

REGIONAL CARE TEAMS

Monthly Meetings

The Regional Care Teams meet monthly in each of the three Maine Department of Corrections regions to share information, fill resource gaps, and respond to needs of local youth referred to the initiative.



About Us

The Regional Care Teams (RCTs) is a partnership between the Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC), the Place Matters team at the University of Southern Maine (USM), and the Maine Center for Youth Policy and Law (MCYPAL) at Maine Law. RCTs are a network of people and organizations working together to support individual youth and their families AND to help to inform system change. Through this process, we facilitate shared accountability to the health, safety, and well-being of system impacted youth and their families so they may thrive in their chosen communities.



Monthly Meeting Goals

During the monthly RCT meetings in each region, the team:

- ▶ Strengthens relationships between stakeholders through information sharing and building trust.
- ▶ Collaborates and problem-solves for individual youth case reviews.
- ▶ Allocates and develops resources for system-involved youth.
- ▶ Identifies system barriers that prevent youth wellbeing in the community.

Get involved

Are you interested in joining the network as a partner for your region?

Email the MDOC Regional Correctional Administrator or the facilitator for that region.

Do you know or work with a young person who is involved or at risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system and could benefit from extra support?

Learn more and refer them to the Regional Care Teams [on our website](#).

REGIONAL CONTACTS

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R3 Facilitator: Emma Schwartz

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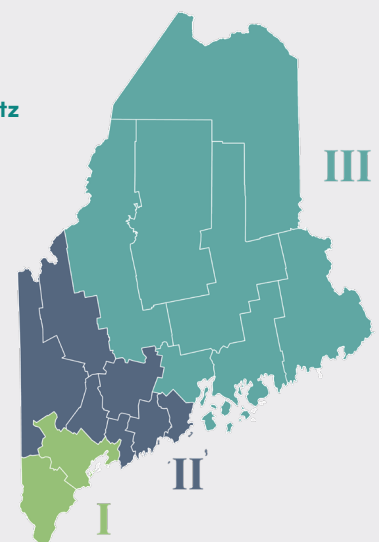
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R1 Facilitator: Jill Ward

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Monthly Meeting Logistics

We envision a future where all Maine youth experience a fair, equitable, and responsive system of care that creates a sense of belonging, prepares them to thrive in adulthood, and decrease the use of detention. In this work, we value being inclusive, responsive, innovative, opportunity building, data-driven, and transparent.

MEETING PROCEDURES

Schedule

Virtual meetings are held monthly in each of the three DOC regions.

- ▶ **Region 1:** 10:30am–12:00pm, 4th Thursday
- ▶ **Region 2:** 1pm–2pm, 4th Tuesday
- ▶ **Region 3:** 1pm–2:30pm, 4th Thursday

Meeting Preparation

RCA & FACILITATOR

- ▶ Maintain a master list of agency liaisons, providers, community partners and other stakeholder for their region to use for group communications and meeting invitations.
- ▶ If there is a case review, ensure that the youth and family has given permission for the case review.
- ▶ Send invitations based on the needs identified for the case review (meeting will always include agency representatives, providers, and community stakeholders to support youth in the community).
- ▶ Send out an agenda at least 3 days before the meeting.

Post Meeting Follow-up

RCA & FACILITATOR

- ▶ Provide an update on the previous month's case review. This includes the solutions and/or resources learned throughout the month.
- ▶ Participants are invited to share organizational updates and announcements, including but not limited to resource updates, upcoming events for children and families, and/or provider events or trainings.
- ▶ Document systemic barriers to and related trends in providing support for youth and families.

Youth Referrals

Visit [our website](#) for more information.

- ▶ Anyone can refer a youth to a RCT, including juvenile corrections staff members, agency staff members, social workers, case managers, defense attorneys, judges, and family members.
- ▶ Any young person who is involved or at risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system can be referred for a Care Team Review or Funds Request:
 - **Funds Requests** are intended to address an urgent need or fill a gap not met by other resources to help youth remain in their chosen community.
 - **Care Team Reviews** are an opportunity to listen, make connections, and take action to support the individual youth and their family.

SAMPLE RCT MEETING AGENDA

Welcome and introductions

RCA

- ▶ Welcome everyone.
- ▶ Offer a brief overview of RCTs for new members.
- ▶ Participants introduce themselves, their preferred pronouns, and organizational affiliations.

Read purpose statement and review confidentiality norms

FACILITATOR

- ▶ A volunteer reads the purpose statement.
- ▶ The facilitator reviews confidentiality norms and protocols.

Updates and announcements

RCA/FACILITATOR

- ▶ RCA provides an update on the previous month's case review. This includes actions taken throughout the month.
- ▶ Participants are invited to share organizational updates and announcements, including but not limited to resource updates, upcoming events for children and families, and/or provider events or trainings.

Case Review*

The purpose of a case review is to identify needs of a youth and generate options and resources with participants. This is done with a strengths-based focus and an adherence to confidentiality.

*Often, RCT meetings involve one or two referrals for case reviews. When there are no case reviews, the facilitation team organizes a presentation or discussion on issues related to the systemic barriers to serving system-involved youth or on information about best practices, new resources or other community assets.

Youth overview (10 minutes)

The person presenting the youth referral will:

- ▶ Identify their relationship to the youth.
- ▶ Provide general information about the youth's situation, challenges, and strengths.
- ▶ Identify the youth's needs and the solutions they hope to get from the group.

Questions from RCT (10 minutes)

- ▶ RCT attendees ask clarifying questions. These can include the young person's treatment needs, family dynamic, past successes, current interests, or other questions that offer a better understanding of how to best support the youth and their family.
- ▶ The referent answers questions succinctly.

Solutions (15 minutes)

- ▶ The referent turns their microphone on mute and/or their camera off.
- ▶ Led by the RCA and facilitator, attendees discuss resources, strategies, and solutions to meet the youth's short and long-term needs.

Next steps (5 minutes)

- ▶ The facilitator recaps the conversation and related next steps for the referent and RCT participants.

Closing

RCA/FACILITATOR

- ▶ Confirm time and day for the next RCT meeting.
- ▶ End the meeting on time.