of Education
- Action: Proposed Emergency Rulemaking - Only Section XVIII 3(C)
- Notice: Priority Notice June 9, 2023
- Fact Sheet
- Proposed Emergency Chapter 101 Language
- Effective Date of Rule: July 7, 2023

- Final Adoption of Rule Chapter 101 with all sections of Rule in one document: Chapter 101 Language
Chapter 33 – new rule for restraint and seclusion to align with Statute change last legislative session
- Rule Title: Rule Governing Physical Restraint and Seclusion
- Filing Agency: This is a rule of the Maine Department of Education
- Action: Proposed Rulemaking
- Note: Targeted Rulemaking
- Notice: October 27, 2021
- Public Hearing: November 22, 2021
 - Comment Deadline: December 3, 2021
 - Notice: February 4, 2022
 - Comment Period New for only Targeted Language Definitions Refined: February 3 - March 4, 2022
 - Effective Date of Rule: August 6, 2023
 - Final Adoption of Rule: Chapter 33 Language

OBH update:

- Working on the Block Grant - 23 sections are being updated. Working furiously.
 - QIC information uploaded all right.
 - Fine tuning the BSCA supplemental grant funding report. BSCA targeted to crisis response. Much smaller amount than under the ARPA funds.
- MH rights of recipients being updated as directed by LD 1080 – on the OBH home page, it is highlighted for feedback.
 - Notice to adult and child surveys are here.
 - Intended to protect the rights of anyone receiving MH services under MaineCare.
 - Key right is for how you are protected within a facility.
 - They were last set during the consent decree, so this is the first update in decades.
 - There will be additional opportunities to provide feedback, including Listening Sessions that will take place in October and November.
 - Disability Rights Maine gives presentations and technical assistance on filing grievances and complaints!

DVR update: no updates.

DOC update: no DOC updates today short of they are in the process of selecting a new vendor for their correctional information system. They are currently reviewing and scoring vendors and are excited to hopefully make a selection soon. This is the second time out to bid, so they are hopeful they are successful in selecting and awarding the contract.

SAMHSA Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG): In process of being submitted.

Legislative committee update:

- Consumer Council put in two bills
 - One on Boards of Visitors (BOV) for Jails to align with each other and with DOC facilities. Many county jails do not have the same services, nor same oversight

- through the BOVs. This bill passed.
- Second one was to develop a Peer Respite Center. Passed unanimously but did not get funded from the appropriations table. It did get carried over, so might be funded in the next session starting in January.
- Alliance tracked several MH and SUD bills, find final status of priority bills results here.

Member voting:

- Helen Jones lives in Aroostook County. She is a family member. She is a strong advocate and has a passion to help others through the system of care. She would like to share information from the QIC to the community and bring concerns and information back. Was involved in GEAR and the MPF previously.
 - Vote to accept her membership was unanimous.

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

- Approve minutes – Moved by Malory/second by Vickie. Two abstentions due to absence. Unanimously accepted.
- Approve treasurer report – Link here to Final FY 23 report. Motion to accept report by Liz Wing, second by Robin, unanimous accepted. Link here to July 2023 report. Vickie moved, Liz Wing seconded, unanimously accepted.
- Any remaining business – none.
- Set the next agenda –
 - Invite Kelly Staples to come and share information about Self-Directed Care. More person centered. It is part of the new Lifespan Waiver process. Stephanie will invite her. We can add information about it on our website.
 - Maine Co-occurring Drug Court. Private attorney representing people in the court) Andrew Dawson will be invited to next meeting.
 - We will start adding updates from other members as well as the state agencies.

6. Adult and Children Subcommittee meetings: 11:00-12:00 (60 minutes)