



About the Maine Coalition for Housing and Quality Services

Began in May 2006, formed by a group of parents of children with special needs. The goal of the Coalition is to create a system of quality housing and personal supports that is person and family centered, with choice, dignity, and efficiency being at the forefront of effort.

There are some 4,000 individuals, primarily parents, who currently participate. It is ultimately focused on pursuing action steps for quality services and housing and is meant to be a consortium of interested parties including those from other advocacy groups.

Coalition Activity Highlights:

Action to devise and implement an efficient and effective DD Lifelong Continuum of Care.

Action to create a Blueprint for Effective Transition

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Purpose of LIA Placement:

Create a timeline to be used by family and friends caring for someone with a disability. The purpose of the timeline is to help families easily identify and access supports and services over the course of a person's lifetime.

It also enables the family to anticipate services and transitions. The timeline has links to more in-depth information where families can gain more knowledge. Making access to information more readily available should increase quality of life for the entire family.

Leadership Development:

I gained in-depth knowledge pertaining to the supports and services available across the lifespan. As well as the timeframe supports and services can and should be implemented.

I coordinated multiple meetings with the CHOM Executive Director and other staff for feedback and revisions to timeline. Met with CCIDS staff about materials and resources. Sometimes trying to coordinate schedules between busy professionals presented a challenge.

I achieved my ILP goal of translating the research findings I gathered on supports and services to meet the needs of different audiences.

