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www.kbhmaine.org



Written Testimony about impact of LD 415:

*Information for the Department of Health and Human Services
about the impact of an Increase of MaineCare Reimbursement Rates
for Targeted Case Management to Reflect Inflation*

April 15, 2021

TO: Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer, and members of the Health and Human Services Committee.

FROM: Holly Griffin, Director of Developmental Services; Kennebec Behavioral Health (KBH)

RE: Impact of LD 415.

I am a licensed social worker and I have been working in the case management field for over 20 years. It can be very rewarding to serve people with intellectual disabilities and Autism. However, as a director of a case management program, I can tell you that case management turnover is a major challenge to ensuring that individuals with disabilities have access to providers that can provide the experienced care and support that the consumers need to live and thrive in the community.

I am employed at Kennebec Behavioral Health (KBH) which is celebrating 60 years of providing services to central Maine. The Developmental Services Targeted Case Management (DSTCM) team has served over 140 clients in a year, but has had to decrease capacity due to not having available staffing. Staff report that it takes about two years to feel that they have 'really learned' how to really do their jobs and only a small percentage make it over 3 years in the position.

The reimbursement rate for targeted case management services is one of the biggest influences on lack of retention. This rate has not been adjusted since 2009 despite rising costs of wages, health insurance, technology, travel and other costs. For more than 250+ families on the Section 29 waitlist, having a Targeted Case Manager is the only way for them to connect to need services and supports.



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Developmental Service Case Managers are required to have a Bachelor's Degree and need to be competent in many different skill areas. Case Managers are vital to coordinating and connecting adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to critical services and supports such as housing, food, and medical care.

Without an increase to offset a decade of inflation, it is difficult for providers to maintain the capacity needed to ensure individuals with disabilities have access to the care and support they need to live and thrive in the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this testimony.

Please contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Holly Griffin, Director of Developmental Services;
Kennebec Behavioral Health (KBH)
207-509-5367



Holly Griffin
Augusta

Thank you for reading my submission.