



CCSM Issues Committee
First Draft: MaineCare Transportation Brokers 6/8/22

The Issue:

Over the many years that the CCSM has been gathering feedback on issues, MaineCare's transportation system has been routinely brought to our attention. We are working on several issue statements that will address very specific topics in relation to transportation. This issue statement specifically addresses the issues we hear that are connected to the sub-contracted providers that do the actual transportation ride provision. This is not specific to one provider, but we hear this all over the State. The issues we are hearing routinely but not limited to the following:

- No show of transportation provider for both pick up at the home and at the appointment to return home.
- Late pick up and drop offs on both rides
- Lack of communication about changes to rides
- Lack of education around how to navigate the complaint process

Recommendations:

1. Modivcare's website should have a button at the top of their page that goes directly to a simple complaint process and forms. It should be uniform with a centralized place not with the subcontractor.
 2. Modivcare needs to have a complaints report that can be easily seen on their website. Data needs to be transparent for all to see.
 3. Modivcare should have an advisory council that is made up primarily of service users to advise on systems related issues and meet at least 4 times a year.
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4. DHHS ultimately is responsible as the payer of this multi-million dollar contract. They need to be responsible for the contract and really know what is happening on the ground for service users. We can not solely rely on sub-contractors to report situations that routinely are going on and need to be addressed.
5. There needs to be an overhaul of the rules around no shows. For example, a driver could put someone down as a no show. The person could be penalized and it wouldn't necessarily be the service user's fault. Policies need to be sent to service users around the expectations when they start services so they know the policies and rules. People should know how to access their due process rights. This should be sent out yearly to remind the individual of the policies and procedures.
6. Disability Rights Maine should have a role in supporting the investigation of complaints by service users and assist in the complaint process.
7. Communication is very important between drivers and service users. A phone app would also help knowing where drivers are or if there are issues. If no smart phone is available they need to use whatever communication system the service user is able to use.
8. Transportation providers should have sensitivity training given by service users. The service users should develop said training and be given support to develop a curriculum to be used. Refreshers should happen yearly.

Expected outcomes

People should be able to depend on the rides needed to get to important MaineCare services. The system that Maine contracts with should be easy and simple for people to access and use. When issues arise there should be an easy and simple way to file complaints and seek resolution to their issues. There needs to be a way to inform people of the policies and procedures and the processes in place for complaints to be resolved.



Consumer Council System of Maine
A Voice for Consumers of Mental Health Services

To submit feedback, ideas or a personal story relating to this issue statement, please send to the CCSM either by mail at: 219 Capitol St. Suite 7 Augusta, ME 04330 or email at vmccarty@maineccsm.org

DEADLINE TO RESPOND July 11th, 2022

Thank you.
