



Communities of Practice

Maine Roads to Quality Professional Development Network (MRTQ PDN) is supporting the development of Communities of Practice in all regions within Maine. Formation of the Communities of Practice group taps into existing provider groups, groups with a specific early childhood focus and/or support for forming groups to bring those in the early care and education field together. A facilitator is contracted by MRTQ PDN and groups are given opportunities for networking, topical information sharing and/or elective training.

The following list has been updated for February 2023.

Geographic Location	Facilitator	Facilitator Contact Information	Member Concentration/ Meeting Schedule
(NEW) Continuous Quality Improvement for Centers Based & Out-of-School Time Directors (Statewide)	Diane Hancock	(207) 560-7325 diane.hancock@maine.edu	Center based and Out-of-School Time Directors Meets on the 4 th Tuesday of the month via Zoom from 1:30-3:00 pm. Register Here
(NEW) Continuous Quality Improvement for Family Child Care in Partnership with the <i>Family Child Care Association of Maine (FCCAM)</i> (Statewide)	Tammy Dwyer	(207) 956-2937 tammy.dwyer@maine.edu	Family Center Care practitioners. Meets on 3 rd Thursday of the month via Zoom from 6:00-8:00 pm. Register Here

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Family Child Care (Statewide)	Tammy Dwyer	(207) 956-2937 tammy.dwyer@maine.edu	Family Child Care practitioners - in partnership with the Family Child Care Association of Maine (FCCAM). Meets the 2 nd Monday each month from 6:00-8:00 pm via Zoom. Register Here
First Steps to Family Child Care (Statewide)	Tammy Dwyer	(207) 956-2937 tammy.dwyer@maine.edu	For practitioners who are interested in or planning to open a Family Child Care as well as those who have a new Family Child Care (licensed for 6 months or less) or those looking to learn more about FCC. Meets the 4th Monday of each month via Zoom from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. Register Here
Mid-Maine Direct Care (Hancock, Penobscot, Lincoln, Waldo, Knox, Sagadahoc Counties)	Heather Jones	(207) 290-0166 heather.jones@maine.edu	Center based and Family Child Care and other Direct Care practitioners. Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 6-7 pm via Zoom . Add to your calendar and get monthly reminders! 

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<p>Mid-Maine Director's Nap Chats</p> <p>(Hancock, Penobscot, Lincoln, Waldo, Knox, Sagadahoc Counties)</p>	<p>Heather Jones</p>	<p>(207) 290-0166 heather.jones@maine.edu</p>	<p>Directors, Administrators, Owners, and Leaders in ECE.</p> <p>Meets on the 4th Thursday of the month from 6:00 to 7:00 pm via Zoom.</p> <p>Add to your calendar and get monthly reminders!</p> 
<p>(NEW) Tri-County (Piscataquis, Kennebec, Somerset)</p>	<p>Robin Holman</p>	<p>207-956-2410 robin.holman@maine.edu</p>	<p>Center Based and Family Childcare Practitioners</p> <p>Meets the second Thursday of each month from 6:00-7:30 PM via ZOOM Register HERE</p>
<p>(NEW) Tri-County OST (Piscataquis, Kennebec, Somerset)</p>	<p>Robin Holman</p>	<p>207-956-2410 robin.holman@maine.edu</p>	<p>Out of School Time Practitioners</p> <p>Meets the third Thursday of each month from 10:00-11:30 AM via ZOOM OST Register HERE</p>
<p>Lewiston/Auburn (Androscoggin County)</p>	<p>Kari Payne</p>	<p>(207) 615-1064 kari.payne@maine.edu</p>	<p>Center based and Family Child Care practitioners. Meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in person typically.</p>

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Caribou (Aroostook County) Houlton (Aroostook County) Presque Isle (Aroostook County)	Cathy Bohls	(207) 999-2046 crbohls@gmail.com	Center based and Family Child Care practitioners. Caribou, Houlton, and Presque Isle folks will meet together via Zoom on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Contact the facilitator to receive the link for the Zoom meeting.
Fort Kent (Aroostook County)	Julie True	(207) 316-5999 Julietrue@yahoo.com	Center based and Family Child Care practitioners. Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:00 - 8:00 pm via Zoom .
Gorham (Cumberland County)	Diane Hancock	(207) 560-7325 diane.hancock@maine.edu	Center based and Family Child Care practitioners. First Thursday of the month, at Great Falls Elementary School in Gorham from 6:30 - 8:30 pm.
Greater Portland Directors (Cumberland County)	Diane Hancock	(207) 560-7325 diane.hancock@maine.edu	Center based Directors. Meets bi-weekly on Wednesdays (2/8 and 2/22) 2nd Wednesday in person at Goldman Family Preschool and 4th Wednesday via Zoom both from 1:30-2:30 pm.
Greater Portland Infant/Toddler (Cumberland County)	Murielle DiBiase	(207) 931-6615 murielledibiase@gmail.com	Center based and Family Child Care practitioners focus on Infants and Toddlers. Meet on 2 nd Monday of the month via Zoom from 6:15-7:15pm.
Greater Portland Preschool (Cumberland County)	Diane Hancock	(207) 560-7325 diane.hancock@maine.edu	Preschool Age Child Care practitioners. Meets on the 4th Monday of the month at alternating locations from 5:00 - 7:00 pm.
Farmington (Franklin County)	Jessica Lewis	(207) 491-6497 inchbyinch.maine@gmail.com	Center based and Family Child Care practitioners. Usually meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at rotating locations (Farmington, Jay, Wilton and Carrabassett Valley) from 6:00-8:00 pm.

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Oxford (Oxford County)	Michael Sandberg	(207) 865-6212 misand47@aol.com	Center based and Family Child Care practitioners. Meets every other Tuesday via Zoom from 6:00 - 7:00 pm (2/7 and 2/21). Contact the facilitator to receive the Zoom link.
Downeast Region (Washington County)	Theresa Fisk	(207) 956-2070 theresa.fisk@maine.edu	Center based, Family Child Care, and Out-of-School time practitioners throughout Washington County. Meets on the 4th Monday from 5:30-7:00 pm via Zoom .
Kennebunk - Saco (York County)	Tammy Dwyer	(207) 956-2937 tammy.dwyer@maine.edu	Center based, Family Child Care and Out-of-School time practitioners. 4th Wednesday of each month from 6-8 pm. In person at the Saco Transportation Center Meeting Space, 138 Main Street, Saco. Register Here
Kittery (York County)	Michael Sandberg	(207) 865-6212 misand47@aol.com	Center based and Family Child Care practitioners. Meets on the 3rd Thursday via Zoom from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.