

Updates from OCFS for Maine Housing Coalition Mtg dated 3/13/17

DHHS is partnering with Maine Housing Authority to host a “Statewide Youth Homeless Strategic Planning Meeting” with a focus on ending youth homelessness in Maine. The meeting is scheduled for May 12th at the Augusta Armory from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Please contact Cathy Register at 822-2331 or email her at cathy.register@maine.gov for further information.

Children’s Behavioral Health Services continues to finalize both the new CANS Assessment and the CBHS Planning Process; both which we hope to roll out within the next six months. Both of these roll outs will require Targeted Case Management, Section 13 rule changes.

CBHS staff, along with Child Welfare staff will be attending the “Looking at Employment with New Eyes: Creating a Culture of Work for Youth with Disabilities,” which is part of the *Employment for ME Workforce Development System* funded by Maine DHHS and Vocational Rehabilitation to certify, support and mentor Employment Specialists across the state. OCFS is very excited to have a large focus on employment opportunities for youth in transition. A focus on employment will be an expectation in all behavioral health services and will eventually be written into policy. The targeted audience are children’s case managers, educators, families, advocacy and state agency staff. ***Scholarship monies are available for parents or family members wanting to attend. Please contact joyce@syntiro.org.***

Recently, CBHS presented a Webinar this week for Targeted Case Management providers on “Choosing the Right Client for the Right Service at the Right Time.” The Webinar can be viewed at <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/cbhs/provider/training.html>. Included is the new Referral Management process for Section 28 and Section 65 HCT which went live on February 1, 2017. Conference calls with providers are ongoing to ensure that services for waiting children are delivered in the smoothest way possible.