Quick Start Recommendations

- June 26 Quick Start recommendations due today
  - Submitted recommendations for Medical Care Campaign and Care for School Age Children

July 15 Recommendations Discussion

- Nonprofit fund intends to focus on nonprofits providing community-based support, in partnership with foundations and with attention to organizations supporting new Mainers
  - Source of funding would likely be from CARES Act (60 mil in New Hampshire)
  - Lack of access to childcare and dependent and elderly care are both barriers that the nonprofit relief fund addresses
    - Behavioral health workers taking care of developmental issues have also been unable to access during the pandemic

Healthcare

- Enrollment in Mainecare has increased.
- Possibility of a comprehensive review of Medicaid rates.
- Possibility of a bonus for Mainecare workers.
- Mainecare is extending the ability to reimburse for telehealth services.
- Internet access is also needed for telehealth.
- Maine Hospital Association and reached out to the governor to ask for $100 million for hospitals and practices in Maine
- Need to bridge gap between local health officers to district officers
- Need clear roles for public health and emergency medicine work distribution.
- The LD 227 resolve state created a coordinating council and convened stakeholders to do a local assessment – but this takes time.
- Maine Public Health Association also has convened a group of taskforces to give them support and guidance, but more support and structure is needed.
- **PPE** would be better distributed through a better public health framework.
  - PPE is a cross-cutting recommendation across subcommittees
- Importance of considering how “community” is defined and possibly using an equity multiplier to provide resources to those who need them most – modeled after MEHA

Childcare

- Childcare programs struggling, extra costs as they reopen
• Recommendation around need for funding for schools to work with providers of after school care to provide wraparound services – the education committee will be including funding for this in their recommendation.
• Birth-five childcare sector OCFS has been giving recovery and reopening grants, need more money for that program.
• Looking about $15-20 million in funding for Childcare programs, also hoping for more federal funds to supplement that investment into the fall
• Potential to provide grants, tax credits, a loan forgiveness program or hazard pay to recruit childcare workers
• Education retraining important and has not been mentioned so far in the ERC

New Mainers
• Immigrant populations have to be able to access federal safety net programs
• Including TANF, Mainecare, Food Assistance
• Logistically, state funding would could be used to provide these programs

Housing
• Lots of support from other committee members for housing supports to supplement Maine Housing’s initiative, Including:
  rapid rehousing, eviction preventions (Maine Housing already working on and could implement quickly), and Rental Assistance directly to landlord that matches fair market rents.  (to supplement assistance from Maine Housing)

General Assistance
• 30% paid now
• Smaller group should meet to recommend policies for GA and Housing

Direct need stimulus funding
• Targeted to lowest income Mainers
• Especially if $600 UI checks go away

Next steps
• Let Ana know if you can meet either Thursday at 9 or Wednesday at 8
  • Wednesday is preferable to meet before Thursday’s ERC meeting