



PO Box 135
Woolwich, Maine 04579
Amie.marzen@gmail.com
207-621-0313
www.mnpa.us

29 Years of Full Practice Authority as Healthcare Providers for the People of Maine

27 February 2024

Senator Margaret Rotundo
Representative Melanie Sachs
Members of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
Room 228
Cross State Office Building, Augusta, Maine 04330

Dear Chairman Rotundo, Chairman Sachs and Members of the Committee:

I am writing today as a psychiatric nurse practitioner, independent medical examiner for the District Courts and member of the Legislative Committee of the Maine Nurse Practitioner Association. I have spent my entire career providing treatment for, and advocacy for, individuals with mental illness. I can assure you that a good portion of my advocacy has targeted appropriate access to treatment as has the advocacy of the Maine Nurse Practitioner Association.

I have reviewed LD2214; my testimony today is focused on the current funding for Progressive Treatment Programs (PTP). There are funds allocated for walk-in centers, which are an important resource for individuals with mental illness who retain awareness of their psychiatric condition. The individuals who benefit significantly from a Progressive Treatment Program are those who, due to the nature of the illness, have lost the capacity and insight to recognize the existence and nature of their illness, for which the term is anosognosia.

It is essential that the budget address funding at least three more ACT teams, along with at least six more intensive case managers. That would allow the District Court judges to put many more people in the PTP program, and relieve a little bit of the overburden the current ACT teams are experiencing. We absolutely need to increase the funding for the PTP in order to prevent future tragedies.

On behalf of the Maine citizens with significant mental illness, as well as their loved ones, I request that you support this increase in funding without reservation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Constance W. Jordan", is written over a large, light-colored scribble or stamp.

Constance W. Jordan, ANP, PMHNP

Immediate Past President, Maine Nurse Practitioner Association
Member, Legislative Committee, Maine Nurse Practitioner Association