

A Maine Youth Roadmap Project

FOR REINVESTING IN MAINE'S YOUTH AND COMMUNITIES



Building on work to date and research that underscores the need for an integrated, cross systems continuum of care, **The Maine Youth Road Map Project will provide policymakers and communities with a roadmap that will:**



Examine how youth outcomes are shaped by structural place based factors across Maine's sixteen counties and local communities.

Decades of social science research underscores the range of structural, place-based forces that contribute to youth vulnerability, risky youth behavior, and poor youth outcomes. Through analysis of empirically derived determinants of economic and social wellbeing (housing, schools, education, employment, etc.), we will produce county and community profiles that provide a realistic snapshot of the unique character of each place of Maine's sixteen counties and major town/city centers.

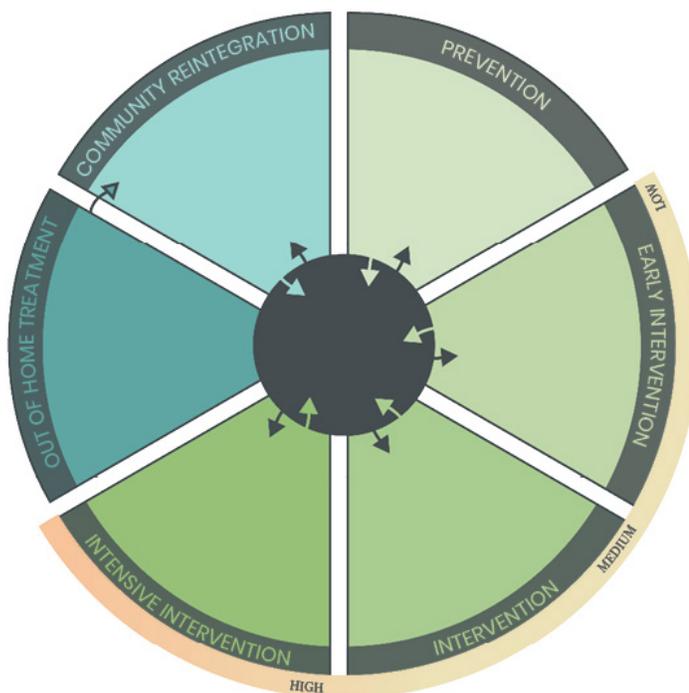
Identify specific system populations and places for equitable investments to improve outcomes.

There are communities in Maine that have been historically "overrepresented" in systems as well as communities that have a history of treating youth close to home. The project will analyze trends in specific system subpopulations (youth justice, child welfare, children's behavioral health, youth homelessness, education), disaggregated by race, gender, and geography to help find common sense approaches and solutions.

Propose a data informed community based continuum of care.

Advance a model for a Maine continuum of care based on a comprehensive literature review to inform aligned strategies across youth serving systems and increase demand for community-based supports for Maine's youth. Map community assets, resources, and strengths of Maine communities.

Identify the unique assets, strengths and resources that each community has to contribute to positive youth outcomes.

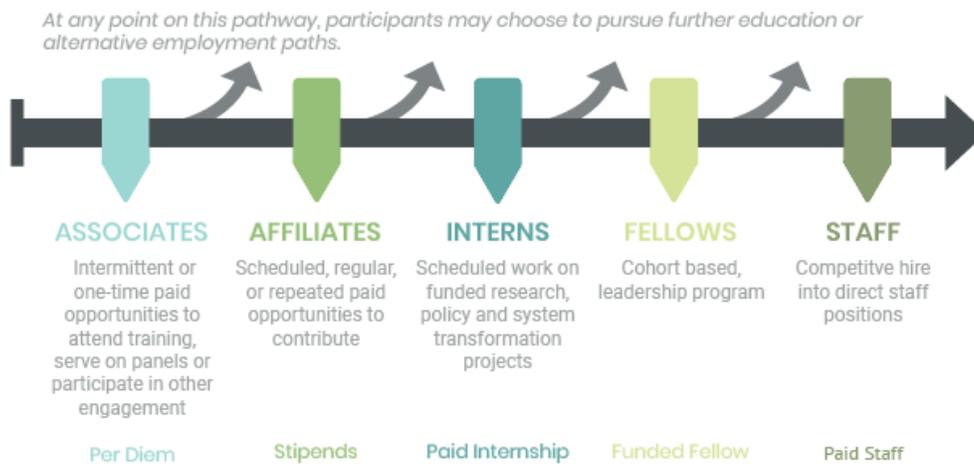


Engage with and amplify voices of Maine communities.

Partner with specific subpopulations who are most burdened by the current system of care based on local and national data (LGBT youth, youth of color, girls, trauma survivors) to build public awareness and education.

Create direct education and employment opportunities for directly impacted older youth.

Three formerly incarcerated and system involved young people will contribute to the project, increasing participatory methods and opportunity pathways for youth.



Recommend policy, program, and systems change strategies to strengthen economic and social wellbeing for Maine youth and communities.

These solutions will be informed by the voices of service providers, administrators, advocates and a broad range of stakeholders who will provide input through local summits, surveys, focus groups and interviews.

TYPES OF DATA COLLECTION METHODS



There are several types of data collection planned for this project: Community Population Data, Program Population Data, Individual Data and Intimate Data. This will provide the most comprehensive picture available, lifting up the needs of Maine youth, families and communities grounded in local and statewide context.