

**State of Maine
Department of Health and Human Services**

Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
And
Office of Children and Family Services

Request for Information

for

Peer Supports and Services

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Revised Date: August 14, 2013
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Request for Information

This is a non-binding Request for Information (RFI) seeking information from interested parties. Vendors should not provide any specific cost or customized pricing documentation as this is an information gathering and market research exercise, not a formal solicitation of a specific requirement (such as in a Request for Proposals (RFP) document). All responses to this RFI will be considered public information and, as such, the State makes no representation it can, or will, maintain the confidentiality of such information.

With this RFI we request information regarding products, services, and models which may receive future support from The Department (Maine's Department of Health and Human Services). The same information will be gathered from different vendors, organizations, peers, other interested parties and will be used to help establish specific definitions and parameters for the development of a future RFP(s). This RFI is not to be construed as an RFP and no contract awards will result directly from this RFI process. Contract awards will only follow a subsequent RFP(s), if any.

Abbreviation and Terminology

Intentional Peer Support: Is a philosophy based on three principals and four tasks used to develop and maintain mutual relationships. Through relationships we think about help in a new way. Rather than focusing on problem solving and what we don't want in our lives, we instead challenge one another to discover our hopes and dreams. Together we learn and grow and move towards what we want.

The Three Principles reflect what is done in peer support. They are:

- Focus on Learning rather than helping
- Focus on the relationship rather than on the individual
- Focusing on Hope and Possibilities rather than fear

The Four Tasks of Intentional Peer Support reflect how we practice Intentional Peer Support. They are:

- Building Connection
- Helping each other understand how we've come to know what we know (worldview)
- Re-defining help as a co-learning and growing process (mutuality)
- Moving towards what we want, rather than away from what we don't want

Peer Support: Is about entering into transparent relationship to support recovery, resiliency and wellness in which both people are there to learn and grow through the process of their relationship, a commitment to mutuality, and negotiating power.

Peer: A person who is receiving, or has received, services related to the diagnosis of a mental health and/or substance use condition that has seriously impacted their life and relationships for an extended period of time and is willing to self-identify on this basis with peers and in the community.

Other Terminology (in alphabetical order):

Block Grants: Maine is the recipient of several federal block grants. In particular, the Community Mental Health Block Grant and the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant which are both funded by SAMHSA

CIPSS (Certified Intentional Peer Support Specialist): A person who has received, and is maintaining, certification through Maine's Intentional Peer Support Training and Certification program.

Family Peer Support: A parent or primary caregiver who is raising (or has raised) a child/youth who has emotional and/or behavioral challenges and has experience in advocating for his/her child in multiple settings or systems

MaineCare: A government insurance program nationally known as Medicaid, targeting persons with low incomes and/or disabilities.

Milestones: a significant event or outcome of the proposed service

OCFS: Office of Children and Family Services, an office of Maine's Department of Health and Human Services.

OSAMHS: Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services, an Office of Maine's Department of Health and Human Services.

Outcomes: a final product or end result of the proposed service

SAMHSA: a division within the federal government, Department of Health and Human Services, known as the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Service Deliverables: a contractual expectation

System of Care: The System of Care model is an organizational philosophy and framework that involves collaboration across agencies, families, youths and adults for the purpose of improving access and expanding the array of coordinated community-based, culturally and linguistically competent services and supports.

The Department: Maine's Department of Health and Human Services.

RFI Procedure

To respond to this RFI, please fill in the attached form 'RESPONSE CONTENT FORM' provided below. The contact person listed below is available for assistance, if needed.

The responses to this RFI will be reviewed by staff from OSAMHS and OCFS. As a reminder, all responses to this RFI will be considered public information and, as such, the State makes no representation it can, or will, maintain the confidentiality of such information.

How to deliver the response:

1. Send the attached form in MS Word or PDF format by email to:

Jane.Malinowski@Maine.gov

2. Send hard copy to:

Jane Malinowski,
DHHS--OSAMHS
41 Anthony Ave
Augusta, ME 04333-0011

3. Click on the link below 'Peer Supports and Services RFI Response Form' to submit your suggestions via the web. <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/samhs/peersupport/rfi-response-form.shtml>

Contact Person:

For questions regarding this RFI, please contact:

Leticia Huttman
SAMHS Recovery Team
Tel: (207) 287-2595
E-mail: Leticia.Huttman@Maine.gov

Timeframe:

07/12/2013– RFI is released

07/22/2013 – Portland Forum, 9:00 am – 11:00

DHHS Building, 161 Marginal Way, Conference Room B

07/23/2013 – Augusta Forum, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Department of Transportation Building, Capital Street – main entrance is across from Capital Park, Main Conference Room, 2nd Floor

07/31/2013 –Bangor Forum, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center, New Auditorium, 656 State Street

08/02/2013– Last date for questions to be submitted by interested parties

08/14/2013– Last date for submission of answers by the Department

09/30/2013– RFI response deadline

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Background and Goals

The Mission of the Department is to, 'Provide integrated health and human services to the people of Maine to assist individuals in meeting their needs, while respecting the rights and preferences of the individual and family, within available resources.'

The Department is seeking to support an array of inter related services and funding sources for peer related services/supports. This 'array' would consist of a variety of services funded by different streams of revenue, appropriate for those particular services. Today in Maine, the vast majority of peer related services/supports are funded through State General Funds, with some Block Grant dollars supporting Children's Services at this time.

Proposed service(s) submitted for consideration under this RFI should:

1. demonstrate a promising or best practice in the field
2. include a methodology for financial and programmatic accountability
3. demonstrate individual based outcomes
4. Identify appropriate funding sources

Statement of Need

The Department is seeking innovative, promising, and fact- based, measurable evidenced based best practices of Peer services/supports that can be demonstrated to be cost effective, accountable, and sustainable. The target population are those individuals and families served (or eligible to be served) by the Office of Children and Family Services and the Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services. The service(s) proposed could be supported either entirely or in combination by the following funding sources: MaineCare, Block Grant, Other Federal Grant, State General Fund, other private/public source—a component of the response template will ask you what particular funding source(s) you would suggest. A partial list of Peer services/supports and potential settings may include (in alphabetical order):

- Community Support Services
- Correctional Settings
- Crisis Support/Diversion
- Emergency Room
- Family Support
- Foster Care
- Hospital Diversion
- Outreach
- Primary Care
- Employment Supports
- Housing Supports
- Health and Wellness
- Recovery & Resiliency Supports

The Department will consider these responses, along with other data and information, to support our initiatives which include, but are not limited to: future development of Requests for Proposals; future groundwork in exploring MaineCare reimbursed services; future development of monitoring and evaluation tools that support evidenced based best practice standards for new and existing services.

A form has been included below, 'RESPONSE CONTENT FORM', to solicit specific feedback on Peer Services/Supports that you may propose. Vendors, organizations, individuals, and other interested parties are encouraged to submit one 'RESPONSE CONTENT FORM' for each particular service being submitted under this RFI. Multiple submissions to provide feedback on the various services are encouraged.

We appreciate your time in responding to this RFI. Not all questions are required to be answered in order for you to submit information to be shared with the Department. The content of all responses is considered public information.

RESPONSE CONTENT FORM

Name of individual/ organization completing RFI Response: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Address [Click here to enter text.](#)

City/State/Zip [Click here to enter text.](#)

Phone [Click here to enter text.](#)

Email [Click here to enter text.](#)

Category of Responder: (please check)

Service Provider: Not for Profit or For Profit

Professional or Provider Association

Consumer/Peer or Consumer/Peer Group

Family Member or Family Group

Advocacy Group

Other (please specify) [Click here to enter text.](#)

Service Description - briefly describe the service/support you are commenting on. (If you are commenting on more than one service/support, please fill out a separate form for each one.)
[Click here to enter text.](#)

Check all domains that apply to the service/support you are commenting on:

Prevention: Prevention is the active, assertive process of creating conditions that promote well-being, keeping problems associated with substance use/abuse and mental health from occurring. Includes Media Campaigns, public awareness and education campaigns, anti-stigma and discrimination efforts, as well as cultural/sensitivity training across population groups. Prevention services promote reduction in risk factors and community resiliency as well as stable housing and stable families.

Intervention: Targets persons at risk or in the early stages of developing substance abuse or mental health issues and to aid in the reduction of future problems. Includes outreach services and supports often found in Emergency Rooms, Diversion Programs, Shelters and Streets, Crisis Services.

Treatment: Supports and promotes good health for people in Maine with mental health and substance abuse issues. Provides a variety of services and supports where the person is at: Community and Educational Settings, Institutions, and Residential Treatment Facilities.

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Assists with the coordination, planning, and implementation of alcohol and drug abuse programs and mental health services.

□Recovery: Programs and initiatives that support a process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to live a meaningful, satisfying, and contributing life in community and relationships of his or her choice. This includes promotion of Wellness and Community/social inclusion supports, and programs such as employment, housing, and mutual aid supports.

□Resiliency: At its foundation, a resilience based approach to youth development is based upon the principle that all people have the ability to overcome adversity and to succeed despite the adversity. Resilience is a strengths based model, meaning its focus is on providing the supports and opportunities which promote life success, rather than trying only to eliminate the factors that promote failure.

Please complete the questions below:

1. Describe how this service should promote:

- a. **Full participation and membership in the community for individuals and families.** [Click here to enter text.](#)
- b. **Health and wellness for individuals and families** [Click here to enter text.](#)
- c. **Recovery and Resiliency for individuals and families** [Click here to enter text.](#)
- d. **Access to physical and behavioral health care** [Click here to enter text.](#)

2. Describe how peer support services should influence current policies, practices, and culture in your organization and the community: [Click here to enter text.](#)

3. Financial Supports

- a. Is there a particular revenue source and payment structure that could support this service, or would be problematic in supporting this service? [Click here to enter text.](#)

4. Purchasing Supports

- a. What are/could be the service deliverables, milestones or outcomes? [Click here to enter text.](#)

5. Regulatory Supports

- a. What specific measures would you use/propose to monitor quality and accountability of the proposed service? [Click here to enter text.](#)
- b. What should be the competencies of staff delivering the Peer Support/Service? [Click here to enter text.](#)
- c. What should be the competencies of staff supervising, the Peer Support/Service? [Click here to enter text.](#)
- d. Describe the specific experience, and mentoring you'd expect of personnel delivering and supervising this service. [Click here to enter text.](#)

6. Inter-Organizational Supports

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- a. How can this proposed service mutually support the interest of other systems such as: the criminal justice, education, and physical health and other behavioral health systems? [Click here to enter text.](#)
- b. How can this proposed service mutually support specific population groups such as: veterans, tribal communities, individuals affected by trauma, and other underserved groups? [Click here to enter text.](#)
- c. How can this proposed service support public-private partnerships? [Click here to enter text.](#)

7. Other Information you would like to convey regarding this particular Peer service/support [Click here to enter text.](#)