

STATE OF MAINE

—  
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE

—  
S.P. 412 - L.D. 1262

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To  
Develop a Comprehensive Statewide Strategic Plan To Serve Maine People  
with Behavioral Health Needs throughout Their Lifespans**

**Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to develop a comprehensive statewide strategic plan to serve people in the State with behavioral health needs throughout their lifespans. Resolved:** That, within existing resources, the Department of Health and Human Services shall develop a vision and comprehensive statewide strategic plan to serve people in the State with behavioral health needs throughout their lifespans, referred to in this resolve as "the plan." For purposes of this resolve, "behavioral health" includes a wide range of mental disorders and illnesses, substance use disorder and developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder.

**Sec. 2. Plan participation. Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human Services shall draft the plan in collaboration with other agencies of the executive branch, indigenous and tribal populations of the State, the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations, consumer groups, service providers, public safety organizations, law enforcement organizations, hospitals, the LGBTQ community and any other interested parties and seek public input. For purposes of this resolve, "LGBTQ" includes but is not limited to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex and asexual.

**Sec. 3. Elements of plan. Resolved:** That, in drafting the plan, the Department of Health and Human Services shall address, as they relate to behavioral health:

1. Protection of consumer choice;
2. Evidence-based treatments;
3. Early screenings, detection and interventions for all children up to 6 years of age;
4. Identifying and serving children from 6 years of age to 20 years of age in school settings, including screenings and providing early interventions where appropriate;
5. Public health screenings for families at risk of adverse childhood experiences;

6. Children in state custody;
7. Children who are incarcerated;
8. Best practices for a successful transition from children's to adult services;
9. Adults who are incarcerated;
10. Workforce development at all levels;
11. Availability of diagnosis and treatment in the least restrictive environment at all levels, including:
  - A. Hotlines and so-called warmlines;
  - B. Suicide prevention;
  - C. Crisis services, including response to 9-1-1 calls, safety assessments and stabilization;
  - D. Outpatient treatment;
  - E. Medication management;
  - F. Intensive outpatient treatment;
  - G. Assertive community treatment;
  - H. Community integration and support;
  - I. Case management;
  - J. Medication-assisted treatment;
  - K. Residential treatment for children and adults;
  - L. In-home support services;
  - M. Supported employment;
  - N. Supported short-term and long-term housing;
  - O. Applied behavioral analysis;
  - P. Occupational therapy;
  - Q. Relationship development intervention;
  - R. Speech therapy;
  - S. Telehealth;
  - T. Technology-assisted interventions;
  - U. Peer support; and
  - V. Family support;
12. Discharge planning from inpatient settings;
13. Annual goals to best serve people in the State with behavioral health needs throughout their lifespans;
14. Methods of measuring and sharing progress toward carrying out the purposes of this resolve with the Legislature; and

15. A financial plan and budget and sources of revenue to best serve people in the State with behavioral health needs throughout their lifespans.

**Sec. 4. Report. Resolved:** That, by December 7, 2022, the Department of Health and Human Services shall submit the plan along with any recommendations and suggested legislation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters. The joint standing committee having jurisdiction over health and human services matters may report out legislation based upon the plan to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.