

## State of Maine | 131st Legislature Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services Testimony of Darcy Shargo on behalf of Maine Primary Care Association May 8, 2023

Supporting: LD 1792, "Resolve, to Establish the Rural Health Services Task Force"

Sponsored by President Jackson

Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, I am Darcy Shargo, Chief Executive Officer at Maine Primary Care Association (MPCA).

MPCA is a membership organization that includes all of Maine's 20 Community Health Centers (CHCs), also known as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). Maine's CHCs make up the largest independent primary care network in the state, providing high quality and equitable primary and preventive medical, behavioral, and dental health services for over 200,000 people (1 in 6 Mainers).

Maine's Community Health Centers are located in rural or underserved areas. There are more than 70 service delivery sites across all 16 Maine counties and attached to my testimony is a map of all CHC locations throughout the state.

We believe that the CHC model provides a paradigm for how Maine should think about primary care delivery and care coordination moving into a post-pandemic world. Health centers have built their standards around the notion that a true health home finds a way to address patients as the complex and whole human beings that they are. Health centers strive for health equity, while identifying ways to increase efficiency, improving quality of care, and seeking innovations in care delivery. CHCs are patient-driven, led by local boards, and staffed by professionals dedicated to providing access to high quality health care for all Mainers.

MPCA has also been focused on building the future infrastructure for Maine's CHC network and looking at alternative payment models that fully support their unique and critical role in the care delivery system. Value-based programs reward health care providers with incentive payments for the quality of care they give to people with Medicare. It is a potential replacement for traditional fee-for-service reimbursement, which rewards quantity over quality.

The Rural Health Services Task Force would provide a necessary opportunity for various members of Maine's health care system to come together and examine the sustainability of rural health care delivery. As the primary care safety net for our state, we thank President Jackson and the other cosponsors for bringing this legislation forward and appreciate the opportunity to be included in this discussion. We also respectfully ask that you pass this bill.

On behalf of Maine's Community Health Centers, thank you for considering our comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly at <u>dshargo@mepca.org</u> with any follow up questions.

Darcy Shargo, MFA Chief Executive Office Maine Primary Care Association





# **COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER LOCATIONS**

- Bucksport Regional Health Center Bucksport Madawaska • Ellsworth Fort Kent Community Clinical Services B-Street Health Center (Lewiston) Van Buren Eagle Lake . Behavioral Health Home Case Management (Lewiston) Out Patient Counseling (Lewiston) Pediatrics (Lewiston) County-wide OCaribou Pediatric Dental Clinic (Auburn) Psychiatry (Lewiston) Washburn 🔘 O Fort Fairfield SBHCs located in Auburn Middle School: Edward O Presque Isle Little High School; Lewiston Middle School; Lewiston Ashland High School O DFD Russell Medical Centers Bridgton Houlton C • Leeds Monmouth • Turner OIsland Falls Patten East Grand Health Center Danforth Eastport Health Care, Inc. Millinocket OJackman Calais Behavioral Health Center Calais Podiatry Clinic Danforth EHC Machias Pediatric Clinic (UMM Campus) Medv Machias Family Practice
  Machias Behavioral Health Center Lincoln 🔵 Machias Podiatry Clinic
  Rowland B. French Medical Center (Eastport) County-wide Lee Brownville ( West Enfield Vogl Behavioral Health Center (Eastport) Bingham Rangeley O Kingfield O Fish River Rural Health County-wide County Dexter O Eagle Lake Health Center Old Town . Bolduc Avenue Health Center (Fort Kent) County-wide Newport 🔘 Bangor O Brewer Madawaska Community Health Center Strong C Machias 🔵 Greater Portland Health Fairfield Madison East Machias Park Avenue (Portland) O Winterport Harrington O Albion Bucksport
   Ifast
   Ellsworth Belgrade Lakes . Bayside (Portland) Riverton Park (Portland) Belfast Bethel OLivermore Falls Franklin Towers (Portland) Sagamore Village (Portland) County-wide 🔳 🚫 Leeds Congress Street (Portland) Brickhill (So. Portland) . Turner O OMonmouth Coopers Mills Bridgtor County-wide SBHCs located in Portland High School; Deering . 0 Lewiston Richmond **O**Vinalhaven High School: Casco Bay High School: King Middle School; Westbrook High School; South Portland Auburn Cornish High School County-wide Harrington Family Health Center Harrington O Portland South Portland Health Access Network Lee OfficeLincoln Office Biddeford Springvale Lincoln Family Dental Office Medway Office West Enfield Office . SBHCs located at Lee Academy and Mattanawcook Academy
- HealthReach Con
  - Administration (Waterville) . Belgrade Regional Health Center
  - Bethel Family Health Center
  - Bingham Area Health & Dental Center

  - Lovejoy Health Center (Albion) Madison Area Health Center
  - Mt. Abram Regional Health Center (Kingfield)
  - **Rangeley Family Medicine**
  - Richmond Area Health Center .
  - Sheepscot Valley Health Center (Coopers Mills) Strong Area Health & Dental Center

  - Western Maine Family Health Center (Livermore Falls) SBHC located in Lawrence Senior High School (Fairfield)
- Hometown Health Center
- Dexter Office
- Newport Office
- SBHCs located in Nokomis Regional High School and Middle School (Newport)
- Islands Community Medical Services, Inc.
- Vinalhaven
- Katahdin Valley Health Center
  - Ashland . Brownville
  - Houlton
  - Houlton Occupational Medicine Clinic
    Houlton Walk-In Care Clinic

  - Island Falls Clinic
  - Lincoln Optometry Clinic
  - Millinocket .
  - Patten
  - Patten South Clinic

#### Pines Health Se Caribou Health Center

Kimball Community Health Center (Fort Fairfield)

Princeton

Calais

Eastport

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wide

- Presque Isle Family Health Center Pines Dental (Caribou)
- Pines Surgical Services (Caribou) Pines Urology (Caribou)
- . Orthopedics and Sports Medicine (Caribou)
- St. John Valley Health Center (Van Buren)
- Washburn Health Center temp. closed
- Women's and Children's Health Center (Caribou)
- Regional Medical Center at Lubec
  - Healthways/East Machias Clinic
  - Healthways/Regional Medical Center at Lubec
- Sacopee Valley Health Center Porter
  - Walk-in Care Center (Cornish)
- St. Croix Regional Family Health Center
  - Princeton

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Maine Mobile Health Program Mobile sites across Androscoggin, Aroostook, Hancock, and Washington Counties; also

#### providing services in Cumberland, Knox, Penobscot, and Somerset Counties

### Nasson Health Care

Biddeford Springvale

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- Administration (Bangor)
- Adult Wellness Center (Bangor) **Brewer Medical Center**
- Bridge Clinic (Bangor)
- Capehart Mental Health Access Center (Bangor)
- Community Care & Geriatrics (Bangor)
- Dental Center (Bangor) Helen Hunt Center (Old Town)
- Hope House Health and Living Center (Bangor) Infusion Center (Bangor)
- Jackman Community Health Center
- Laboratory Services (Bangor)
- Penobscot Community Health Center (Bangor) Penobscot Pediatrics (Bangor)
- Records and Referrals, Billing & Call Center (Bangor)
- Seaport Community Health Center (Belfast)
- Services Center (Bangor)
- Unlimited Solutions Clubhouse (Bangor) Warren Center for Speech and Hearing (Bangor)
- Winterport Community Health Center
- SBHCs located in Bangor High School; Brewer Community School; Brewer High Schoo