Maine Governor's Children's Cabinet

America Youth Policy Forum
March 31, 2008

Linking High-level Cross-systems Leadership to OST Capacity

2007 Children's Cabinet

- First Lady Karen Baldacci, Chair

Commissioners:

- Susan Gendron, Education
- Brenda Harvey, Health/Human Services
- Anne H. Jordan, Public Safety
- Marty Magnusson, Corrections
- Laura Fortman, Labor
- Patrick Ende, Karla Black, Mike Mahoney, Governor's Advisors

Guest Partner: Chief Justice Leigh Saufley

Mission

- To provide cross-agency **coordination**, high-level **leadership**, program and **policy development** with a common mission --- *that will measurably improve the well being of Maine's children, youth, and families through evidence-based practices and strength-based approaches to positive child and youth development*

Children's Cabinet <u>Public Value</u>:

- Coordinates approaches to the delivery of services;
- Operationalizes the Governor's commitment to creating better outcomes for children and youth in Maine.
- Establishes admin. priorities across departments and agencies/bureaus;
- Leverages resources both human (staff) and financial, that maximizes funding via collaborative grants and best use of federal funding streams, as mandates allow

Executive Staff 2007

- Deputy Barry Stoodley, Corrections
- Deputy Valerie Seaberg, Education
- Deputy Jane Gilbert, Labor
- Deputy Janet Richards, Public Safety
- Jim Beougher, DHHS, Child/Family Services

Senior Staff 2007

- David Stockford, Education Special Services
- Dan Despard, DHHS, Child Protection,
- Dr. Richard Aronson, DHHS, Maternal and Child Health
- Joan Smyrski, DHHS/Children's Behavioral Health
- Susan Savell, Communities for Children/Youth
- Mary Fran Gamage, Labor Career Centers and WIA
- Mary Lucia, Public Safety
- Roxy Hennings, Corrections
- Patti Woolley, DHHS, Early Childhood
- Leslie Rozeff, Muskie Institute
- Susan Savell, Communities for Children/Youth
- Lauren Sterling, Cabinet Staff
  Regional Children's Cabinet Chairs

Maine Governor's Children's Cabinet

Chair, First Lady Karen M. Baldacci

Commissioners of...
Education, Health/Human Services, Corrections, Labor, Public Safety

Regional Children's Cabinets
(Replicate cross-systems work at provider level regionally)

Executive and Senior Staff
(Research and troubleshoot federal and state barriers to effective services for Cabinet policy consideration)

Local Case Resolution Committees

(16 Total Statewide)

(Process and provide one-time need supports to keep children safely in their homes where existing resources do not exist.)

Children's Cabinet Staff

Standing Stakeholder Groups:

✓Task Force on Early Childhood
✓Shared Youth Vision Council (In Exec Order process) – Exist to advise the Cabinet in the steps to refine policies and systems that support the educational, social, emotional, and workforce capacity of all Maine youth.

Sample of Broad Measures

- Children and Youth in Poverty
- Children With Special Education Needs Entering School
- Youth staying in school
- Prohibitive Behaviors in school
- Youth Not In School And Not Working
- Youth Completing Degree in College/University
- Youth are healthy physically and mentally
- Youth prepared to enter the workforce

Youth Development Measures

RELATIONSHIPS

- Teacher cares and supports youth;
- Hours youth does community service;
- Youth matter to people in community;
- Hours youth spend in OST, clubs, organizations, arts, sports;
- Conversations youth have with parents about school;
- Youth accept people who are different.

In addition…our youngsters will

Succeed in school

Help others

Value diversity

Exhibit leadership

Resist danger

Feel valued by community

Be seen/treated as a resource

Feel connected to school

Feel connected to community

Overcome adversity

Raise aspirations & go onto Higher Education or meaningful work

Children's Cabinet Staff Links

- Staff is part of DOE Special Service and NCLB Teams
- Advisory Board of Maine Afterschool Network
- Oversee the creation and implementation of Maine's Best Practices in Bullying/Harassment Prevention Training and Evaluation System
- Early Childhood and Invest Early Team Co-chair
- Communities for Children & Youth Network (Provide TA and Broker grants for local Coalitions)
- Team member of the federal Shared Youth Vision Initiative
- Liaison with the Legislative Youth Council

…more staff links

- Staff the Cabinet's Commission on GLBTQ Youth
- Assist in Development of the Statewide Joint Youth Survey Tool
- Link Regional Cabinets and C4CY Coalitions to new Public Health regional prevention system
- College/Community Mentoring Replication;
- Diversion to Assets: DOC Project for first-time offenders;
- RAND/NIH Research project on youth developmental assets in schools

Building Capacity for OST

- Staffing – Cabinet staff is housed in the DOE and manages the 21st CCLC program
- Assigned to represent the Cabinet and 21st on Maine Afterschool Network among other cross-systems efforts
- Brings research-based and emerging practices in OST to DOE Commissioner and Cabinet's attention
- Engages leadership in cross-systems approaches to improved coordination and resource partnerships to meet goals of Network.

Examples of Cross-Links to OST

- Engaged DOE and DHHS commissioners to fully support first OST planning grant to NGA (not funded)

- BUT….paved way for next steps:
  - Creation of "Communities of Learning" team to establish a statewide integrated and coordinated professional development plan for K-12: **GOAL**: to imbed OST and youth development elements
  - Introduced the school-day professional development team to content/use of Youth Program Quality Assessments used in Maine's 21st CCLC programs

…and there's more

- Helped to craft Maine's first Afterschool Standards Report in response to LD 1369 Resolve 41, To Promote High-Quality Before-School and After-School Programs: "Reaching Potential through Quality Afterschool"
- New 21st CCLC RFP promotes cross-systems program coordination with Gear Up, Title I/SES Schools, DHHS-Funded before and aftercare, WIA programs, and others.
- Involved with Shared Youth Vision leads to partner with America's Promise on statewide Drop Out Summit that will include OST, as strategy for addressing Drop out.

…and more

- Exploring integration of Drug Free Schools, Maine CDC Suicide Prevention, and Civil Rights resources to support statewide Best Practice Bullying/Harassment Prevention Training and Evaluation System for school-day and OST:

"Creating Safe, Fair, and Responsive Schools"

Connections

- Lauren.Sterling@maine.gov
- www.maineafterschool.net
- www.maine.gov/education/bullyingprevention
- www.mainemarks.org