

MPCA WEEKLY COMPENDIUM

JULY 5, 2022 | YEAR 3, VOLUME 18

INTERESTING READS

[More than 200k Mainers to get dental coverage](#) – WMTW/ABCnews (6/30)

20,000+ Mainers will get access to dental care insurance coverage starting July 1.

[More health care professionals entering substance use and mental health programs](#) – Portland Press Herald (7/5)

Amid the pandemic, more doctors, nurses and others in health care received help. The uptick reflects the increase in substance use overall.

HEALTH EQUITY/SOCIAL DETERMINANTS AND TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE RESOURCES

[LGBTQ+ Resources](#) – Maine Department of Education

A new set of resources from Maine Dept of Education to support LGBTQ kids, with data and resources for parents, students and schools.

Maine Pediatric & Behavioral Health Partnership presents Gender 101

Wednesday, July 13 | 7:30 – 8:30am | [Register](#)

This presentation covers medical, behavioral health and developmental approaches to gender dysphoria. It will also review the unique health care needs of this population while recognizing the strengths they can attain from their position in society.

For resources and information, please visit the [Health Equity/Social Determinants Resources](#) section on the [MPCA website](#).

Governor Janet Mills 4th Annual Opioid Response Summit: Community, Connection and Compassion

Monday, July 11 | 8:00am – 5:00pm | [Register](#)

This full-day, [in-person summit](#) is part of the state's commitment to fighting the opioid epidemic, and convenes leaders from around Maine and the Nation to share ideas, strategies, and best practices to help Maine people affected by this crisis. There will be 34 breakout sessions throughout the day covering topics across the domains of **Prevention, Treatment, Harm-Reduction and Recovery Support**.

COVID-19 Testing Focus Group Opportunity

USM's Cutler Institute is working on a project that is studying effective approaches, methods, and messaging to support COVID-19 testing in rural communities and is looking for FQHCs with sites in rural areas that might be interested in helping us identify people in their communities to participate in focus groups. We are planning to conduct focus groups in rural communities throughout the state to hear from people about their experiences with COVID-19 testing and the factors that influence their decision to get tested or not. The goal is to understand facilitators and barriers to testing in the case of a future pandemic, so access to testing in rural areas can be improved. For more information, [click here](#).

If your organization is willing to consider participating in the project, please reach out to Sara Kahn-Troster (sara.kahntroster@maine.edu).

2022 National Nurse Practitioner Residency & Fellowship Training Consortium Annual Conference

July 24-25 | Washington, DC | [Registration and Information](#)

Two days of exciting and intensive conference sessions and keynote presentations uniquely tailored to help you create or grow your organization's Nurse Practitioner or Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant postgraduate training program! To see the agenda, [click here](#).

What's happening? Click [here](#) for a full listing of upcoming MPCA trainings and events.

POLICY & COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

FY23 Health Center Funding Voted out of the House Appropriations Committee. On Thursday, June 30, 2022, the Appropriations Committee voted out the legislation on a party-line vote of 32-24. Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT) stated that he plans to begin considering Senate appropriations bills after the July 4th recess. The House legislation includes:

- **Community Health Program:** \$1.946 billion, an increase of \$198 million above the FY 2022 enacted level, including:
 - \$25 million in new funding to expand access to contraceptive care,
 - \$100 million, an increase of \$70 million for school-based health centers above the FY22 enacted level, \$20 million for 330 grantees, and \$50 million for non-330 grantees,
 - \$172 million, an increase of \$49.75 million for Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiative above the FY22 enacted level,
 - \$42.5 million in new funding for Early Childhood Development,
 - \$15 million for the Alcee L. Hastings Program for Advanced Cancer Screening in Underserved Communities, \$10 million above the FY22 enacted level, and
 - \$23 million, an increase of \$1 million for the Native Hawaiian Health Care Program above the FY22 enacted level.
- **Workforce:** \$1.543 billion for the Bureau of Health Workforce, an increase of \$248 million above the FY22 enacted level. NACHC requested increases in several workforce programs, including:
 - \$155.6 million for the National Health Service Corps, an increase of \$34 million above the FY22 enacted level,
 - \$101.6 million for the Nurse Corps Scholarship and Loan Repayment, \$13 million above the FY22 enacted level,
 - \$105.5 million for Advanced Nursing Education, \$26 million above the FY22 enacted level, and
 - \$185 million for the Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program, \$62 million above the FY22 enacted level.
- **340B Program:** \$13.24 million for the Office of Pharmacy Affairs, \$2 million above the FY22 enacted level.
 - The [report language](#) includes NACHC requested language regarding 340B and health centers. The Committee on Appropriations expressed concern that the “number of pharmaceutical manufacturers that are violating the 340B statute has dramatically increased,” and encourages HRSA to take continued steps “to enforce the statute and take action against companies that curtail the use of 340B drugs in contract pharmacies.”

Senate Democrats float drug pricing provisions for next reconciliation bill.

Senate Democrats are finalizing legislative language for a set of drug pricing provisions they hope to include in a reconciliation bill later this fiscal year. The provisions are largely similar to those included in the Build Back Better bill passed by the House late last year. It includes requiring Medicare to negotiate prices on a limited number of drugs, capping Medicare patients’ out-of-pocket drug costs at \$2,000 per year, limiting growth in Part D premiums to existing levels, and creating an “inflationary penalty” in Medicare, and making vaccines free for Medicare patients.

Outlook for reconciliation bill remains murky.

Despite the apparent progress on drug provisions, the outlook for a larger reconciliation bill remains unclear. There is still no deal between Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) on the other major pieces of the package: tax and energy policy

Is Your Health Center Hiring? Click [here](#) to utilize the MPCA Job Board and list your openings on our website!

WORKFORCE UPDATE

[National Health Service Corps 50th Anniversary: Q&A with Dr. Luis Padilla – RHHub \(6/29\)](#)

MANP presents Spotlight on Compensation: Calculating a Living Wage

Wednesday, July 13 | 12:00 PM | [Register](#)

Join us for a free, virtual lunch & learn to learn about a tool that can help nonprofit employers compare wages, set wages, form policy around wage rates, create competitive human resource programs, and stand out among their peers.

MANP, in partnership with CommonGood Vermont presents Equity in Hiring: How to Mitigate Implicit and Explicit Biases

Thursday, July 14 | 10:00 – 11:30 AM | **\$35.00 fee** | [Register](#)

Join [Edgility Consulting](#) for an Equity in Hiring training where we will walk you through better understanding and mitigating biases in the hiring process.

MANP, in partnership with CommonGood Vermont presents Disrupting Wage Gaps: How to Align the Market and Your Values

Friday, July 15 | 10:30am – 12:00pm | **\$35.00 fee** | [Register](#)

Join [Edgility Consulting](#) for an actionable outline on disrupting wage gaps and achieving pay equity in your organization.

For resources and information, please visit the [Workforce](#) section on the [MPCA website](#).

PSO CORNER

[Declaration to Advance Patient Safety](#) – *Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)*

ECRI has completed an analysis of all events submitted to the PSO by ambulatory care facilities between 1/1/2019 and 12/31/2021. This [Data Snapshot](#) provides a summary of the what event types the patient safety events were submitted under. ECRI then reviewed the events submitted in the “other” category, further classifying these events into a customized taxonomy.

ECRI Safety Sprint: Join Your Peers in Minimizing the Impact of Staffing Shortages on Safety

Kickoff -Tuesday, July 19 | 1:00 PM | [Registration](#)

Join fellow members of the ECRI and the ISMP PSO in a Safety Sprint to implement data-driven, evidence-based best practices to guide rapid change and improvement. The first Safety Sprint addresses strategies to minimize the impact of staffing shortages on safety. For more information, [click here](#).

For resources and information, please visit the [MePCA PSO](#) section on the [MPCA website](#).

NACHC Quality Center Scholarship

In appreciation of the work you do in supporting your member health centers in quality improvement and systems transformation, NACHC gifted us **1 to 2 scholarships** for free, full-catalog access to the [Institute for Healthcare Improvement’s \(IHI\) Open School](#) that we, in turn, can **‘gift’ to 1 to 2 staff from our member health centers participating in the Elevate national learning forum**. These scholarships will be active through April 30, 2023. The only criteria in selecting a scholarship recipient is that the staff member works within a health center participating in Elevate and that the staff member has completed the Value Transformation Framework (VTF) Assessment (or is willing to complete the 15-question tool in order to receive the scholarship). For more information reach out to Sharon at sstanley@mepca.org.

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VACCINATION RESOURCES

[Checklist of Current Versions of U.S. COVID-19 Vaccination Guidance and Clinic Support Tools](#) – as of 6/28/22

NACHC presents We Can Do This: Educating Nurses/Pediatric Staff About new COVID-19 Vaccines for Children

Tuesday, July 12 | 12:00 - 1:00pm | [Register](#)

Get answers to your questions about the newly FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccines for children under 5 years.

LAST CHANCE - Loan Repayment Opportunity

HRSA has opened their **STAR (Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery) Loan Repayment Program** for applications. This program provides loan repayment to medical, nursing, behavioral/mental health clinicians and paraprofessionals who provide direct treatment or recovery support of patients with or in recovery from a substance use disorder. **Applications are due July 7th**. [Click here](#) more details.

CHCNET NEWS

For the latest information concerning the MPCA’s HCCN, **Community Health Center Network of Maine (CHCNet)**, or for support with health information technology needs, please visit the [CHCNet Member Portal](#) or contact Michael Pancook: mpancook@mepca.org.

ORAL HEALTH UPDATE

For resources and information, please visit the [Oral Health Resources](#) section on the [MPCA website](#).

BILLING, CODING & TELEHEALTH NEWS

For updates from insurers and other relevant information, please visit the [Telehealth Resources](#) section on the [MPCA website](#).

MPCA CONTACT INFORMATION:

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MPCA Annual Conference: October 5-6, 2022 Samoset Resort, Rockport, ME