**

 Date: 3.1.24

 Time: 9:00 – 12:00

 Location: Zoom

Council Members:

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| Quorum: At any meeting of the Council a quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the Council members present who are voting members when the members present are no fewer than seven. The vote of those present and voting, if there is a quorum, shall constitute the act of the Council unless otherwise stated in these by-laws or State law. |
| **Present:** Diane Bouffard, Susan Parks, Robin Levesque, Liz Randall, Bill Lowenstein, Christina Hardy, Ariel Linet, Joel Gilbert, Narissa Seamans, Stephanie Farquhar, Sharon Jordan, Brie Masselli, Jeff Tiner, Jon Reynolds, Vickie Morgan, Vickie McCarty, Richard Ladd, Sr., Malory Shaughnessy, Tia Knowlton-Basford, Heidi Lester | **Excused:** Amy Taranko, Lauren Bustard, Polly Finlay, Michael Freysinger, Liz Remillard |
| **Absent:** |

Guests: Lisa Sockabasin

Minutes:

| Agenda | Discussion | Tasks/Conclusion | Responsibility |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Establish Quorum | Quorum established |  |  |
| Any changes to the agenda?  | None |  |  |
| **Update on agencies:** |  |  |  |
| Wabanaki Public Health, Cornerstone Behavioral Health | Presentation by Lisa Sockabasin on their holistic, culturally-responsive programs and facilities to support the mental health and wellness of Wabanaki communities. This includes crisis services, recovery housing, cultural centers, food sovereignty initiatives, and more.Slides will be distributed.  | Discussion about visiting to see these facilities and learn more. Open invitation.  | Individual QIC members. |
| Robin Levesque- Maine Parent Federation | MPF has been around since 1984. Every state has one of these parent training organizations to provide information and training for families with children with special needs. March 25th at the Blaine House form 9-2:30pm. Cost is $9.99 to attend. Keynote is Betsy Hawkins to present on Lifespan Waiver. There will be 4 breakout education sessions. They are offering lots of virtual support groups.  | If you want to sign up for the annual conference, you can do so on their website.  | Individual QIC members. |
| Jon Reynolds-Mobilize Recovery  | Mobilize Recovery is a nonprofit in Augusta. Jon presented on their community outreach and Narcan distribution program funded by a county grant. They go door-to-door providing Narcan kits and overdose response training, helping to reduce stigma and increase access to life-saving resources. |  |  |
| **Departmental Updates:** |   |  |  |
| OCFS, DOE, OBH, DVR, DOC, OMS update | **OBH** – Brianne Masselli: Busy with legislative responses. Moving forward with Rights of Recipients, will be conducting more stakeholder sessions on residential care. 129 residential houses with 109 people residing there. Will do sessions with providers and individuals. Since Lewiston incident, they are working with distributing federal grants. In the process of a CCP grant submission for federal disaster grant for individuals impacted by flooding and natural disasters. Still working on merger with CBHS.Have received consumer satisfaction surveys on block grant. Will share the slide deck comparing to past surveys. Working with NAMI for upcoming trainings. Spring START training, CAMS training coming. Working on CCBHC Demonstration Grant for submission in March. **OBH** – Stephanie Farquhar: 5% CSC - early episode psychosis (14-30 yo), 5% children’s services, the rest to Peer support. Will be expanding on early episode psychosis treatment. It is being evaluated for a new MaineCare rate. Working with OMS to support that work. New RFPs awarded – PRCC award to be the TA for state network. Recovery Coach award training to Healthy Acadia. CCSME is launching CIPSS training modules. **OBH** – Narissa Seamans: Children’s services – Several trainings in the works. WhyTry – over 200 trained so far, with March and April trainings coming. Will also sponsor a level 2 training. Will sponsor a pilot program for 0-5 age group training. Maine is number 2 in the nation for preschool expulsion – 14.73 per 1000 expelled. Will be ready for June and available for anyone working with this age group. Start training for mobile crisis workers – have trained 53 to date. **DOC** – Joel Gilbert: Nothing new.**MSHA** – Tia Knowlton-Basford – There is a fund for emergency shelters to support follks getting into supported housing. They are rolling out the new HOPE (Housing for People in Encampments) program 2/3 funded by MSHA and 2/3 by Portland. Focus on getting supported housing for folks in encampments in Portland area. It will start in April. If it goes well they plan to open it in Bangor as well. **DVR –** Christina Hardy: Karen Fraser, the Director of the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services retired on 2/29/2024 after serving in the position for the last nine years on improving employment opportunities for people with disabilities in the State of Maine. Libby Stone-Sterling has agreed to serve as the Director of the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services.New Counselor Training (NCT) has 15 new staff- an excellent round of hiring across the State over the last month. Targeted IDD caseload updates - Jessica Gartland will be taking over this position at our Portland office, we are reposting these VRC II positions for our Bangor, Lewiston, Augusta office. State Plan is being updated- draft version should be available soon to view online. Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA) is being worked on. This will include a survey to clients- Market Study Research- completed the last several CSNA’s for DVR will be managing that side of it. Internally we are   pulling together the data. BRS Highlights is wrapping up- will be available for next meeting- do have some hard copies and there will be copies available online as well. Career Exploration Workshop (CEW) - updating the Bridge version to better meet the needs of IDD population.**DOE** – Sarah Ferguson absent.  | OBH will share consumer survey with QIC in April.OBH will send out information on upcoming trainings.  | OBH - Brie Maselli |
| SAMHSA Community Mental Health Block Grant (CMHBG) | No update at this time.  |  |  |
| Provider agency updates | Ran out of time. |  |  |
| Legislative Committee update |  Malory Shaughnessy and Vickie McCarty update: Last Monday and Tuesday the HHS portion of the budget was presented. Monday was children’s services but sadly there were no new initiatives or expansions for children’s services to report. Several parents from the GEAR network came to speak to the need and concerns that there was no new funding. Tuesday was the adult MH and SUD portion of the budget. There are a few new initiatives or expansions in the proposed budget. Highlights are below:* Funding for a new Receiving Center in Lewiston (like the one in Portland).
* Additional $600K in funding for crisis services.
* $400K for changes to Therapeutic Foster Care.
* Funding for additional harm reduction.
* $4 Million for MAT services in jails.
* $11 Million for special purpose pre-K.

The Alliance, CCSM, and many other advocates spoke to the need for more investment including taking unanimously passed bills from the appropriations table and including them in the budget. The Maine Resilience Package is attached.  | Send information on legislative hearing Monday on Speaker’s bill regarding public safety and mental health. Send out Maine Resilience package of bills to include in budget.  | Vickie McCartyMalory Shaughnessy |
| Membership Committee update | No update. |  |  |
| Awareness and Impact Committee update | Ran out of time. |  |  |
| Approve minutes | Postponed until next month.  |  |  |
| Approve treasurer report | Malory ask how it would work best for everyone…and did everyone get their make-up checks?Approved  |  |  |
| Any remaining business | None |  |  |
| Children’s Committee Notes | Ellie Larrabee – crisis specialist in OBH: back to speak to the children in the ED situation.  |  |  |
| **Set the next agenda:**  | TA will be next month.  |  |  |
| Next month’s Children’s Committee agenda |  |  |  |
| Next month’s Adults Committee Agenda | On hold until after TA session. Committee is looking to make changes.  |  |  |

Submitted by: Malory Shaughnessy on behalf of Sarah Ferguson (Secretary)

Date: 3/1/24