Planning for the Legislative Session and Beyond
and
Ways to Connect with Your Maine State Legislators

Presented by Kim Fulmer Humphrey, MPH

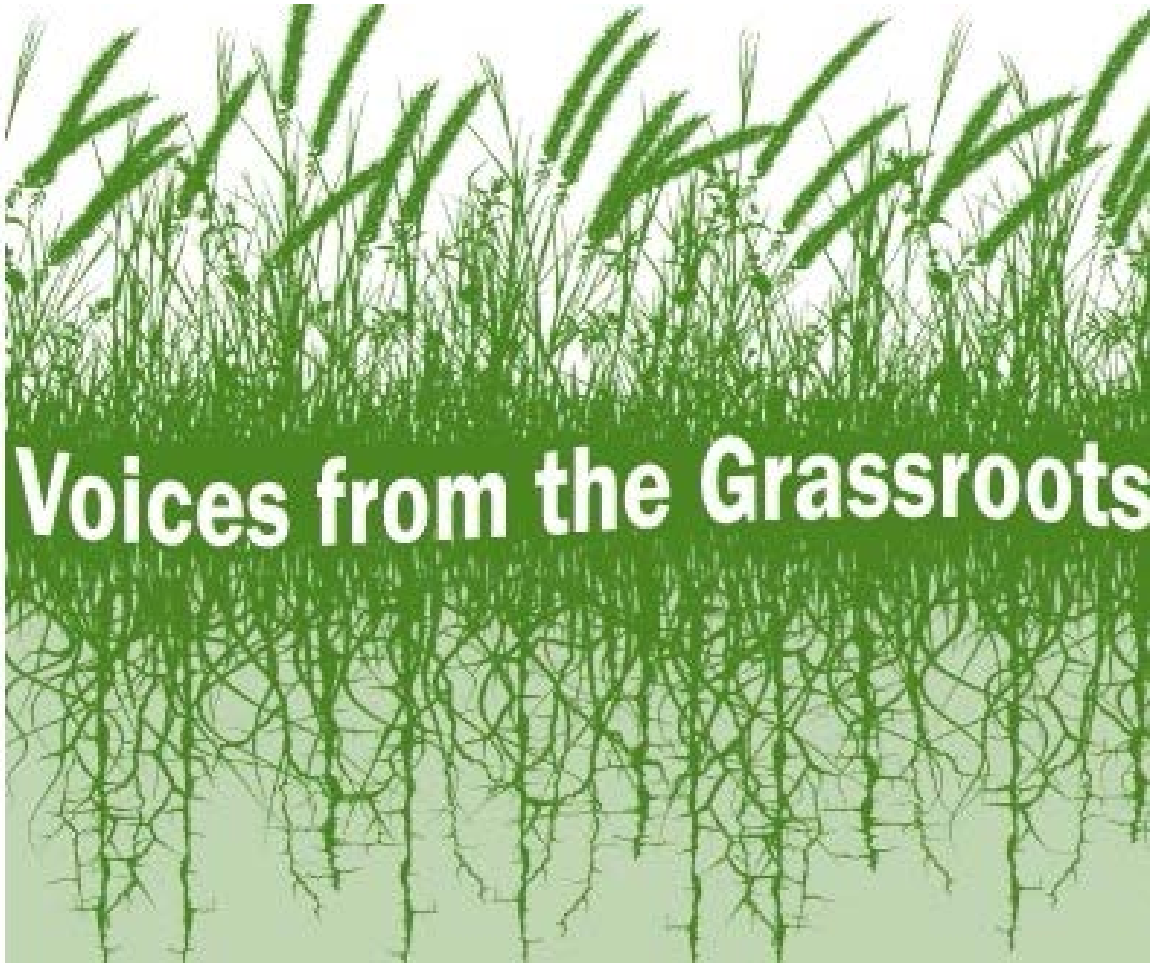
Founder of Community Connect Maine

January 13, 2020

Maine Coalition for Housing and Quality Services

Objectives

- Easing the effort to connect you and others within the I/DD community to legislators- Background
- Ways of reaching out to legislators this session and beyond
- Inform you about upcoming legislation



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COMMUNITY CONNECT ME

Improve Quality of Life for I/DD Community

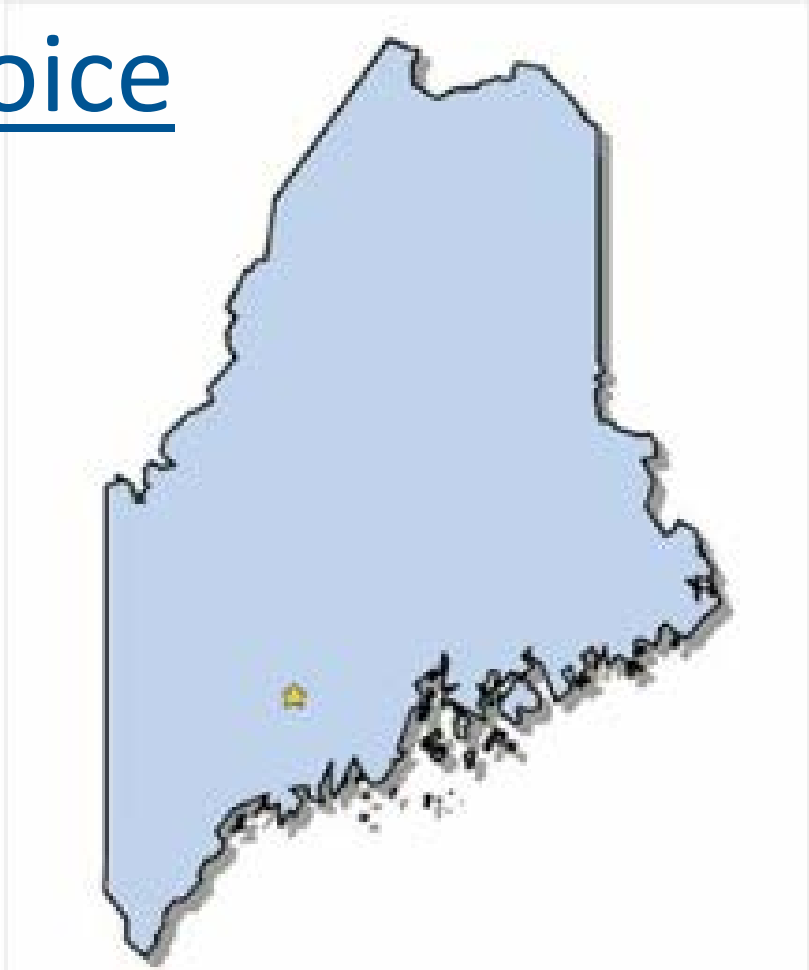
Background

Started in 2015-Family driven

Purpose:

Connect I/DD community/Relationship building
Strengthen speed of information access
Connecting to Resources
Encourage proactive feedback to policy makers
Increase capacity of communities

Who is the I/DD Community-It's a diverse voice



-Who you are/What you do
-Your condition
-Your culture, community
-Your age, sex, race
-What interests you

Background

The Importance of Your Story

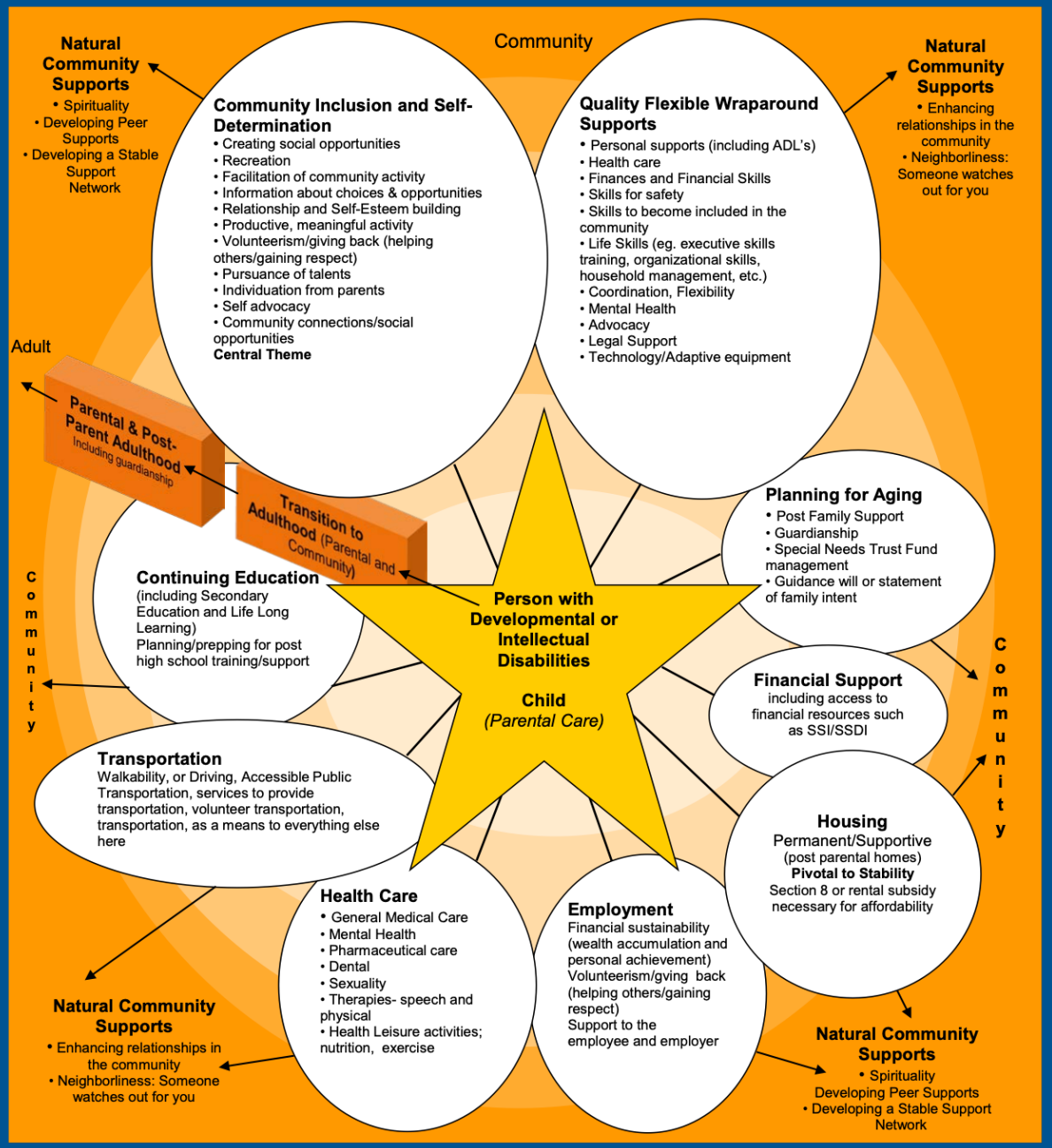
Shenna Bellows, Maine State Legislator

Advocacy Training

Aim: Make Disability Community More Visible

Background: Improve the Quality of Life- How?

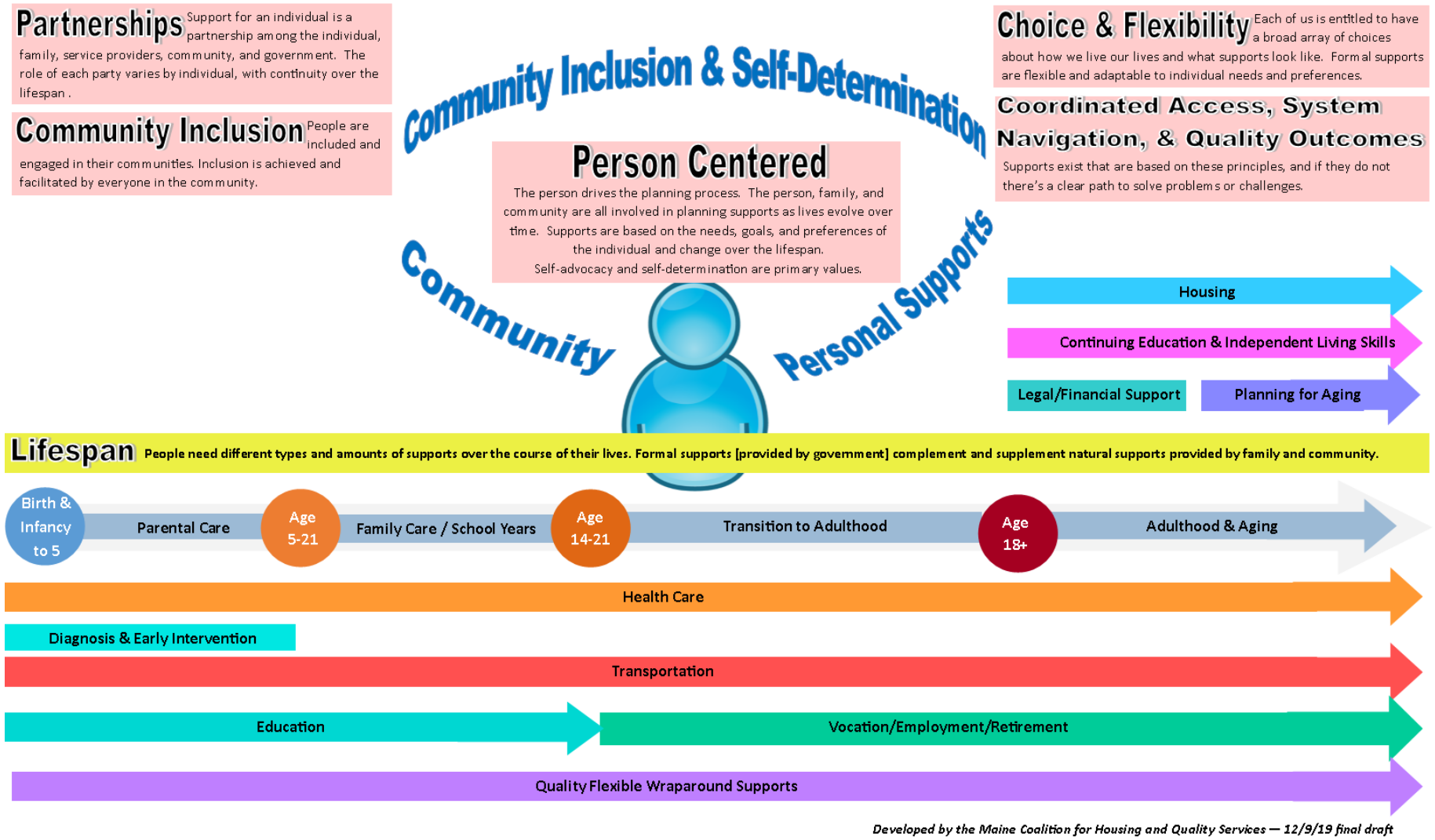
DD Continuum of Care Diagram



Maine Coalition for Housing and Quality Services
c/o Community Housing of Maine 309 Cumberland Avenue, Suite 203
Portland, Maine 04101 207-879-0347 cullen@chomhousing.org
www.maineparentcoalition.org

Telling Your Story

Developmental Services Lifelong Continuum of Care Diagram



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Policies related to-

Education

Financial/Legal

Healthcare/Behavioral

Housing

Jobs/Vocation

Transition

Transportation

Wrap-Around

Equality

In the first image, it is assumed that everyone will benefit from the same supports. They are being treated equally.

Equity

In the second image, individuals are given different supports to make it possible for them to have equal access to the game. They are being treated equitably.

Justice

In the third image, all three can see the game without any supports or accommodations because the cause of the inequity was addressed. The systemic barrier has been removed.

What do you care about?

How much energy do you have to connect?

Connecting You with Your Legislators

Over-Time

Do this before the legislative session begins it’s more intense workload

Do this to speak-up on legislation that matters to you to help shape policy

Do this to learn who to vote for, and for candidates to learn what is important to you

Ways to Connect with Legislators or Legislative Candidates

In Person
Planned events by them-coffee gatherings, office hours, rolling out their agenda
Planned events by you-invite to the coalition
Informal meetings
At the State House- formal/informal, go to public hearing to listen or share your oral testimony

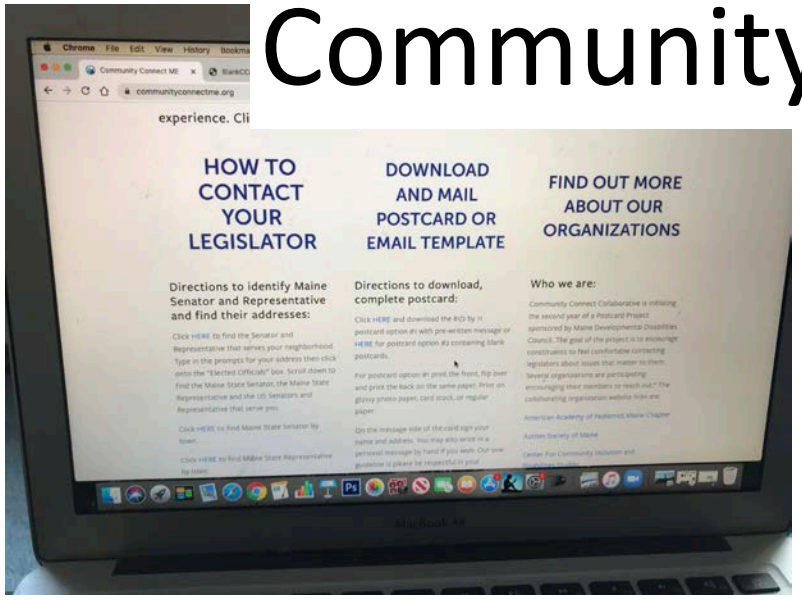
Written
Postcards, letters, written testimony, emails, thank you notes

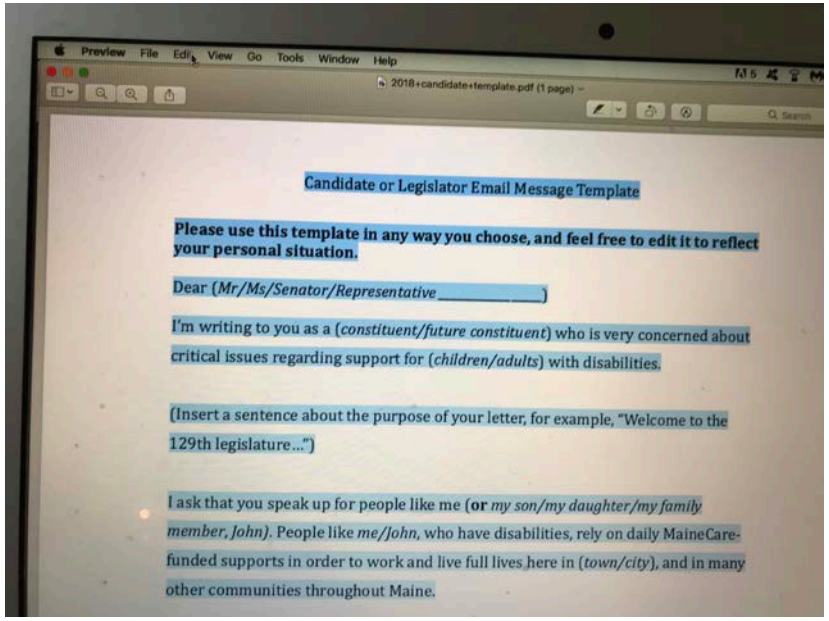
Phone

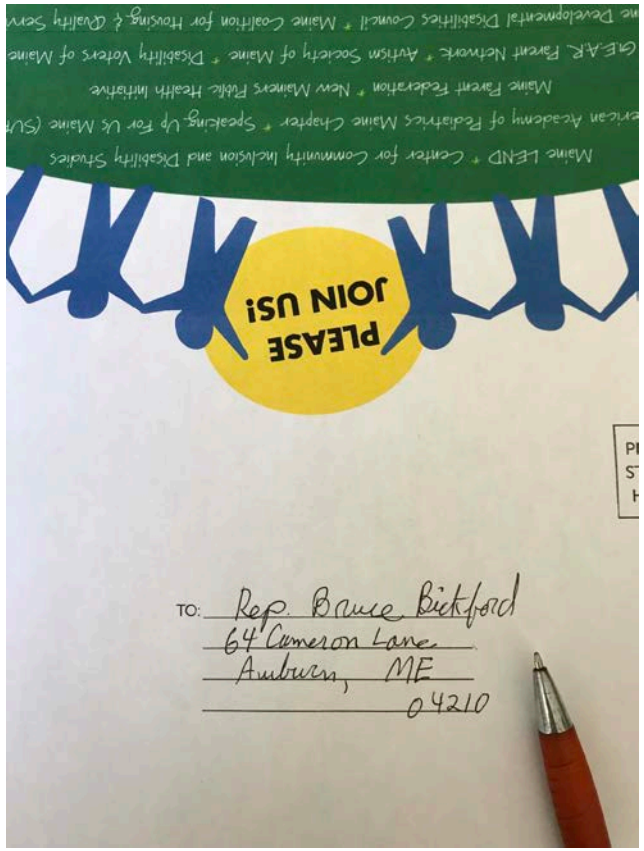
Social Media short videos, posts

How? 1:1 or in groups, candidate questionnaire

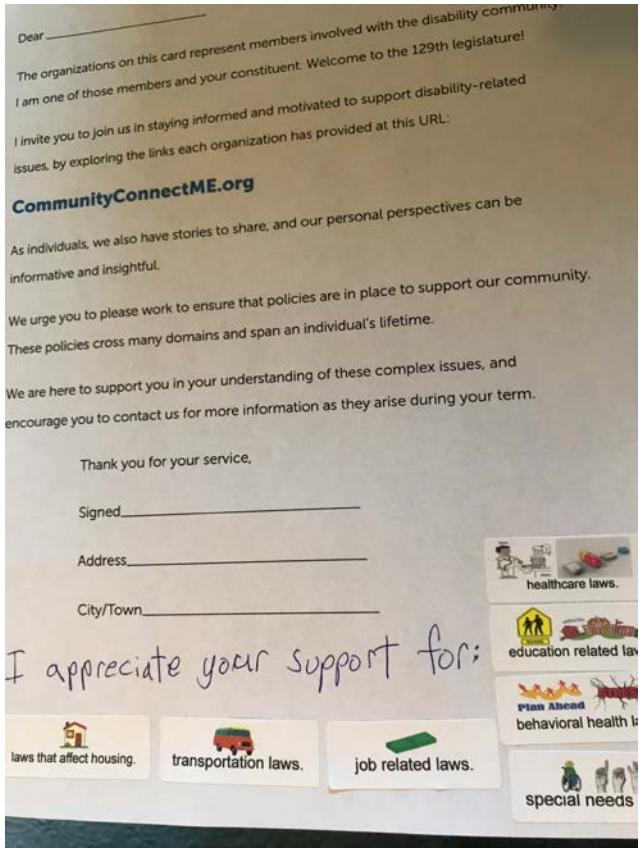
CommunityConnectME.Org



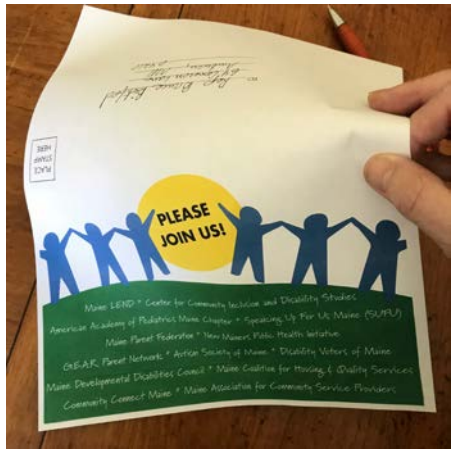




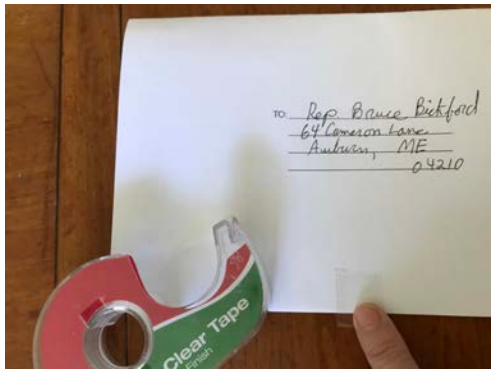
Address it



Personalize it



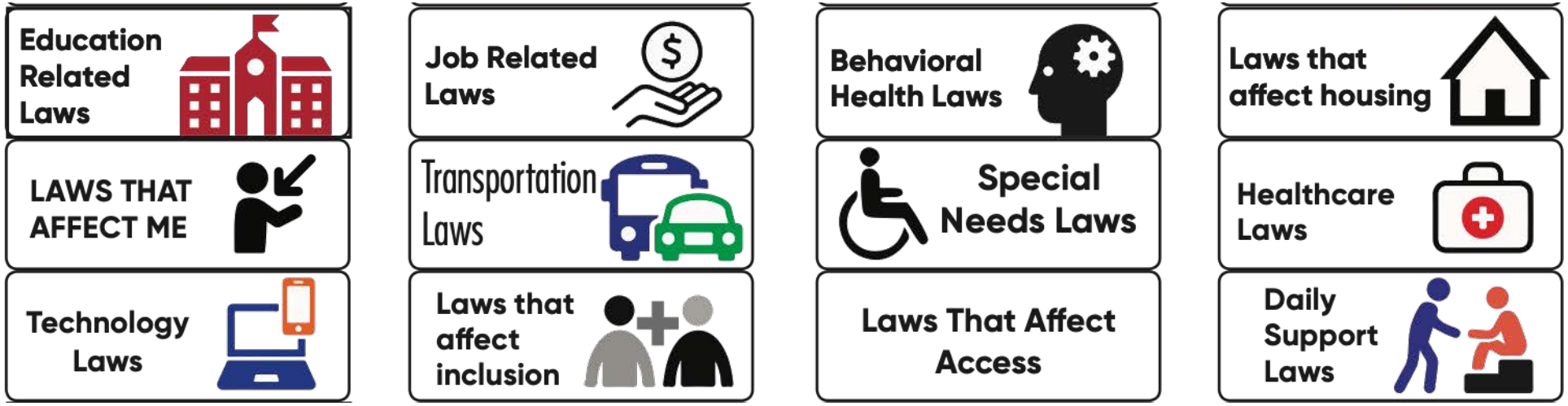
Fold it



Seal it

Mail it

Communication Support Labels



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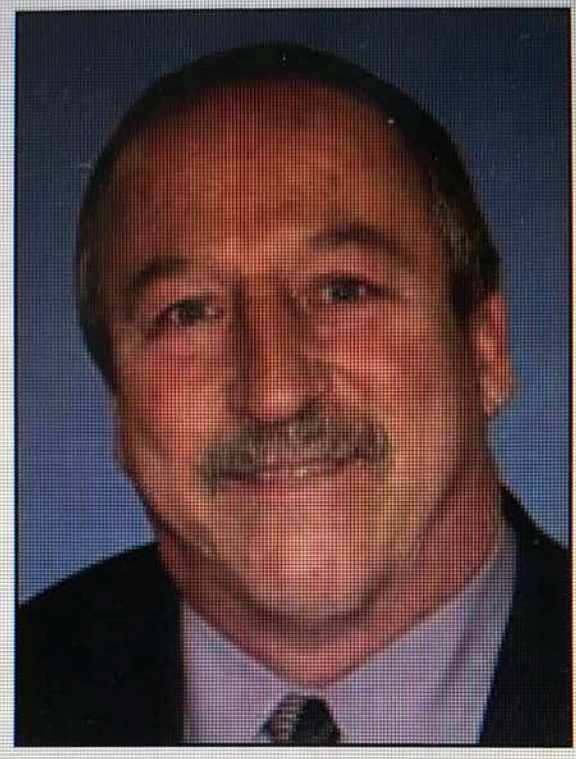

Address: 64 Cameron Lane, Auburn, ME 04210

Cell Phone: (207) 740-0328

E-Mail: Bruce.Bickford@legislature.maine.gov

Legislative Web Site: https://mehousegop.org/reps-a-f/rep-bruce-bickford/
(Additional information, news, etc., from the House Republican Office)

Benefit For Community Members

1. Learn who are your legislators
2. Build relationships
3. Resource awareness
4. Build confidence:
    - They are not alone
    - They can take action
    - In their stories

Benefit For Legislators:

1. Know constituents and community
2. Access to resources
3. Help reduce the learning curve

Benefit For Organizations

1. Support members' advocacy efforts
2. Builds relationships/awareness

The PostCard Project

Getting the Word:

1. In Newsletter
2. On Social Media
3. In Email Distribution
4. At In-Person Meetings

Share link: CommunityConnectME.Org

Background: Connecting to Resources

-Not all inclusive

Community Connect Maine:

https://communityconnectme.org/

Maine Coalition of Housing and Quality Services:

https://www.maineparentcoalition.org/

Autism Society of Maine:

https://www.asmonline.org/get-involved/legislative.aspx

Maine Legislature

http://legislature.maine.gov/

Developmental Services Lifelong Continuum of Care Diagram

Partnerships Support for an individual is a partnership among the individual, family, service providers, community, and government. The role of each party varies by individual, with continuity over the lifespan .

Community Inclusion People are included and engaged in their communities. Inclusion is achieved and facilitated by everyone in the community.

Community Inclusion & Self-Determination

Person Centered

The person drives the planning process. The person, family, and community are all involved in planning supports as lives evolve over time. Supports are based on the needs, goals, and preferences of the individual and change over the lifespan.
Self-advocacy and self-determination are primary values.

Choice & Flexibility Each of us is entitled to have a broad array of choices about how we live our lives and what supports look like. Formal supports are flexible and adaptable to individual needs and preferences.

Coordinated Access, System Navigation, & Quality Outcomes

Supports exist that are based on these principles, and if they do not there's a clear path to solve problems or challenges.

Community

Personal Supports

Housing

Continuing Education & Independent Living Skills

Legal/Financial Support

Planning for Aging

Report back- Evaluate Early Childhood Services

Lifespan People need different types and amounts of supports over the course of their lives. Formal supports [provided by government] complement and supplement natural supports provided by family and community.

Birth & Infancy to 5 — Parental Care

Age 5-21 — Family Care / School Years

Age 14-21 — Transition to Adulthood

Age 18+ — Adulthood & Aging

Health Care

Diagnosis & Early Intervention

LD 1715 CDS to DOE

Transportation

Education

Vocation/Employment/Retirement

Quality Flexible Wraparound Supports

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Referendum passed
Reverse last sessions vote on vaccines

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Legal/Financial Support

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Birth & Infancy to 5

P

Diagnosis & Ea

Adulthood & Aging

LD 593 Stabilize Behavioral Health Workforce Increase rates for Section 65

LR2883 / Gramlich An Act to Provide Timely Access to Behavioral Health

Services for Maine Children (no language yet)

LD 1418 Address Shortage Behavioral Health Services- Annual Report to Leg.

Housing and Quality Services — 12/9/19 final draft

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School years- DOE
LD 1376 Restraint and Seclusion- Make sure policies are followed and Make Biennial Reports on use.

Diagnosis & Early Intervention

Education

Vocation/Employment/Retirement

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Community Personal Supports

LD 1178 Address needs of children with I/DD and ASD (DHHS may apply for children's waiver or state plan amendment to accomplish this) HHS

Lifespan People need different types and ... natural supports provided by family and community.

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Housing

Continuing Education & Independent Living Skills

...inancial Support

Planning for Aging

Health Care

Diagnosis & Early Intervention

Transportation

Education

Vocation/Employment/Retirement

Quality Flexible Wraparound Supports

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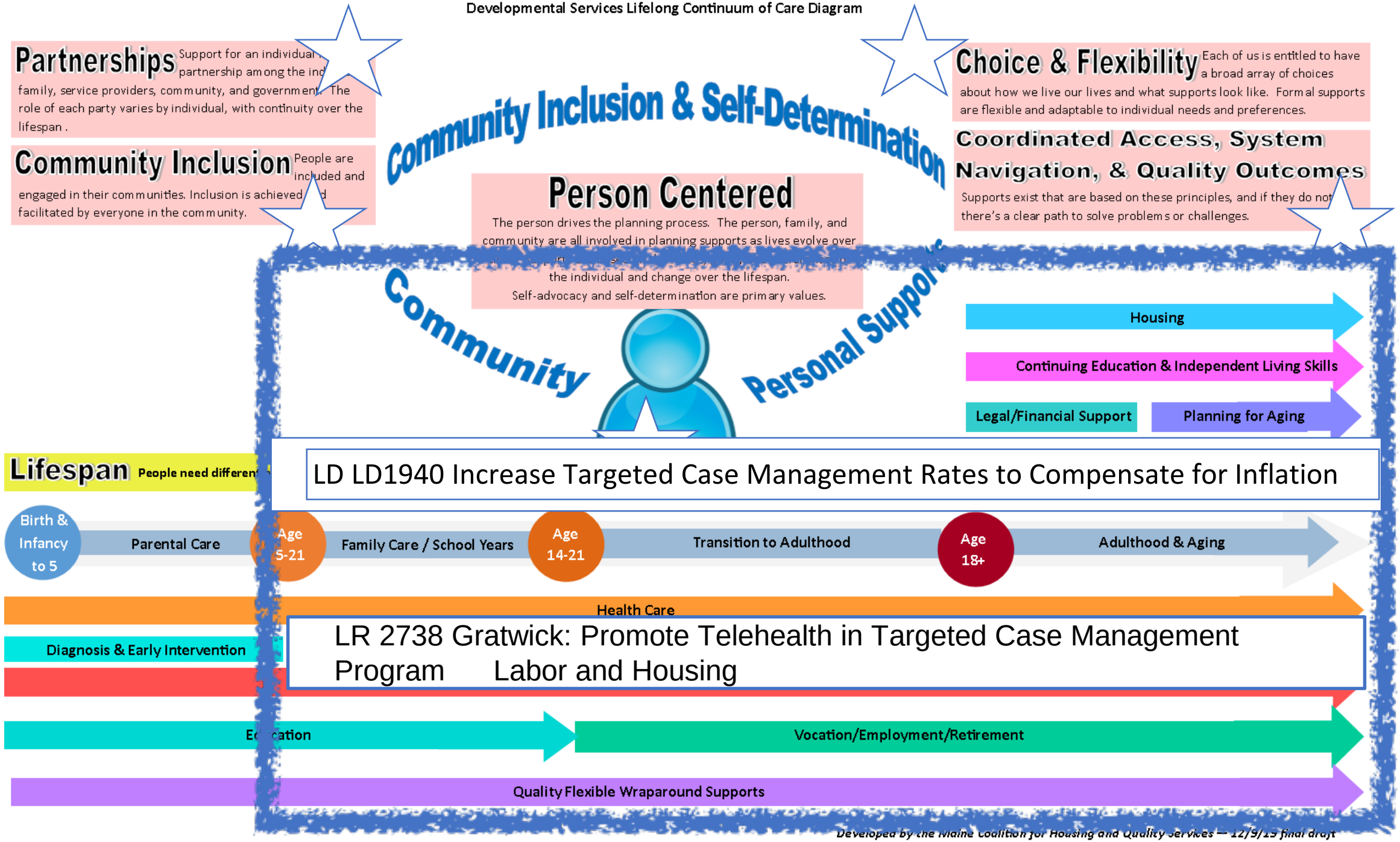

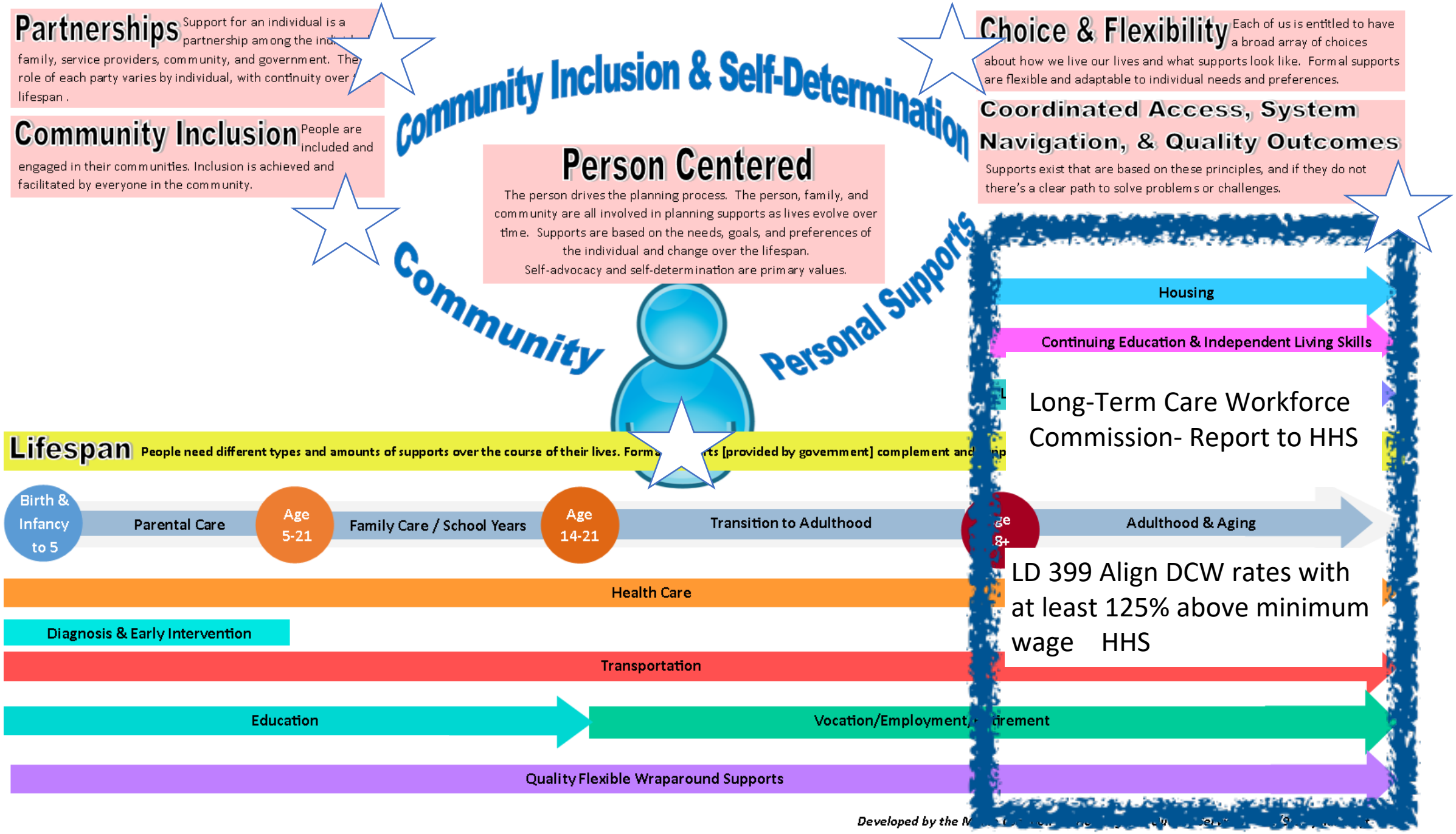
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Personal Supports
Housing
Continuing Education & Independent Living Skills
Long-Term Care Workforce Commission- Report to HHS
Lifespan
People need different types and amounts of supports over the course of their lives. Formal supports [provided by government] complement and
Birth & Infancy to 5
Parental Care
Age 5-21
Family Care / School Years
Age 14-21
Transition to Adulthood
Adulthood & Aging
LD 399 Align DCW rates with at least 125% above minimum wage HHS
Health Care
Diagnosis & Early Intervention
Transportation
Education
Vocation/Employment
Quality Flexible Wraparound Supports
Developed by the

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Housing

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Legal/Financial Support

Planning for Aging

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Birth & Infancy to 5

Parental Care

Age 5-21

Family Care / School Years

Health Care

Diagnosis & Early Intervention

Transportation

Education

Vocation/Employment/Retirement

Quality Flexible Wraparound Supports

LD 1984 Eliminate the waiting list for Sec. 18, 20, 21 and 29 HHS Emergency

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Housing

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Legal/Financial Support

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Transportation

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Vocation/Employment

Retirement

Quality Flexible Wraparound Supports

LD 1486 Strengthen Crisis Support HHS

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Health Care

Diagnosis & Early Intervention

Transportation

Education

Vocation/Emplo

LD 1874 Eliminate Subminimum

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LD 1377 Mortality Review Panel HHS

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LD 1970 Electronic Visit Verification for DCW

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Coordinated Access, System Navigation, & Quality Outcomes

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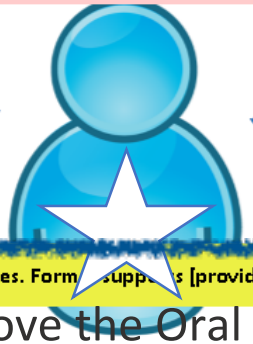


Lifespan People need different types and amounts of supports over the course of their lives. Formal supports [provided by government] complement and s

LD1453 Gattine: MaineCare program and Improve the Oral Health of Maine Adults and Children

Birth & Infancy | Parental Care | Age 5-21 | Family Care / School Years | Age 14-21 | Transition to Adulthood

Housing

Continuing Education & Independent Living Skills

LD 373 Dental for I/DD, ASD,Brain Injury and other related conditions- Through MaineCare HHS

Health Care

Diagnosis & Early Intervention

Transportation

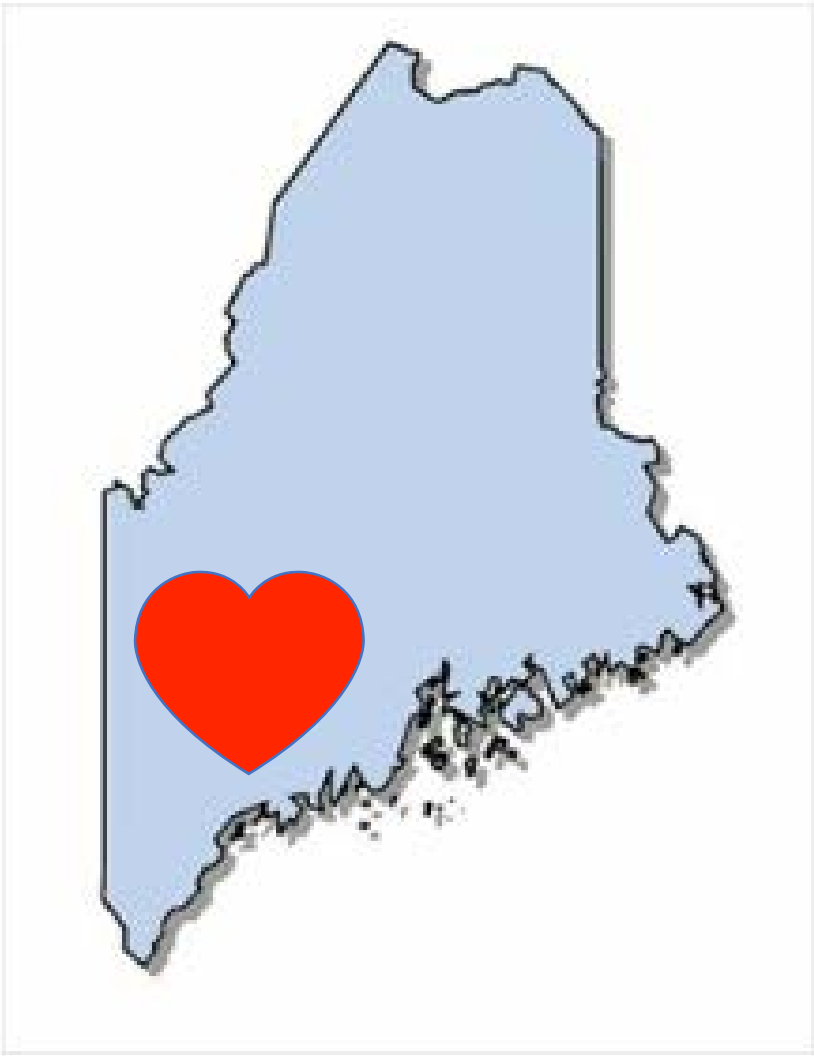
Education

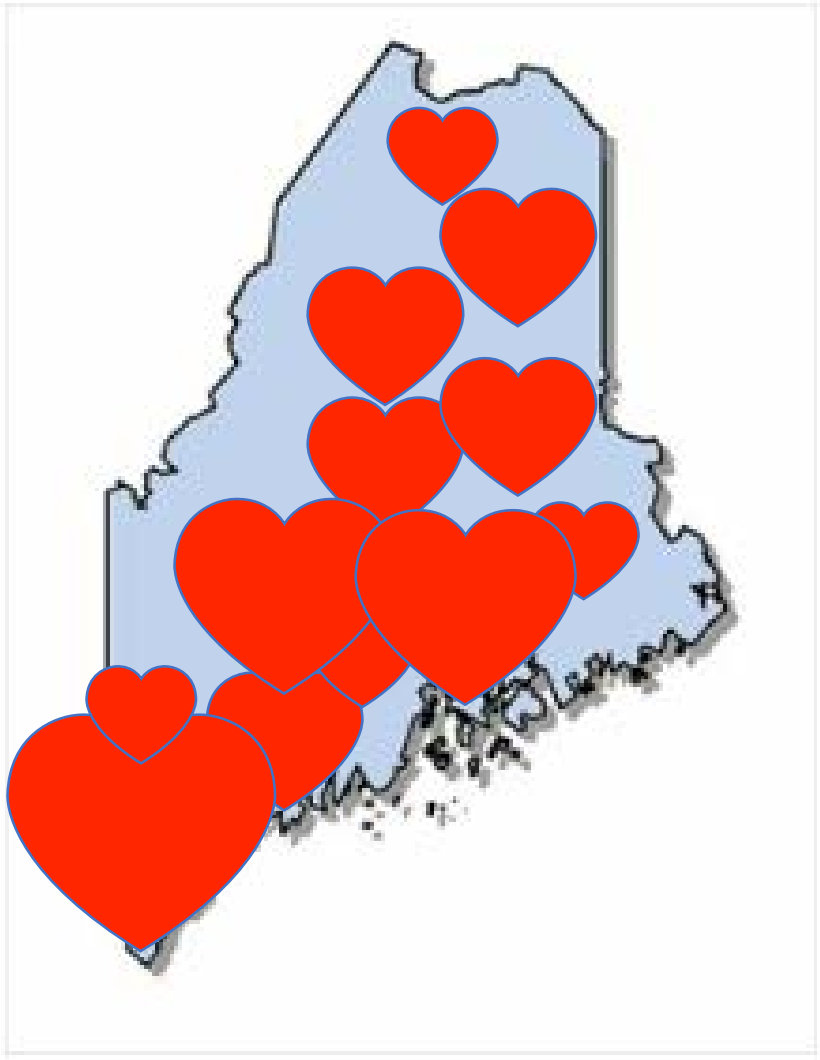
Vocation/Employment/Re ement

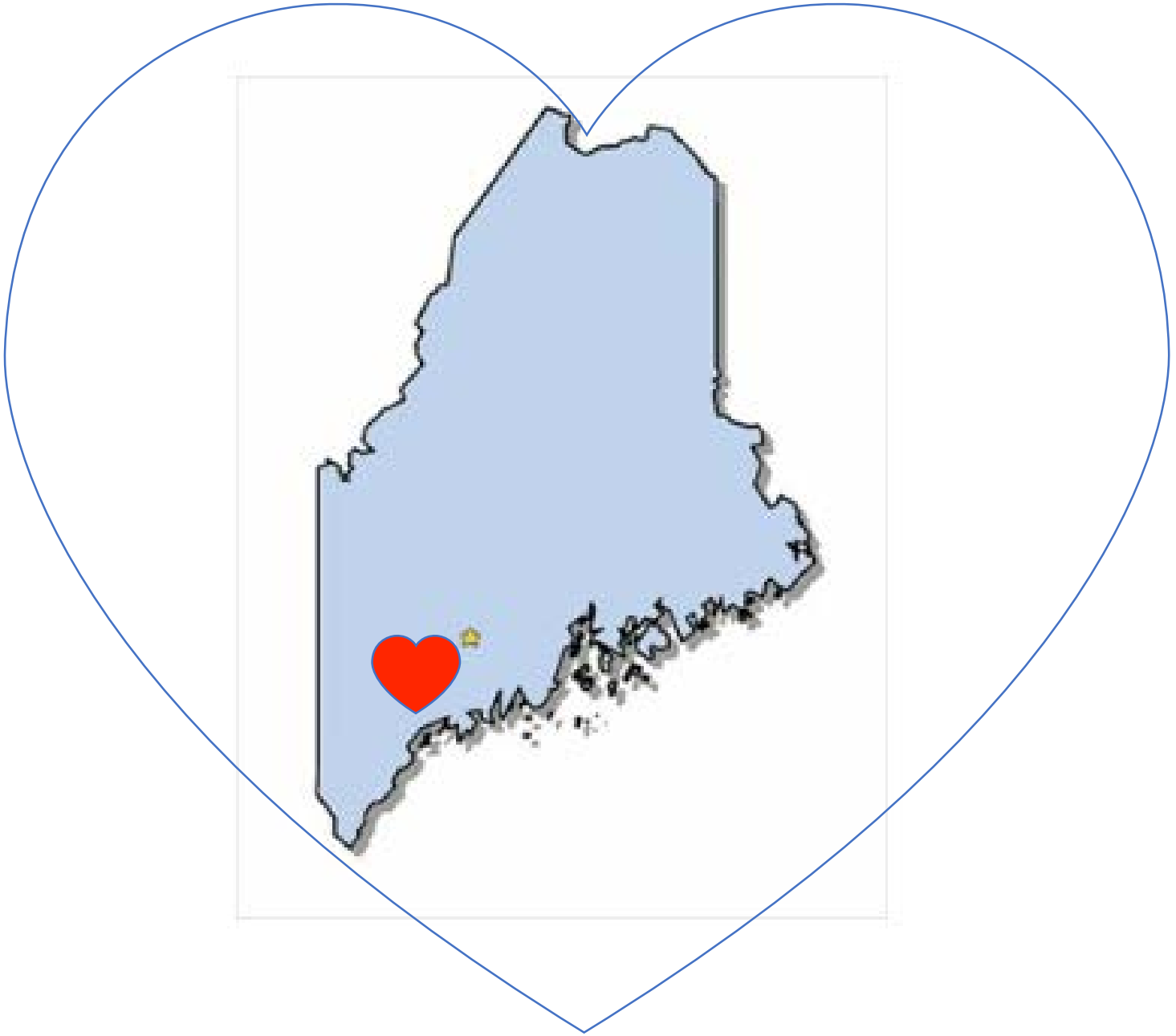
Quality Flexible Wraparound Supports

Developed by the Maine Coalition for Housing and Quality Services – 12/9/13 final draft

PLEASE
JOIN US!
We welcome your feedback!
Potential to Grow Over Time







Questions or Comments

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207-754-3435

COMMUNITY CONNECT ME