



THE MAINE ASSOCIATION OF  
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

**What are the expected impacts of these cuts?  
Who will they hurt and how?**

- Existing rates are insufficient to cover expenses. Further cuts will lead to services being eliminated.
- Low cost, effective services such as therapy, medication management, and case management will be difficult to access due to a dramatic decline in provider availability.
- The mental health system will lose many of its highly qualified and experienced staff.
- A large number of mental health professionals will lose their jobs, creating a significant unemployment issue state wide.
- The cost of mental health services will increase due to the use of more expensive services filling the gap left by the closure of community based services.
- Rural areas will lose a large percentage of their mental health services.
- Quality of care will be compromised as caseloads would be increased to account for the rate changes. This would make it impossible to deliver evidence based services.
- Thousands of consumers will be negatively impacted by these cuts.
- This plan does not create savings, but merely shifts the costs to other parts of the system such as emergency room care and corrections.

