

# **MaineCare Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

June 2, 2020  
10:00 a.m. to noon  
Via Zoom

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Kathy Kilrain del Rio called to order the regular meeting of the MaineCare Advisory Committee at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **II. ROLL CALL**

Kathy Kilrain del Rio conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

Kathy Kilrain del Rio; Vickie McCarty; Laura Cordes; Jamie Cotnoir; Leo Delicata; Cathy Dionne; Gia Drew; Al Durgin; Rachel Dyer; Mark Eves; Suzanne Farley; Mike Hallundbaek; Candy Henderly; Jillian Jolicoeur; Marge Kilkelly; Sarah Lewis; Jim Martin; Atlee Riley; Dee Sabattus; Mary Schneckenburger; Dahm Larsen sitting in for Judy Seals; Susan White.

Esther Bullard; Sarah Grant; Tom Leet; Bill Logan; Michelle Probert; Molly Slotznick.

Guests: Sana Abduljabbar; Jill Adams; Kathy Adams; Julie Brennan; Kirsten Capeless; Erin Colgan; Norma Desjardins; Suzanne Farley; Brooke Holton; Becca Matusovich; Sana Osman; Malory Shaughnessy;

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a) Q&A Session With Leana Amaez, DHHS Manager of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

- Leana shared an overview of her role at DHHS.
  - Diversity, equity, and inclusion are the focus of her work.
  - Addressing disparities based on race and ethnicity with COVID-19.
  - Internal Component. What does staffing look like across DHHS? The goal is an inclusive work structure.
  - The MAC inquired about data collection. Leana noted that data collection is voluntary. She doesn't believe we collect a lot of data with respect to how folks identify.
  - Michelle noted we have a new Workforce Development Manager within DHHS, Joy Gould.

b) **COVID-19 Update With Michelle Probert**

- Federal option to provide testing and testing related coverage with uninsured population.
- Leveraging telehealth to get access to rural communities.
- OADS has put forth guidance for home and community based service providers to provide services via telehealth.

c) **Planning For The Impending Mental Health/ Substance Abuse Crisis From COVID**

- The MAC expressed the concern that there will be a higher need for behavioral health services due to disruption from the virus.
- Jessica Pollard shared that MAC members can join The Office of Behavioral Health's list serve to receive townhall invites [OBH.Townhall@maine.gov](mailto:OBH.Townhall@maine.gov)

d) **Dental Providers and COVID-19**

- Norma Desjardins noted dentistry has been hit particularly hard with the pandemic. Offices are working to identify what procedures they can do for prevention for their members. Would like to have some time to talk with MaineCare to present a table of codes they'd like to present with some possible reimbursement rate increases or to provide more frequently than the current parameters allow.
- Michelle noted she is happy to reach out to commas office to initiate a conversation around dental care to see if she can make a meeting happen

e) **Review of Rulemaking with William Logan**

- The Telehealth rule is in comment period. Comments close June 6<sup>th</sup>
- Since the last MAC meeting the Section 65 Emergency rule has been adopted.
- Section 18 and Section 20 Waiver Amendment notices have been released.

f) **PNMI Rate Discussion**

g) **Service Provider Tax Inquiry From Jillian**

What sort of conversations have been happening around the Federal government's proposal to eliminate the service provider tax? If it is going to be eliminated in January, it would be good to hear that.

Michelle noted the Department is in the process of setting up a conversation with Maine Revenue with the goal of coming to more clarity.

h) **Items From Guests.**

None

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

Kathy Kilrain del Rio adjourned the meeting at 12 06 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Lisa Weaver