

Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) and Brain Injury Updates



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Maine Coalition for Housing and Quality
Services

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OADS: What We Do

Mission

We promote the highest level of independence, health, and safety for older adults and adults with disabilities throughout Maine.

Staffing Update

- Residents, families, providers and DHHS staff working together got through the healthcare worker vaccination deadline without major disruption to residential programs
- Some community support programs have been closed temporarily in order to reassign staff to critical residential needs
- The Department continues to monitor the situation closely and work with stakeholders to address ongoing challenges
- The Staff Retention and Recruitment has been updated: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/recruitment-and-retention-toolkit>
- In addition to the 7/1/21 rate increase, bonus payments are still planned (pending CMS approval), as well as January 2022 rate increases

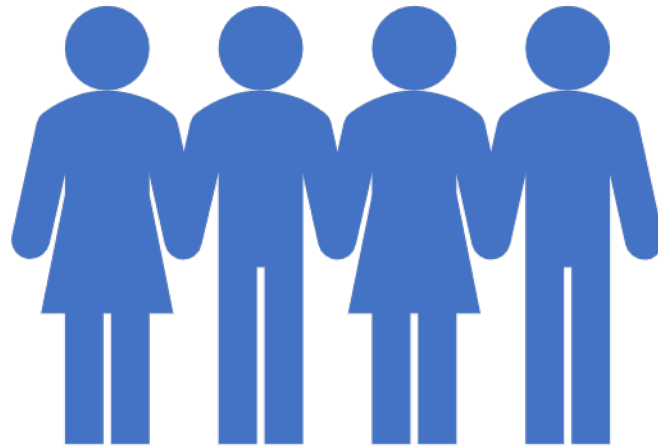
Aging and Disability Mortality Review Panel

- Governor Mills' budget included funding to establish an independent review process for all deaths that occur among participants of Maine's five HCBS waiver programs
- The panel will be located at Maine CDC and staffed by a full-time health care clinician
- Applications are now being accepted for the coordinator position: <https://mainebhr.hire.trakstar.com/jobs/fk0szjf/>
- Many thanks to MDSOAB and all who advocated for this important addition to our quality improvement infrastructure

Community Membership Workgroup

Areas of Focus:

- ✓ *Community Support Service Reform*
- ✓ *Implementation of Employment First Statute*
- ✓ *Person Centered Planning Improvement, including self-determination and advocacy*
- ✓ *Home and Community Based Service Setting Rule, post 2023*



Innovation Work Group

Areas of Focus:

- ✓ *Innovative Housing*
- ✓ *Crisis Prevention and De-escalation*
- ✓ *Self-Directed Services*
- ✓ *Technology*
- ✓ *Implementation of a Standardized Needs Assessment*
- ✓ *Services Across a Lifespan*



Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement Work Group

Areas of Focus:

- ✓ Definition of Quality
- ✓ What Data Will Help Inform our Decisions?
- ✓ How Do we Move From Quality Assurance (Compliance) to Quality Improvement?



Two Upcoming Stakeholder Meetings:

TOPIC: Standardized Needs Assessment

DATE: November 19, 2021

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30

Zoom Link:

<https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/85760204238>

TOPIC: Listening Session 14-197 Chapter 3

DATE: Wednesday, November 17, 2021

TIME: 11:00 – 12:00

Register to Attend: E-mail Joseph.Zamboni@maine.gov

Resources for Individuals and Families

- Current flexibilities that might help families with alternative waiver services:
 - ✓ Shared Living may be rendered by Family Caregiver, Spouse and Guardians of waiver participants through the provider agency authorized to provide supports
 - ✓ Services including personal support and attendant care may be rendered by relatives or spouses of waiver participants when hired or contracted by the provider agency. A family that is interested should approach the provider agency of their choice, either directly or through their case manager. Note that a provider agency is not required to hire family members but may do so.
 - ✓ Training and Direct Support Professional certification requirements for waiver participants' relatives and spouses are not required before a relative or spouse can begin providing services, but training and certification must be completed by the end date for Appendix K (6 months post federal emergency)

Resources for Individuals and Families

- Family Support Funds:

<https://www1.maine.gov/dhhs/sites/maine.gov.dhhs/files/documents/Family-Support-Funds-Policy-CCM-Only-032320.pdf>

- COVID-19 Vaccine for children, and boosters for all ages:

<https://www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines>

- Help understanding or advocating for rights: call Disability Rights Maine at 800.452.1948, or use online intake form <https://drme.org/online-intake-form>

- Case managers can help families identify and access services. Case management State Liaisons can assist if a case manager is not responsive:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oads/get-support/adults-intellectual-disability-and-autism/case-management>

Vision

- More **stability and sustainability**, as workforce solutions and program innovations are implemented
- More **equity**, as people with similar needs get similar levels of support
- More **balance** in the system, as shared living and innovative living arrangements grow
- More **integration** into the community, as opportunities for full membership grow and deepen
- More **individualized options**, as self-direction expands, and person-centered planning is renewed
- More **continuity**, as we improve lifespan transitions
- More **emphasis on quality** as program certification and training expands and alternative payment methods incorporate quality

Discussion