Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Update for the Joint Committee on Health and Human Services

### Commissioner Jeanne Lambrew, PhD

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- I. Strengthening DHHS
- II. Ongoing Work and Challenges

## I. Strengthening DHHS Why: DHHS Goals



## How We Do Our Work

- Bolstering staff
  - Expanded leadership team
  - Posted and filled 462 jobs
    - Added 130 staff to OCFS
    - Increased public health nurse program to 39
- Improving our workplace
  - Holding district "office hours"
  - Restarted employee recognition committee
  - Promoting diversity, equity, inclusion

- Fostering transparency
  - 36 updates
  - 71 press releases
  - Quarterly and monthly data updates
  - Revamping website
  - FOAA processing and training
- Engaging in partnerships
  - Improved existing advisory bodies
  - Forged inter-Departmental working groups
  - Created new public-private engagements

## Who We Are: DHHS Workforce



## Who We Serve: Quarterly Snapshot



# Improving Coverage & Affordability



Source: MaineCare Claims

#### Open Enrollment

- 62,213 enrollees on HealthCare.gov
- Over 70 percent increase in MaineCare applications

#### **Prescription Drugs**

- Extended financial
  assistance for
  prescription drug and
  premium costs for 1,800
  low-income seniors and
  people with disabilities
- Developing a drug importation program

FEMALE

MALE

<sup>\*</sup>Members receiving Opioid Use Disorder Treatment data is included within members receiving Substance Use Disorder Treatment data

# Improving Coverage & Affordability

#### **Enrollment in Private Markets**



### Made for Maine Health Coverage Act

- Simplifies out-of-pocket costs
- Stabilizes the small group market
- Takes control of the Health Insurance Marketplace

   Starting this year

## **Rural Health Transformation**

#### Maine Population Density

(U.S. Census Bureau, 2017)



ACTION	DESCRIPTION
STATEWIDE	
Address telehealth gaps	Fill gaps in MaineCare, private insurance
Strengthen primary care	Support participation in new demos
Build workforce	Identify gaps, programs, and incentives
REGIONAL PLANS	
Develop referral system	Formalize system for perinatal care
DELIVERY SYSTEM PILOT	
Identify sites	Assess hospitals / services, needs, leadership
Develop models	Array options, estimated impact & trade-offs, identify waivers

# **Opioid Response**

#### STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN FRAMEWORK

#### LEADERSHIP

• Priority A: Take decisive, evidence-based and community-focused actions in response to Maine's opioid crisis

#### PREVENTION

- Priority B: Prevent the early use of addictive substances by children and youth
- Priority C: Reduce the number of prescribed and illicitly obtained opioids

#### **OVERDOSE RESCUE**

- Priority D: Make naloxone available to anyone who needs it
- Priority E: Maximize data to reduce harm

#### TREATMENT

- Priority F: Ensure the availability of treatment that is local, immediate, and affordable
- Priority G: Promote the understanding and use of harm reduction strategies

#### RECOVERY

- Priority H: Support individuals in recovery
- Priority I: Build and support recovery-ready communities



#### Examples of Actions to Date

- Eyes Open campaign
- Distributed 12,000 doses of naloxone, with 50 known successful reversals
- Trained 200 additional recovery coaches
- Supported 9 recovery centers with 3 more in the works
- Supported medication assisted treatment in 8 jails and the prison system with 5 more in the works
- Hosted a Opioid Response Summit
- Invested \$2 million in prevention, starting with children

## Behavioral Health Map & Match

### **Example: Capacity Map**

**Zipcodes with Waivered Buprenorphine Prescribers** 

and Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) Locations AROOSTOOK PISCATAQUIS SCOT SOMERSET WASHINGTON FRAN OXFORD ANDROS Number of Waivered Prescribers 2 - 5 UMBERLAND OTP 25 miles SOURCE: DEA: SAMHSA.

- Map: Systematically capture treatment capacity in real time
- Match: Identify systems to connect people with appropriate type of treatment

• Uses:

- Opioid response
- Criminal justice system diversion
- Co-occurring conditions

## Behavioral Health Map & Match

#### Goal: Build and support a continuum of care to meet Mainers' needs



Preliminary: Mirrors Model for Children's Behavioral Health Strategy

## **Embracing Maine's Aging Population**





## Children's Cabinet

### Ready to Learn: Early Childhood Development

- Safe sleep campaign
- Prevention: Increasing:
  - Lead screening
  - Developmental screening
  - Vaccinations
- Social and emotional learning
- Quality child care



### Successful Transitions For At-Risk Youth

- Substance use disorder prevention initiative
  - \$2 million from the Fund for Healthy Maine
- Expanding capacity to treat complex behavioral health disorders
- Exploring additional school-based programs

## **Opportunity through Education and Training**

### **Opportunity in DHHS**

- People with low income
- People in recovery
- People with intellectual or developmental disability
- Older Mainers

### **DHHS** Activity

- Programs:
  - TANF: Aspire
  - SNAP: Education and Training
  - HOPE
  - Parents as Scholars
  - LIFT and STEP
- Pilots

# **Crosscutting Themes**

### • Transportation

- Contract alignment, listening sessions, evaluation
- Working Cars for Working Families

### • Housing

- Technical assistance through Medicaid
- Supportive housing
- Residential care and treatment

### • Food Security

- SNAP: Advances and challenges

# **II. Ongoing Work and Challenges**

#### Laws, Resolves, Studies, Task Forces, Committee Requests

- Leading or involved in implementing 107 laws
- Participating in 54 resolves, reports, studies, and task forces
- Little to no funding or additional capacity for implementation

#### Additional Analysis, Strategic Plan Development

- Issued a request for proposals on a MaineCare rate system evaluation
- Gathering feedback on strategic plan for services for adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities
- Focusing on crisis services and critical gaps

## Federal Government Challenges

#### MaineCare

- Service Tax
- Medicaid Financial Accountability Proposed Rule
- Other Potential Costs

#### Others

- SNAP (Food Supplement Benefit) Eligibility Limits
- Texas versus US