

Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board - Meeting Summary

Date: May 19, 2026
Location: Zoom
Time: 10:00 – Noon

Key Topics

- ❖ Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Lifespan Waiver applications to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS): Community Resource Coordination 1915(b)(4) and Lifespan Waiver 1915 (c)
- ❖ DHHS Quarterly Data Summary

Attending

Board: Cullen Ryan (Chair), Kimberly Christensen, J. Richardson Collins, David Cowing, Rachel Dyer, Richard Estabrook, Kim Humphrey, Barrett Littlefield, Ann-Marie Mayberry, Bernie Oster, Jennifer Putnam, Katie Qualey, Rory Robb, Fatia Waite, Joshua Weidemann
Presenter: Derek Fales, Associate Director Developmental Disabilities and Brain Injury Services, DHHS, Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS)
Staff: Valerie Landry, Interim Executive Director

Actions

- ❖ Accepted: 4/28/26 Board Meeting Summary
Motion made by Fatia Waite; Second by Katie Qualey
- ❖ Accepted: April 2026 Financial Statements
Motion made by Fatia Waite; Second by Katie Qualey

Major Discussion Areas

1. Lifespan Waiver Applications

On April 14, 2026, DHHS issued a notice of intent to file two waiver applications with CMS and announced a 30-day comment period, concluding on May 13, 2026. The MDSOAB held a special meeting on May 5 to develop comments for submission, which were submitted to DHHS contact person (Heather Bingelis) and also to the DHHS Commissioner, the Chairs of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Governor. DHHS does not share the actual comments pertaining to waiver applications but rather develops comment summaries grouped by topics to include with the applications. Given that comments will not be made public, MDSOAB has encouraged stakeholders to share comments with one another to deepen the understanding of the many issues and perspectives. In its comments, MDSOAB recommended that the waiver applications not be submitted at this time to allow key stakeholders to work together to strengthen the concept, including closer attention to implementation realities, capacity issues, and long-term fiscal and operational requirements. Absent this approach, concern exists that in its current form, the proposal will result in confusion and potential hardship for individuals, families, and service providers. Timing also is a concern given the imminent change in Administration and State Legislature.

2. Quarterly Data Summary

Derek Fales, DHHS

Derek Fales presented information pertaining to Employment Benefits Counseling and other key data sets. [Links to the data sets will be shared.]

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