

Coastal Operators Group (COG) Meeting

Minutes

October 23, 2024

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Agenda Item	Notes	Next Steps
Welcome & Review September meeting minutes	In attendance: Linda Greer (Adult Ed Hub 9); Kim Desso (Voc Rehab); Krista Campbell (MDOL BES); David Grima (MDOL BES); David Watts (Adult Ed Hub 7); Jeff Martinelli (Workforce Solutions); Rob Klaiber (MDOL BES); Emma Swartz & Tim Atkinson (Cutler Institute/USM – Place Matters)	
Regional Care Team Presentation: Emma Schwartz and Tim Atkinson	See presentation slides Online form link for referrals:	COG members to distribute materials for additional engagement with Adult Ed, MDOL, etc.
Updates from the group	<p>Linda Greer: Would like to provide contact information for collaboration with the York County Adult Education programs. Sarah C. Bachand College and Career Success Coordinator York County Adult Education She/Her/Hers (207) 216-4482 sbachand@maineccc.edu sbachand@yorkschoools.org Student Success Commons Room 201F 112 College Drive Wells Maine 04090</p> <p>Wanda Kezar is our Adult Education HUB9 Maine College and Career Coordinator. She collaborates with all of our AE local program advisors and can help with any adult education referrals. Her email is wanda.kezar@rsu35.org. She works from our Marshwood office 207-384-5703</p> <p>Last week a community program at Marshwood for parents and community members in support of youth mental health was well attended. A non-profit community fair at Kittery Community Center brought a variety of providers together.</p> <p>Linda works with recovery friendly workplaces. Revision Energy is an example of one of these workplaces.</p>	

	<p>Kim Desso: Hoping to hire a rehab assistant that will be funded through June.</p> <p>David Watts: Regional CNA program just started a new cohort of 18 people, and one finished in September. Dental assistant program starting in February at Midcoast School of Technology – very needed in the area. Empowering youth employment (16-24) is a three-week, six session program starting in February. Digital skills for the workplace for English Language Learners. Cassie Robichaux, former career advisor for Hub 7, is now in charge of hiring for Revision Energy. She is interested in referrals from prior colleagues in workforce development.</p> <p>Krista Campbell:</p> <p>Jeff Martinelli: Senior career advisor is moving on to an advanced career in the pathway. Have made two offers for a replacement.</p> <p>David Grima: Susan has been talking with people building the CTE school in St. George (k-8). They are interested in a workforce element. This will be the only one of its kind in the country.</p> <p>Rob Klaiber: Just started to poll employers on barriers to employment with plans to get them together for engagement. Would like to include Linda to speak on recovery friendly workplaces.</p>	
November's meeting	Shift to the third week to accommodate the holiday on the fourth week.	Adjust calendar invite to November 20 th .
Adjourn		2:58 PM

Next Meeting: November 20, 2024 @ 2:00PM

PLACEMATTERS

MAINE REGIONAL CARE TEAMS

Collaborating to Improve Youth Wellbeing in Maine

A Review of the Past Three Years of the Maine Regional Care Teams



JUNE 2024

MAINE
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SCHOOL OF LAW
LAW | Center for Youth
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CATHERINE
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Maine Regional Care Teams Impact and Year 3 Report

Tim Atkinson and
Emma Schwartz

Overview

1. What are the goals of the RCTs and how do we work towards them?
2. What has been the impact of RCTs on systems-involved young people in Maine?
3. How well did RCTs foster collaboration?
4. What barriers to wellbeing did the RCT process reveal?
5. Q&A

Process and Principles

All Maine transition aged (14-24+) youth experience belonging and thrive into adulthood in their chosen communities.

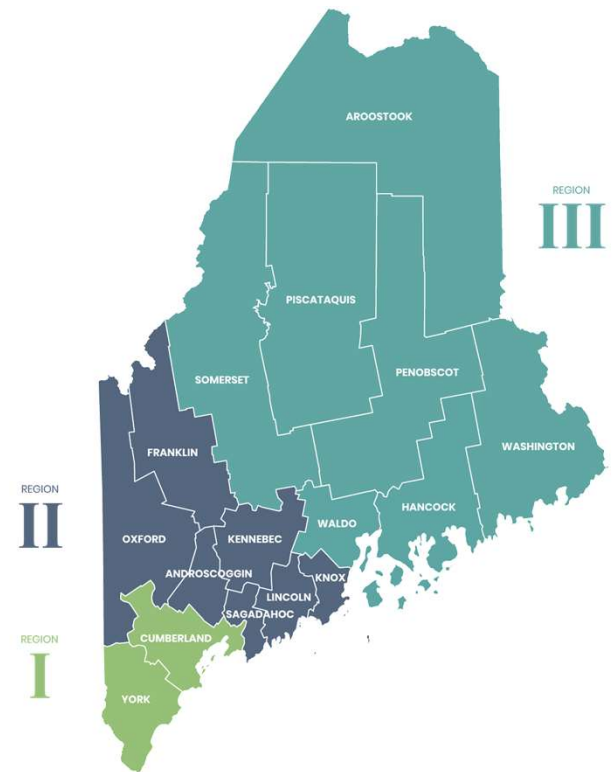
- Monthly meetings in each DOC region with at least one case review.
- Referrals can come from anywhere.
- Started with DOC-involved youth or youth at risk of becoming DOC-involved.
- Rapid response from teams leads to disburse emergency funds.



Maine Center for
Juvenile Policy and Law

Regional Care Team Composition

- Chair, Department of Corrections Regional Correctional Administrator
- DHHS, OCFS Regional Mental Health Coordinator
- DHHS, OCFS Resource Coordinators
- DHHS, OCFS Child Welfare District Administrator and/or Assistant Regional Director
- DOE representative
 - McKinney Vento
- DOL representative
 - Vocational Rehabilitation
- Local Housing Authority representatives
- Providers
- Community-based organizations
- Advocates
- Youth/Family members



The RCTs foster collaboration in each region with two main goals:

1. Support individual systems-impacted youth and their families.

2. Reduce reliance on detention through informing investments in a community-based continuum of care.

389 Referrals for 285 Individual Youth (as of September 2024)

The report includes **231** referrals for **165** individual youth from 2020–2023.

DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF YOUTH REFERRED IN YEAR 3

- **86% MALE**
- **12% FEMALE**
- **22% BIPOC**
- **72% WHITE**
- **5% LGBTQIA+**
- **AVERAGE AGE 15.4 YEARS OLD**

RCTs meet the needs of youth beyond the justice system

Of all referrals made as of July 2024 (n=356),

84%

were for youth who had a known history of involvement with **the juvenile justice system** (n=300).

33%

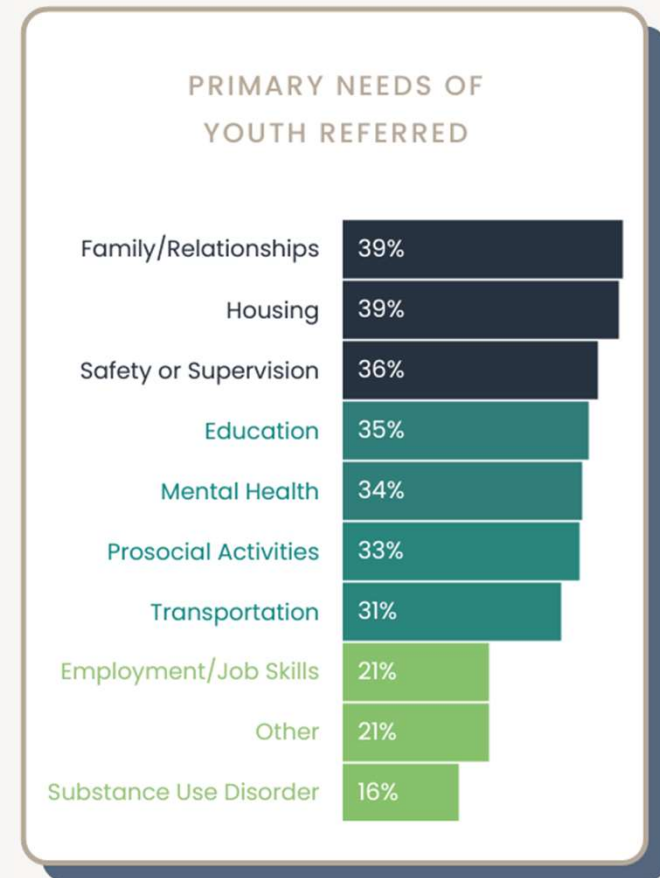
were for youth who had a known history of involvement with **child welfare, child protective services, or foster care** (n=119).

33%

were for youth who had a known history of involvement with **school discipline, including expulsion, detention or suspension** (n=117).

RCTs distributed over \$70,000 in Years 1-3 to fund the direct needs of Maine youth.

Housing and relationships were among the top needs of youth referred. Most funds were spent on **housing, transportation, and basic needs.**

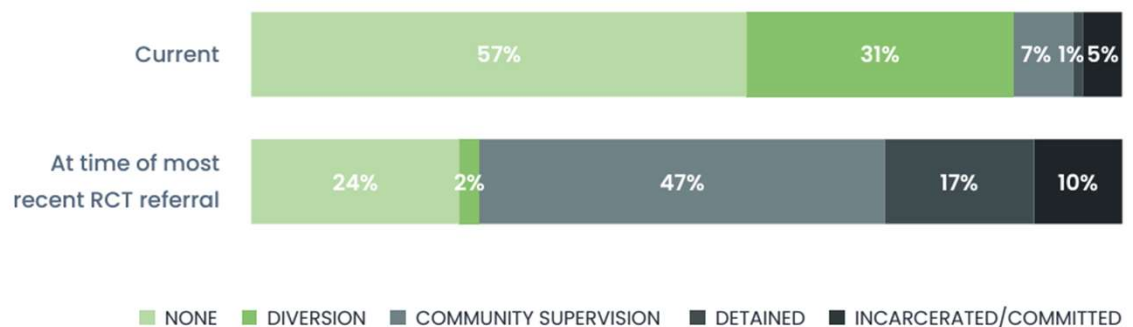


Most youth referred to RCTs were no longer under DOC supervision by the end of Year 3

Among the 88 youth whose status changed, **88% were either diverted or discharged from supervision** by the end of Year 3.

THE MAJORITY OF REFERRED YOUTH ARE NO LONGER UNDER MDOC SUPERVISION, COMPARED TO THEIR MDOC STATUS AT THE TIME OF THEIR MOST RECENT REFERRAL TO RCTS³⁵

MDOC STATUS



The chart above represents 88 youth whose records were able to be matched up to the MDOC data system at the time of analysis, who had been referred to the RCTs at least 1 year before the analysis, and whose status has changed since the time of their referral.

Members value the RCT process

79%

OF RCT MEMBERS

were satisfied with their overall experience.

MORE THAN HALF OF PARTNERS SOMEWHAT OR STRONGLY AGREE THAT RCT MEETING PROCESS AND OUTCOMES ARE EFFECTIVE. (N=29)

I have had opportunities to connect with new colleagues and organizations as a result of my participation in RCTs.

76%

RCT meetings are productive.

72%

I learn a lot from participating in RCTs.

72%

I feel that my voice matters in RCT meetings.

72%

I feel like I belong as an RCT member

66%

RCTs help me do my job better.

62%

I have a say in decisions (for instance, funds spent and case review outcomes).

52%

Among all survey respondents (n=29),



76%

agreed that RCTs are an essential resource for helping youth.



59%

agreed that RCTs have had a positive impact on the safety and wellbeing of youth.

“RCT is an excellent idea. The people involved are fantastic. Everyone is willing to share ideas, however there is very little that anyone can actually do to help young people. Actual services are nearly non-existent, transportation and access to technology is also a problem in the state. The ideas are very difficult to bring to fruition due to lack of resources, access, waiting lists and staff.”

RCT MEMBER SURVEY RESPONDENT

RCTs revealed gaps in the continuum of care

Sometimes, RCTs were able to prevent further justice involvement for a young person. Other times, a case review revealed gaps in the continuum at the system level.



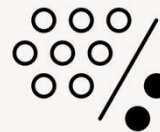
Housing and basic needs



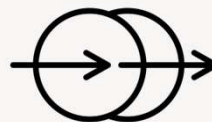
Engaging natural supports



Crisis planning to ensure youth and family safety



Categorical exclusion



Transition planning

What Works and Looking Ahead

- Collaborative culture
- Co-design process
- Braided funding: capacity & sustainability
- Opportunities for growth

- Diversify RCT membership
- Expand braided funding from other state or local systems and partners
- Increase opportunities for youth voice

Q & A

1. What is exciting to you about the RCTs?
2. How do RCTS relate to your work?
3. Do you have ideas about how the initiative can increase its reach?
4. What questions do you have for us?

Thank you!

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Emma Schwartz (emma.schwartz@maine.edu)

For more information visit:
<https://placemattersmaine.org/regional-care-teams/>