

# USM Health Policy Analysis & Research Capacity

***Presentation to the  
HCIFS Committee  
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# Agenda

- Overview of USM's Muskie School health policy & health services research history
- Research, policy and data analytic infrastructure and capacity
- Examples of current and prior projects and staff areas of expertise
- Examples of state/university partnerships in other states

# Cooperative Agreement History

# History of State-University Cooperation

Established in by Legislative statute in 1989:  
5 MRSA 1825-b (Executive Order amendment  
in 2011, limiting use/Governor approval)

## Benefits:

- Leverage UMS expertise
- Mutual research agenda
- Rapid response
- Enhanced access to federal matching funds



# History of State-University Cooperation

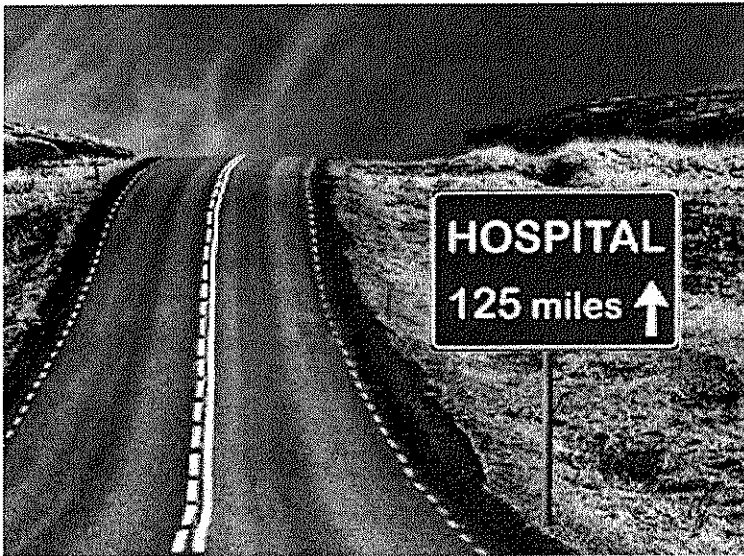
Under CAs, Muskie School faculty & staff provided health care technical assistance, data analysis, evaluation & research for:

- Governor's Office of Health Care Policy
- Dirigo Health Agency
- Maine Quality Forum
- Office of MaineCare Services, Office of Aging & Disability Services and others (including Legislature-required reports)

# Examples of Muskie School Expertise and Experience

# Maine Rural Health Research Center ([mrhrc.org](http://mrhrc.org))

Established in 1992, the Maine Rural Health Research Center conducts applied research on federal/state policy, with emphasis on:

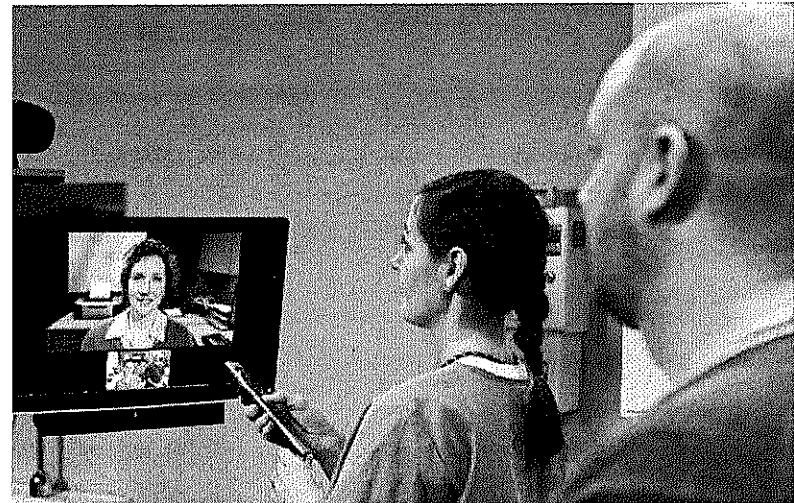


- Health reform
- Insurance coverage
- Long term services & supports
- Behavioral health

# Rural Telehealth Research Center

Federally-funded partnership with Universities of Iowa and North Carolina to evaluate HRSA telehealth programs

- Using APCD data to assess impact of telehealth policies on rural & urban use in Maine





# MaineCare Policy Analyses, Evaluation & Research

- MaineCare Health Homes Evaluation
- Improving Health Outcomes for Children Evaluation (CHIPRA Quality Demo grant)
- Best practice research on other state models (e.g. premium support, elderly coverage gaps post Medicare Part D)
- Legislative reports (e.g., adult dental benefits)

# MaineCare Policy Analyses, Evaluation & Research

- Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) annual survey of parents
- Medicaid expansion support and analyses
  - Federally-required evaluation of the childless adult Medicaid expansion waiver under the Dirigo Health Act
  - Assessing health system capacity and outreach/enrollment in current Medicaid expansion (pending approval)

# Health Insurance Coverage and Health Reform Research

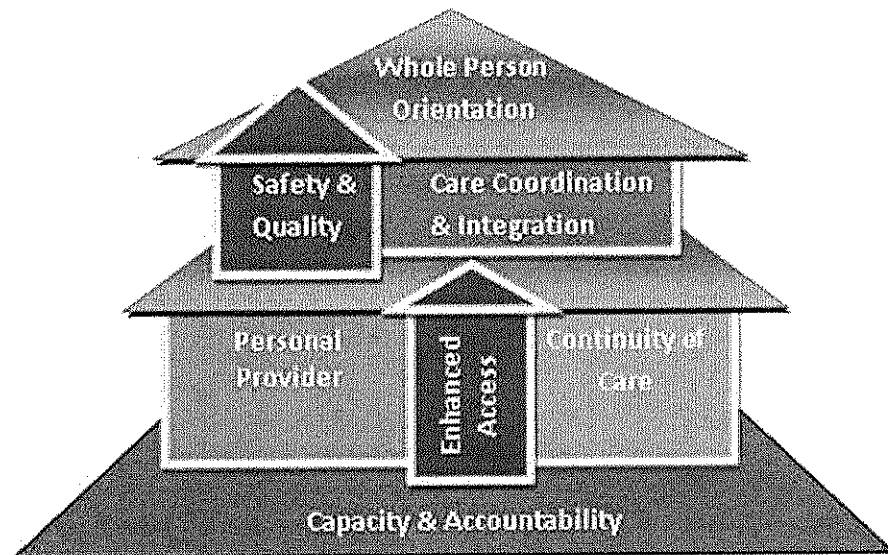
- *Dirigo Health Reform* planning & analyses supported by HRSA State Planning Grant



- Evaluation of *State Health Access Program* to offer affordable coverage to uninsured low-income part-time & seasonal workers

# Health Insurance Coverage and Health Reform Research

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) SHARE evaluation of health reform in ME, MA, and VT
- Evaluation of Maine's Multi-Payer *Patient Centered Medical Home Pilot*



# Health Insurance Coverage and Health Reform Research

The Muskie School has also used external grant funding to support Maine-specific analyses:

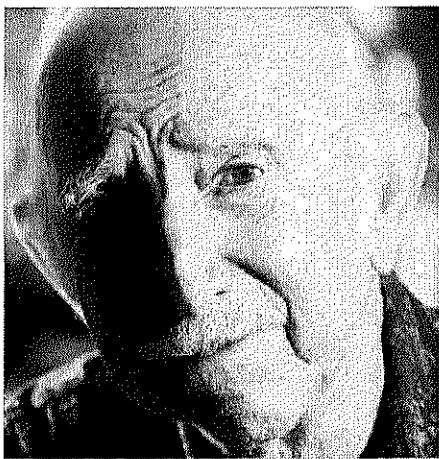
- Ongoing support from the Maine Health Access Foundation (MeHAF) to track post-ACA insurance coverage and access to care
- RWJF *Cost Conversations* pilot study examined opportunities for health care providers to support cost transparency



# Health Insurance Coverage and Health Reform Research

Muskie School grant funds have also supported MaineCare and other data linkages & analysis

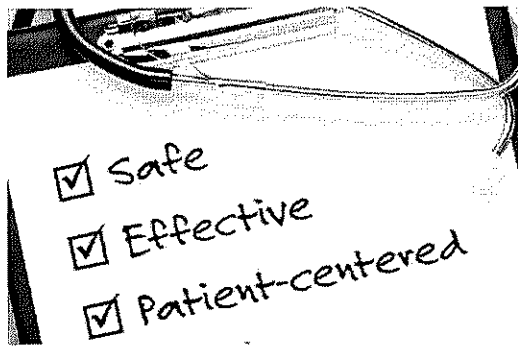
- US NIMH funding to link data sets and support analysis of health care use among adults with mental illness & diabetes



- US DOJ funding to study health care use and costs among adults receiving protective services

# Maine Quality Forum

- Identifying quality & patient safety measures from existing data for public reporting (e.g. hospital discharge data/APCD)

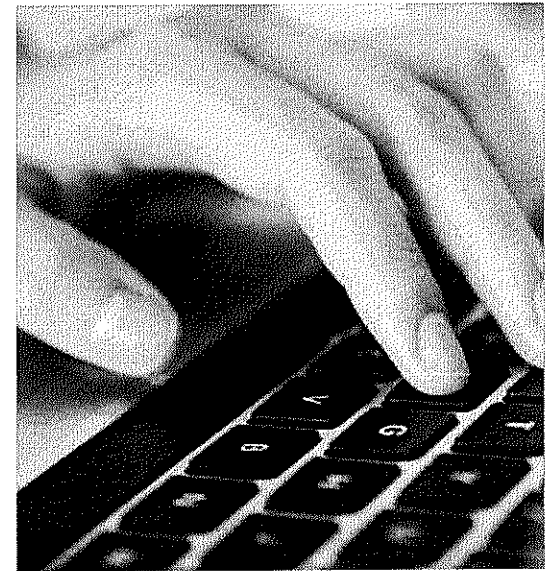


- Analyses of MQF-subsidized primary care patient experience of care surveys
- Quality and cost-related analyses required by legislation (e.g., LD 1353 – *Primary Care Spending Report*)

# USM Health Data Analytics Research Cluster

Maine Economic Improvement Fund initiative to support workforce training and research with state and community partners (MHDO, Maine Medical Center Research Institute)

- MOU to use APCD & hospital data for mutual projects
- APCD training modules
- MMCRI collaborative research proposals

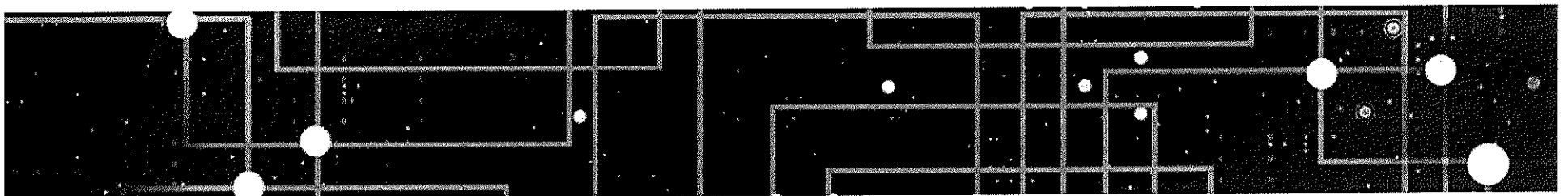




# USM Health Data Analytics Research Cluster

Data Analytic Center Strategic Plan: Options for expanding the Muskie School's data analytic architecture to support broader public health and data analysis role

- Data warehouse maintenance and expansion
- Testing common data models to support cross-state research
- Opportunities for new data linkage



# State University Partnership Learning Network

- Formed by AcademyHealth in 2014
- Supports peer-to-peer learning and share/spread best practices in state health policy research.
- Currently includes 27 universities in 23 states with master agreements between the state university and state Medicaid & other state agencies

# State University Partnership Learning Network

- Opportunity for cross-state Medicaid (and APCD) research
  - *Medicaid distributed research network opioid use disorder (MDRN OUD) project*
- Medicaid is a primary focus, but SUPLN members also support & evaluate health reform efforts (e.g., population health, patient experience, cost containment)



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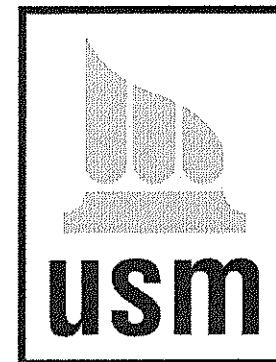
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Questions?