



Strategic solutions for Maine's health care needs

Policy and Practice Implications from MeHAF's Medication Assistance Evaluation: Helping People Access the Care they Need for Better Health and Fewer Visits to the Doctor

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About the Maine Health Access Foundation

Our mission is to promote affordable and timely access to comprehensive, quality health care, and improve the health of every Maine resident.

- Largest health care foundation in Maine
- Emphasis on addressing the needs of people who are uninsured and medically underserved
- Medication access and effective medication management has been a focus area for MeHAF's *Safety Net* work because these two challenges exist for MeHAF's priority populations and Maine providers at the nexus of cost, access and quality concerns – maximizing the potential for impact.

Strengthening Maine’s Safety Net Investments

Our investments in the Medication Assistance Initiative totaled over \$2.4 M and included several components:

Providing 2M in grant support for 10 community-based programs to help Maine people navigate affordability challenges and improve medication management. Grantees received technical assistance that included:

- *Improving Medication Management: A Review of the Evidence*
- Quarterly Group Learning/Sharing Opportunities – including a group session and individual grantee training on health literacy
- Convened Medication Stakeholder Group to increase statewide information sharing, encourage collaboration, and improve policy development
- Contracted with USM’s Muskie School to conduct a \$375,000 four-year evaluation of the Initiative.
- Exciting lessons learned can be applied to current health care and payment reform restructuring work.