The Plan for Forensic Patients in Maine

Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Objectives for Success

- Enhanced Treatment
  - Providing the highest level of care to both civil and forensic patients
- Enhanced Security
  - Addressing the needs of the judicial process while also providing a safe environment for clients and staff
- Fiscal Management
  - Changing the system will provide savings to Maine’s taxpayers
Barriers and Challenges

- **Consent Decree**
  - Patients sent to Riverview immediately become class members and have elevated levels of treatment, care, and are significantly more expensive to treat

- **Safety**
  - Patients and staff have a right to a safe environment

- **Funding and CMS**
  - Any proposed solution will have a price tag associated with it
  - CMS has been moving the goalposts and the funding being provided can disappear at any time
Proposed Solutions

Secure Residential Treatment Program ➔ Change Package
B.A.S.E. Unit ➔ L.R. 2012

- **Secure Residential Treatment Program**
  - Addresses the NCR population which does not require a hospital level of care
  - $600 per day per patient versus the $1,200 per day per patient at Riverview
- **Behavioral Assessment Safety Evaluation (B.A.S.E.) Unit**
  - Addresses the ongoing safety issues and complaints that have been made by CMS in certifying Riverview as a hospital
  - ISTs, NCRs, Jail Transfers
Riverview Population

- NCR: 28
- IST: 12
- 60 Day Eval: 1
- Jail Transfers: 0
- Civil Patients: 40
- TOTAL: 81

- NCR: 49%
- IST: 35%
- 60 Day Evaluation: 15%
- Civil: 1%
Secure Residential Treatment Program

- Change Package request in Biennial Budget
- Two seven-bed secure residential facilities
- 14 of the 28 individuals currently at Riverview that are Not Criminally Responsible (NCR) and do not require a hospital level of care
- Current annual cost: $6,132,000
- Proposed annual cost: $3,066,000

- Less Restrictive Care
- Lower Costs

- Addresses CMS Issues
- Enhanced Safety and Security
B.A.S.E. Unit

- 50-bed secure facility for individuals that are Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) or awaiting/going through court-ordered evaluation
- Prevents co-mingling of civil and forensic patients and allows for proper assessment of patient needs
- Proposed annual cost: $18,500,000

- Provides Maine Courts a place to send individuals for evaluation
- Reduces burden on County jails
- Enhanced Safety and Security for Patients and Staff
A New Path for Forensic Patients

- Forensic patients will only go to Riverview after a safety assessment is completed and they require hospital level of care.

- NCRs that do not need a hospital level of care will go to the Secure Residential Treatment Program once they are deemed safe.