Justice Initiatives

Sergio Velarde LCSW

Project Manager

2024

MaineCare

Agenda

CAA

1115 Waiver

Community Engagement Strategy

Project Planning

In 2023 the Maine State Legislature passed H.P. 764 – L.D. 1204 requiring MaineCare to apply for the 1115 Re-entry Waiver by April 2025

December 2023 Congress passed the Consolidated Appropriations Act requiring MaineCare to Provide case management and referrals to care 30 days prior to release for eligible Juveniles starting in 2025.

How we got here

Consolidated Appropriations Act

Consolidated Appropriations Act: Policies Impacting Young People who are Incarcerated

"Under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (CAA 2023; P.L. 117-328), beginning January 1, 2025, states are permitted to receive federal payment for allowable medical assistance services provided to "eligible juveniles" while detained pending disposition of charges."

Eligible Population:
- A Medicaid eligible individual who is under 21 years of age, or
- An individual between the ages of 18 and 26 who is eligible for Medicaid under the mandatory former foster care children group; and
- Individuals who are post-adjudication and 30 days from release

Requirements:
- Provide case management and referrals to care 30 days prior to release and 30 days after release
- Provide physical and behavioral health screenings within 30 days of release
- Suspend (not terminate) CHIP coverage

Options:
- Include eligible young people who are pending disposition of charges (pre-trial).

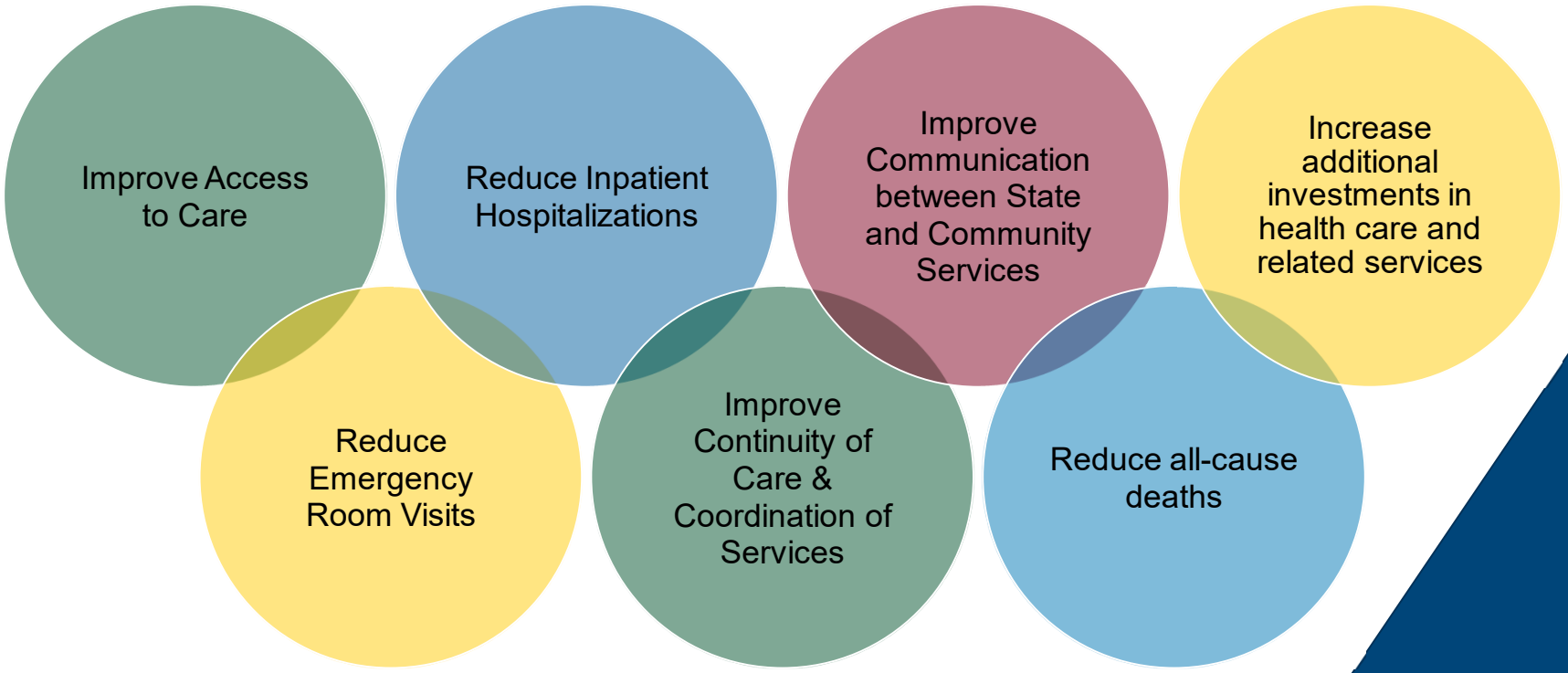
1115 Re-Entry Waiver

What are 1115 Waivers?

- Gives U.S. Health and Human Services the authority to waive certain provisions of Medicaid law to give states flexibility to design and improve their programs
- Waivers may approve experimental, pilot, or projects that promote the objectives of Medicaid and the Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Reentry Section 1115

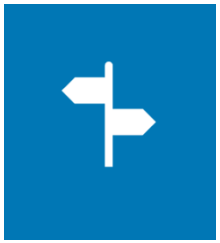
- April 2023: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a "State Medicaid Director" letter (SMD 23-003) which offered states an opportunity to improve care transitions for certain individuals who are soon-to-be former inmates of a public institution and who are otherwise eligible for Medicaid.



Goals of the Re-entry Waiver

Eligible Populations

States may propose a broadly defined Demonstration population that includes otherwise eligible, soon-to-be former incarcerated individuals.



- States have the **flexibility** to define their populations of focus (e.g., adults and youth in prisons, jails and youth correctional facilities) for pre-release services and to establish eligibility criteria (e.g., individuals with SUD and/or SMI).
- If states establish an **eligibility criteria**, they will need to set up a screening process within the correctional facility and should be mindful of establishing identification criteria for individuals who may have conditions that are currently undiagnosed.

- States may also consider making all **Medicaid-enrolled individuals** in participating carceral facilities eligible for pre-release services.

- States also need to **define which Medicaid eligibility groups will be covered** (e.g., expansion adults, pregnant individuals, children and youth, the aged, and/or the disabled) and **whether Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) populations will be included**.

Participating Providers

States have flexibility to allow in-reach/community-based providers, embedded carceral health providers or both to provide reentry services. In-reach providers may provide services in person or via telehealth. All providers must enroll in Medicaid to get reimbursed for services.

In-Reach Providers

- May provide services **in person or via telehealth**.

Carceral Providers

- The state will need to describe the **handoff processes** that will be conducted with community-based providers to support reentry.
- States that choose to allow embedded carceral health providers in this demonstration will also need to **ensure that they comply with Medicaid provider participation policies** as established by the state.

Pre-release Timeframe

- States generally will be expected to cover demonstration services beginning 30 days immediately prior to the individual's expected date of release
- CMS will consider approving demonstration authority to begin coverage as early as 90 days prior to the expected release date, depending on the state's demonstration purpose and design.
- If a state requests a pre-release service timeframe longer than 30 days, the state should incorporate into its statement of the demonstration purpose one or more elements to be tested for that additional period.

Carceral Setting

States may include state and/or local jails, prisons, and/or youth correctional facilities for pre-release services.

- States have the discretion to propose the types of carceral settings and individual carceral facilities for participation.
- States may propose a phased approach to adding carceral facilities.
- Participating states will conduct a readiness assessment of carceral settings before implementing the demonstration in those locations.

Scope of Services

States may propose to cover additional services, but will be expected as a minimum scope of services to include:

- Case management to assess and address physical and behavioral health needs and HRSN
- MAT services for all types of SUD as clinically appropriate
- 30-day supply of all prescription medications (as clinically appropriate based on the medication dispensed and the indication) provided to the beneficiary immediately upon release from the correctional facility.

States are encouraged to consider covering additional services such as:

- Family planning services and supplies
- Peer supports and community health workers with lived experience
- Behavioral health services
- Treatment for Hepatitis C
- DME

Project Planning

Community Engagement Purpose & Goals

To successfully build relationships with a diverse partners in a vast variety of settings it is imperative to meet and build trust through strategic community engagement. We set the following goals

- Better understand the legal and criminal landscape

- Understand the community and the resources of each jail and prison (BH, MAT, PCP etc.…)

- Actively listen and hear from individuals, families, and communities with lived experience

- Meet and engage community providers throughout the state of Maine

- Comprehend the complexity within our internal partners within state government

County informed approach for feedback

- Due to the unique combination of resources, partnerships, geographical differences, and jail sizes, we are proposing a county informed approach This approach will:
  - Increase buy-in with jails
  - Build on the county's strength (Examples below)
    - Having case management within jails
    - Jails partnering, sharing resources and space with surrounding county jails within their prosecutorial districts
    - Having a stronger support from community partners because of the site/county
  - Help identify gaps in services and focusing support on needed areas
    - This can be varied depending on the county and jail as they can pull resources from different areas and partners
  - This will also serve prisons well because it is important to do release planning in the county where residents want to be released to.
  - Increase success and improve impact.
- Implementation of prisons can occur on a parallel track with jails.
  - Jails and prisons are distinct and have a completely different set of implementation challenges.
  - The readiness assessment can be used to determine the order of implementation of the jails and prisons.

Community Engagement

Jails & Prisons

Maine County Jails
- Androscoggin
- Aroostook
- Cumberland
- Franklin
- Hancock
- Kennebec
- Knox
- Lincoln
- Oxford
- Penobscot
- Piscataquis
- Sagadahoc
- Somerset
- Waldo
- Washington
- York

DOC Maine State Prisons
- Buldoc Correction Center
- Down East Correctional Facility
- Long Creek
- Maine Correctional Center
- Women's Center
- Maine State Prison
- Mountain View
- Women's Reentry Center

Correctional Facility Providers

Alternative Correctional Healthcare
- Aroostook County Jail
- Franklin County Jail
- Somerset County Jail
- Lincoln County Jail
- Oxford County Jail
- Penobscot County Jail
- Sagadahoc County

Correctional Psychiatric Services
- Androscoggin County Jail
- Kennebec County

WellPath
- All Maine State Prisons / DOC

Armor Health
- Cumberland County Jail
- York County Jail

Single Inpependent Provider
- Washington County Jail
- Hancock County Jail
- Waldo County Jail
- Knox County Jail
- Piscataquis County Jail

DHHS Involvement

Primary Care Providers
- PCPlus

Substance Use (SUD)
- OHH
- IMD SUD Waiver

Mental Health
- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics

Case Management
- Intensive Case Management

Psychiatric Hospitals
- Riverview Hospital
- Dorothea Dix Hospital

Residential Providers
- Private Non-Medical Institutions

Enrollment, Eligibility, & Systems
- OFI policy
- MIHMS
- Provider Enrollment

Community Service Providers

Primacy Care Providers
- Federal Qualified Health Centers
- Maine Primary Care Association

Substance Use (SUD) Providers
- Medication Assistance Treatment
- Outpatient
- Intensive Outpatient
- Peer Led Support
- Recovery Residences

Mental Health & Behavioral Health Providers
- Outpatient
- Intensive Outpatient
- Psychiatry
- Community Mental Health Centers
- Hospitals

Case Management Providers
- Targeted Case Management
- Case Management – HH/ACT

Justice Impacted Community Members

Board of Visitors (County Jail Specific)

Maine Prisoner Advocacy Coalition

Wabanaki Nations & Wabanaki Health Alliance

Veterans

LGBTQIA2S+ Organizations

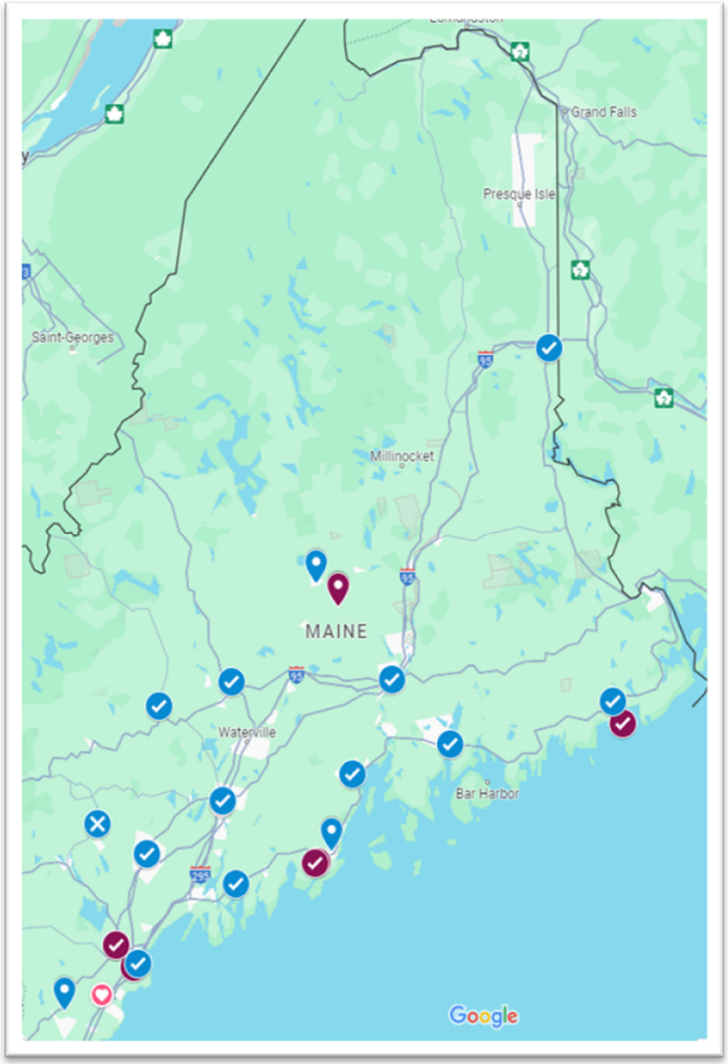
Visits to Maine Jails and Prisons to Date

County Jails

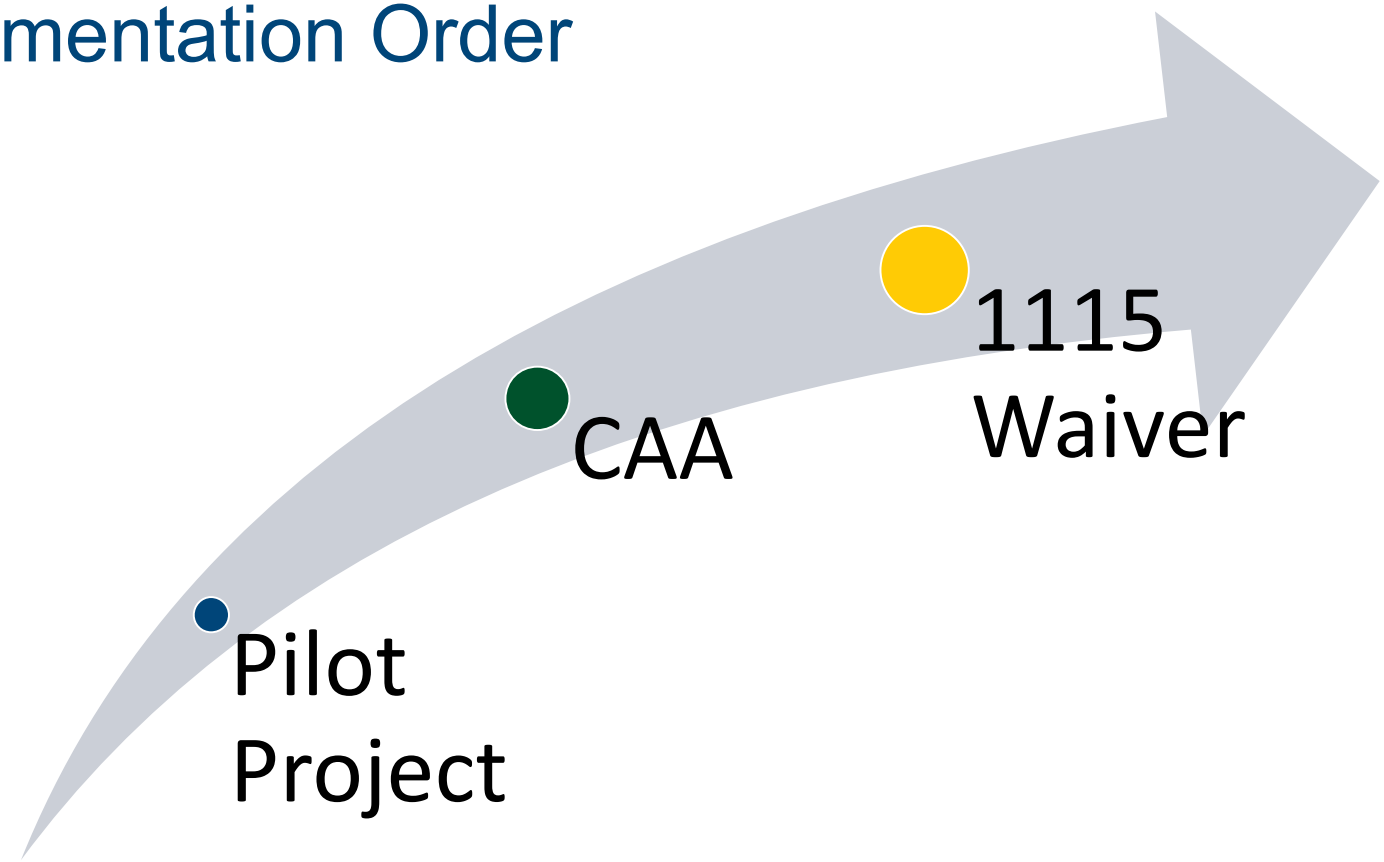
- ✓ Somerset County Jail
- ✓ Franklin County Jail
- ✓ Kennebec County
- ✓ Hancock County Jail
- ✓ Penobscot County Jail
- ✓ Aroostook County Jail
- ✓ Cumberland County Jail
- ✓ Waldo County Jail
- ✓ Washington County Jail
- ✓ Lincoln County
- ✓ Sagadahoc County
- ✓ Androscoggin County Jail
- ✓ Knox
- ✓ Oxford
- ✓ Piscataquis
- ✓ York

Maine State Prisons

- ✓ Maine Correctional Women's Center
- ✓ Maine Correctional Center
- ✓ Women's Reentry Center
- ✓ Maine State Prison
- ✓ Bolduc Correctional Facility
- ✓ Long Creek Youth Development Center
- ✓ Down-East Correctional Facility
- ✓ Mountain View / Charleston Facility



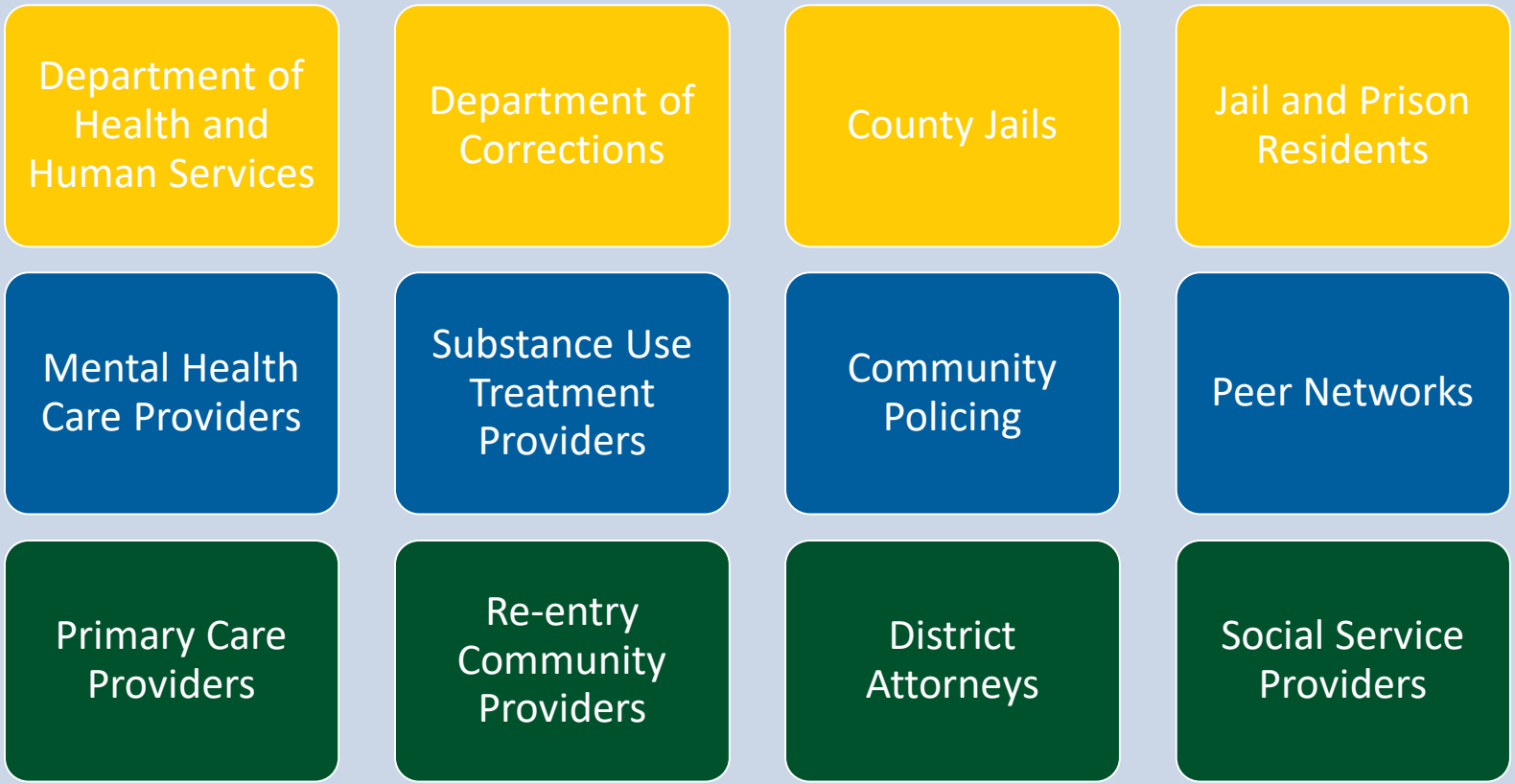
Implementation Order



Justice Initiative Work Groups

Provider Enrollment	Member Eligibility & Enrolment	Clinical Services	Care Coordination	Data/IT Systems
				

*Work groups are/is always evolving - members will be added or removed as the project progresses



Whole System Transformation

Thank you!

Sergio Velarde

Sergio.Velarde@maine.gov

MaineCare