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

Establish Quorum

In attendance: Richard Ladd, Sr, Joel Gilbert, Bobbi-Jo Bechard, Sarah Ferguson, Brianne Masselli, Liz Remillard, Sharon Jordan, Christina Hardy, Liz Wing, Stephanie Farquhar, Susan Parks, Vickie McCarty, Narissa Seamans, Polly Finlay, Vickie Morgan

Excused: Diane Bouffard, Malory Shaughnessy, Robin Levesque, Bill Lowenstein, Helen Jones

Absent: Ariel Linet, Jessica Wood, Katherine Temple, Gabrielle Gallucci, Michael Freysinger, Amy Taranko, Jeff Tiner

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

Kristin Thorp, OBH-self Directed Care presentation – Person Centered Planning, Individual Budget, Support Brokerage (hoping to be peers). Financial management service agency. Pilot through March 2025.

* Kristin.m.thorp@maine.gov
* https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5925e0ccf7e0ab73d509c9b2/t/593aa2b637c5810286eea19f/1497014969197/SDC\_Brochure\_Web.pdf
* https://www.appliedselfdirection.com/sites/default/files/Self-Direction%20Information%20Sheets\_0.pdf

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

* OCFS - WhyTry will have 4 dates for training. First one is filling up fast.
* DOE –
  + **National Governors Association Selects Maine to Participate in Student and Educator Wellbeing Initiative** The National Governors Association (NGA) selected Maine as one of five states to participate in a new initiative launched to bolster the mental health and wellbeing of students and school staff. Through this initiative, the NGA will support the implementation of the BARR (Building Assets, Reducing Risks) model at 71 schools across Maine. BARR is a research-backed model focused on strengthening relationships, reducing high-risk student behavior, and improving academic achievement. <https://mainedoenews.net/2023/09/05/media-release-national-governors-association-selects-maine-to-participate-in-student-and-educator-wellbeing-initiative/>
  + BARR Schools <https://mainedoenews.net/2023/09/11/71-maine-schools-begin-barr-model-implementation-to-increase-student-and-staff-wellbeing-and-increase-academic-achievement/>
* OBH – has first episode psychosis billing codes in place, peer recovery RFPs are active. HicPic codes go into effect on 10/1 and requires a multidisciplinary team - easier billing processes. BCBA funds – this fall will have free trainings START model (UNH), CAMSCARE model. RoR stakeholder survey over 100 responses came back. Having stakeholder meetings. Finalizing rate determination. Working with 911 to screen and transfer calls to 988 (Maine Crisis Line) as appropriate. Maine Crisis Line has grant money to enhance work and partnerships. Would like behavioral health calls are not responded to by police car.
* DVR
  + **October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM**) – Every October we get the chance to celebrate how individuals with disabilities contribute to the workforce and economy. We have captured some of the month’s events in a calendar that you can see on this at  [https://www.maine.gov/labor/news\_events/article.shtml?id=11937899](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Flabor%2Fnews_events%2Farticle.shtml%3Fid%3D11937899&data=05%7C01%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C4a1f8671e6a040b7bee608dbc68229a2%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638322034851577438%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yWefjFU5Rh33xjs5rWGKTO2CJW5HmipZsn0u15XJGmM%3D&reserved=0)
  + DVR was awarded the Pathways to Partnership grant of 7.5 million. To learn more, go to see below for additional details.  Maine was 1 out 20 states to be awarded this 5 -year grant beginning on 10/1/2023.

For additional details go to : Read the U.S. Department of Education’s press release at : [https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-awards-nearly-199-million-improve-career-opportunities-students-disabilities-through-partnerships](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ed.gov%2Fnews%2Fpress-releases%2Fus-department-education-awards-nearly-199-million-improve-career-opportunities-students-disabilities-through-partnerships&data=05%7C01%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C4a1f8671e6a040b7bee608dbc68229a2%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638322034851577438%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0K1OtmNMc8c5F1rKwFokOrknzRR%2FLvDm93R3t%2BeTSsI%3D&reserved=0)

* + DVR was taken off Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA)corrective action for meeting the 60-day eligibility and 90 days to plan. This was addressed by regional changes and the creation of the intake unit.
  + Three new RCII’s started in Lewiston, 1 RCI in Bangor, 1 RCI Statewide for transition. Postings closed 10/3 and 10/4/23 for additional positions- 2 Rehabilitation Consultants (1 for training and 1 for business engagement), Lewiston CWS, Lewiston Rehabilitation Counselor II (Adult and Youth), Portland RCII, Bangor RCII. Waiting for postings for Augusta openings.
  + VR is working with OADS in a self-employment pilot program for people with ID/DD interested in self-employment.
  + Deaf Tea event occurred on 9/21/23 to celebrate Deaf Culture Week which took place at the Hall of Flags. This was the 32nd year of this celebration.
  + Maine Hire a Vet campaign started in August. DVR will be providing a presentation about VR services in Portland at the hiring event held at The Point.
  + Maine DVR presented about VR services at the Brain Injury Association conference on 9/28/23.
* DOC - nothing new to report
* OMS – MaineCare Updates and links:
* [MaineCare Renewals Dashboard](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fdhhs%2Funwinding%2Fmainecare-renewals-data-dashboard&data=05%7C01%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C7919cd7d179e4e4659f908dbc99cfc08%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638325449274475687%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Txq36%2FHPexpjkGdb3%2B1o9j2j56SR8ZI97LDRihApAwQ%3D&reserved=0)
* Information about the [COVID 19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Unwinding and MaineCare Renewal Information](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fdhhs%2Fofi%2Fprograms-services%2Fphe&data=05%7C01%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C7919cd7d179e4e4659f908dbc99cfc08%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638325449274475687%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ALiF2WknqUTPfeC9HjIz2SsGNihZEiT346Q%2FRNyvZl0%3D&reserved=0)
* MaineCare updated their handbook in June 2023 with a focus on gender inclusivity: [https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/sites/maine.gov.dhhs/files/inline-files/mainecare-member-handbook.pdf](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fdhhs%2Fsites%2Fmaine.gov.dhhs%2Ffiles%2Finline-files%2Fmainecare-member-handbook.pdf&data=05%7C01%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C7919cd7d179e4e4659f908dbc99cfc08%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638325449274475687%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4Ts%2BSoy%2F4FHje0ZpL3PsT8o%2Fd0pSV7TH6GqdoIWOEgk%3D&reserved=0)
* We have our posted minutes on provider and member engagement on the [MaineCare Advisory Committee (MAC) Webpage](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fdhhs%2Foms%2Fabout-us%2Fadvisory-groups&data=05%7C01%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C7919cd7d179e4e4659f908dbc99cfc08%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638325449274475687%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YMst%2FqacX3HmCg8S0GK7aEG5g1hj2xnd80A6YCEshOo%3D&reserved=0)
* [MaineCare created a Naloxone Standing Order](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fdhhs%2Foms%2Fproviders%2Fprovider-bulletins%2Fover-counter-otc-naloxone-standing-order-mainecare-members-2023-09-22%23%3A~%3Atext%3DOver%2520the%2520Counter%2520(OTC)%2520Naloxone%2520Standing%2520Order%2520for%2520MaineCare%2520Members%2C-Sep%252022%252C%25202023%26text%3DOn%2520September%25208%252C%25202023%252C%2520in%2Ctwo%2520dose%2520nasal%2520spray%2520kit.&data=05%7C01%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C7919cd7d179e4e4659f908dbc99cfc08%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638325449274475687%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=u%2BjVEbBenWv9TyU%2FZiIil%2F3UZ2fol%2B%2FpsPtahBpwEX8%3D&reserved=0) for People to receive Naloxone over the counter without a prescription
* [School and MaineCare Resources](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fdhhs%2Foms%2Fproviders%2Fchildrens-services%2Fschool-health-related-services&data=05%7C01%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C7919cd7d179e4e4659f908dbc99cfc08%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638325449274475687%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=93XXfwWuXtcUvhLhi3eANFvDGFx6gIhO6pOJ8TXyCKg%3D&reserved=0) updated education for parents/caregivers and schools on how MaineCare can support access to care
* Draft CCBHC Proposed List of Services (attached) – please email [CCBHC\_DHHS@maine.gov](mailto:CCBHC_DHHS@maine.gov) if you have any questions or feedback (or let me know at the upcoming QIC meetings!)
* Here's the link to sign up for emails from different DHHS Offices: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MEHHS/subscriber/new?preferences>
* <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/providers/childrens-services/school-health-related-services>
* SAMHSA Community Mental Health Block Grant (CMHBG)
* Provider agency updates-
  + Bobbi-Jo Bechard – Motivational Services is overseeing Riverview’s Peer Support Program.
  + Sharon Jordan– Wabanaki Public Health and Wellness is active in providing peer support. WPHW is working with 988 and Maine Crisis Line. WPHW is strengthening their Mobile Crisis Provider program. WPHW is opening a short-term detox program that will work with existing recovery programs.
  + Vicky McCarty - <https://mailchi.mp/maineccsm/consumer-council-system-of-maine-spring-newsletter-6145097?e=e890568e33>
* Legislative committee update - none
* Membership committee update - none
* Awareness and Impact update –
  + If you would like brochures, please email Susan Parks, parsusan@gmail.com
  + Tracy O ’Clair’s contract (for website and social media) goes through December. The Executive Committee would like to renew it for the spring. The Executive Committee will write a draft job description for an admin assistant.
  + Monthly Activities Update: <https://forms.gle/N6stGhHz3XEWNBDv8>
* Adult/Child committee update
* Member voting

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

Approve minutes – Approved unanimously

Approve treasurer report - none

Any remaining business - none

Set the next agenda –

November –

* Faith Griffin will present on Maine [Treatment Connection](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.treatmentconnection.com%2Fsearch-treatment-facilities&data=05%7C01%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C7919cd7d179e4e4659f908dbc99cfc08%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638325449274475687%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=mpK%2FINYhK1s%2Fl83DE7o84AIhEaR5gy0abqY4ddU9dQM%3D&reserved=0) on Nov 3rd
* Vote to raise meeting stipend to $45.
* Provider agency updates- Vickie from Consumer Council of Maine

January

* Alice Preble, Peer Support Specialist, OCFS

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

Children - Roberta Lucas, State CDS Director