

Maine Housing Coalition and Quality Services

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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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Childhood after Diagnosis (Age 0-5)

School Years (Age 5-21) **High School Years Age** 14-21

challenge.

Transition to Adult with School **Age 14-21**

Purpose of LIA Placement:

Create a timeline to be used by family and friends caring for someone with

timeline has links to more in-depth information where families can

available should increase quality of life for the entire family.

Leadership Development:

services can and should be implemented.

gain more knowledge. Making access to information more readily

I gained in-depth knowledge pertaining to the supports and services

available across the lifespan. As well as the timeframe supports and

I coordinated multiple meetings with the CHOM Executive Director

I achieved my ILP goal of translating the research findings I gathered

on supports and services to meet the needs of different audiences.

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

Adult Services

Vocational Rehab

Prenatal/Birth

Testing identification

Referrals to specialists

Family support groups

disabilityresources.org/

MAINE.html

Childhood Diagnosis (Age 0-5)

Screening/well child checkups Referral to specialists Testing Case Management Child Development Services

Respite Care – NAMI Maine

Family support groups disabilityresources.org/ MAINE.html Child Development Services maine.gov/doe/cds/

Determination of eligibility Develop IEP School rights *IDEA – Individuals with **Disabilities Education Act** Section 28 Least restrictive environment/ Free & appropriate education

Medicare waiver while in school Decide whether graduating with class is important Have discussion/apply for guardianship at 17. Supportive Decision-Making supportmydecision.org

Begin transition plan at age 14 **Transition Goals** What works in transition Paid employment in high school **Employment First Maine**

Teaching self determination Practice self advocacy

Self Determination

Age 18 & Over

Transition supports in Maine *Apply for Section 29 & 21 *Supportive Decision-Making supportmydecision.org Transition - adult medical services Self advocacy sufumaine.org Ability to work & continue receiving benefits



