

# EmploymentFirstMaine

## Coalition Meeting Minutes

*Draft Version*

Date of Meeting: Friday September 19, 2014  
Time: 11am – 1pm  
Location: MDOL, 45 Commerce Drive, Augusta  
Facilitator: Betsy Hopkins

### Present

Name/Affiliation	Name/Affiliation
Betsy Hopkins, VR	Rick Langley, DRC
Jeanie Coltart, CDE	Lisa Sturtevant, OADS
Debbie Gilmer, Syntiro, APSE	Jan Breton, DOE
Brad Strause, Alpha One	Elaine Ecker, NAMI
Denise Adams, MCD	Karen Fraser, BRS
Gail Fanjoy, KFI	Leticia Huttman, SAMHS
Kim Moody, DRC	Vicky McCarty, CCSM
Chris Robinson, VR	Kathy Despres, Cares, Inc., SILC
Anne Nadzo, Goodwill	Kelley Hooper, Aspire
Carrie Lemos, Unlimited Solutions	Denise McCarthy, VR
Tyler Ingalls, SUFU	Riley Albair, DRC
Gayla Dwyer, AMHC	Scott Jacqmin, DEI
Michelle Berry, DEI	Ann Long, MPF

Every person. Every talent. Every opportunity.

## **Discussion and Issues**

### **1. Update re EFM Summit**

Debbie: 92 people registered, very few EFM coalition members have so far. Please register asap. October 17 schedule includes quick remarks from all 3 departmental commissioners, Eve Hill of DOJ, Patty Cassidy, and updates on EFM policy work, etc. DRC dinner is that evening. So far, lots of DHHS represented, also VR, educators, providers. Invites out to Senator Alford and Rep. Volk?

### **2. EFM officers elections**

Betsy: At one year mark, we need to hold elections for chair, vice-chair, and secretary. Kim volunteered to head nominating committee as she did before. Need to get notice out that nominations go to Kim so that a slate can be prepared. Notice in October, voting at full coalition meeting in November.

### **3. Policy recommendations discussion**

Betsy: Website has themes document from last meeting's facilitated discussion re policy ideas/recommendations. Also, the Capacity Building, Policy, and Business Engagement work groups have posted draft recommendation documents posted on their pages on the EFM website.

Kathy: Data group has drafted memo and letter to commissioners for approval. Indicates the nature of data we seek, and asks that departments designate a person to make data sharing happen.

Approved to be proofed and sent on behalf of the coalition.

Debbie: Re recommendation document: There are 14 recommendations in this draft. Newly added is number 14: work support providers be required to become certified rehab providers.

Kim: 19 recommendations from the survey, merged into common themes. Re legislation: support development of iwaiver and elimination of sub-minimum wage?

Lisa: 90 responses to business engagement survey. Resulted in 5 core recommendations in this draft document.

Jan: DOE effort going into revamping transition practices now, the implementation challenge is huge. Jim Martin's interagency group made a

recommendation re a shared position in state government, across departments, re EF initiative.

Challenge re compliance of current transition plans. Huge challenge re funds to implement this correctly.

Elaine: Teacher credentialing an issue?

Debbie: Need teacher training programs at preservice level.

Gail: Too much local control, lack of change happening now.

Jan: Is a resource problem, a school budgets problem. Don't even have special ed directors in some cases. Needs to be money behind those changes.

Betsy: next steps? Plan on oct 17 is to report out on kinds of things were recommending. But before we move ahead, need to focus our recommendations.

Request to work groups: narrow recommendations as appropriate, and develop year one, two, three plans? Top priorities? Must haves at the outset, etc?

Agreed to meet next Wed Oct 1, 11am – 1pm to finalize this work.

**Next Meeting: Steering Committee Meeting**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Wednesday October 1, 2014</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>11am to 1pm</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>MDOL, 45 Commerce Drive, Frances Perkins Room</b>