

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.

- Welcome, Announcements, (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	Amy Taranko
Helen Jones	Polly Finlay	Vickie Morgan

- Establish Quorum - Yes
- Adjustments to the Agenda – no
- Brochures –
 - Motion to print 500 brochures by Jeff; Helen Jones 2nd, unanimous approval
 - **Please email Susan Parks** to request brochures - parsusan@gmail.com
- Departmental, Committee and Workgroup Updates: 10:00-10:45 (45 Minutes)
 - OCFS – 4 pilots with continued funding: MPBHPP <https://bhpartnersforme.org/>; ECCP <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/support-for-families/child-care/early-childhood-consultation-partnership>; Intercept Program <https://youthvillages.org/services/intensive-in-home-treatment/intercept/>; Telehealth in the Schools
 - DOE - LD 98 was signed into law and took effect on July 27, 2023. It raises the age of students eligible for special education until their 22nd birthday. PA also just changed their practice this school year to offer special education to students’

22nd birthday. LD 98 also updates some language – replaces “pupil evaluation” with “individualized education program”, and updates disability categories - Hearing impairment, including deafness is changed to Deafness, including hearing loss; Serious emotional disturbance is changed to Emotional disability; and Deafness and blindness is changed to Deaf-blindness;

- OBH -

Mental Health Block Grant Updates	
Standard Block Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Application has officially been submitted! Thank you for all your support in completing it this year. Diane you are a rockstar!
CRRSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updates at this time
ARPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updates at this time
Covid Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updates at this time
BSCA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised the first allotment plan to reflect that addition of Child and Adolescent CIT training • Second allotment is for the same amount as the first allotment and has the same set aside percentages as the standard grant. 5% for Crisis and 10% for FEP • Submitted funding plan for second allotment to GPO for approval. Funding plan outlines the continuation of WhyTry and CIT training, with the addition of Intentional Peer Support Training for mobile crisis responders and funds to supplement the cost of a training coordinator at OBH and a training consultant at OCFS. 5% Crisis set aside to go to MCL and 10% FEP set aside to go to the PIER program
OBH	Please provide updated information pertaining to the programs currently funded by the Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) in the section below:
	FEP 10% Set Aside

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current contract is being finalized. • OMS has identified a dedicated person to develop the necessary case rate for reimbursement of the model as well as write the policy associated to allow use of the case rate. OBH is supporting OMS in this.
	Crisis 5% Set Aside
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis set aside is dedicated to the Maine Crisis Line to support expanding capacity
	Peer Recovery

	<p>Peer Led Harm Reduction Outreach Pilot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilizing FMAP funds, OBH supported the launch of a peer led harm reduction outreach pilot. In April 2023, 2 community providers, Maine Access Points and the Church of Safe Injection, began conducting outreach and engagement activities in 8 communities across Maine. Together they have served 999 unique individuals through 2039 client contacts. They have collected 60,991 used syringes and distributed 122,228 clean syringes. They have distributed 1189 naloxone kits, and transported 54 individuals to detox, treatment, or sober living. The 2 providers have also delivered 36 harm reduction trainings 381 participants. Training topics included Harm Reduction 101, Safe disposal, Stigma Reduction, and Overdose Prevention. Peer employed under this pilot are required to complete both CIPSS and Recovery Coach training. <p>Peer Recovery Supports in Family Recovery Courts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OBH and OCFS have partnered to launch a pilot to add a Peer Recovery Support Position to each of the Family Recovery Courts in Lewiston, Augusta and Bangor. Peers are currently being interviewed for these positions and will be required to have lived experience in the Child Protective System along with completing both Recovery Coach and CIPSS training.
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Response to question on how many families/children have been serviced in the Peer Recovery Supports in Family Recovery Courts Pilot:

0 to date. The pilot was launched on 8/1, and peers are currently being interviewed. Maine Prisoner Reentry Network (MPRN) is the provider as they already provide peer supports in a number of alternative courts with similar structure. OCFS is sitting in on the interviews. They've held 4 or 5 interviews for the Lewiston position, and are close to making an offer. They have been receiving applications for Augusta and Bangor.

- DVR – New regional director for DVBI’s southern region, PEERS group in 10th week – 6 more weeks in program, still advertising for RC2 positions, intake unit is doing well and processing more intakes than expected, College tours have taken place, RFPs awarded to agencies as CRP effective 10/1
 - DOC – New liaison for the legislature. Continuing with what talked about last month. DOC has robust peer recovery – 62 trained and active peer coaches, 157 residents participated, looking at hiring peer support specialist for community
 - SAMHSA Community Mental Health Block Grant (CMHBG)
 - Provider agency updates-
 - Jeff Tiner, Catholic Charities – Leverages private grants for expanding Telehealth for medical management. Grants support expansion to the men’s residential. Recruit and retention of staff has improved. Working to enroll eligible consumers in MaineCare
 - Vickie McCarty, from Consumer Council of Maine – tabled as Vickie was not in attendance
 - Legislative committee update - none
 - Membership committee update - none
 - Awareness and Impact update - none
 - Adult committee update
 - Adult Comm – made a long-term plan for forums next spring
 - Children committee update
 - Dr. Roberta Lucas, State Director of CDS, will come and talk with the Children’s committee meeting
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- Final Items (10:45-11:00) (15 Minutes)
 - Approve minutes – Helen moved, Richard 2nd, unanimous acceptance
 - Approve treasurer report – Richard moved, Robin 2nd, unanimous acceptance
 - Any remaining business - none
 - Set the next agenda - Speakers upcoming:
 - Oct 6
 - Kelly Staples, OBH-self Directed Care
 - Provider agency updates
 - Roberta Lucas, State CDS Director-Just to the children’s subcommittee
 - Dec 1
 - Andrew Dawson, private lawyer- CODC (Co-Occurring Drug Court)

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

Adult Subcommittee did not meet