

From: Maine Quality Counts <info@mainequalitycounts.ccsend.com> on behalf of Maine Quality Counts <jbonk@mainequalitycounts.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 3:25 PM
To: letourneau.lisa@gmail.com
Subject: Exciting news from QC!

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Dear Friends,

I am pleased to announce that the QC Board of Directors of Maine Quality Counts has made the thoughtful and strategic decision to join forces with Qualidigm - a quality improvement/technical assistance organization (based in Wethersfield, CT). Qualidigm develops and promulgates strategies that improve the quality, safety, and cost-effectiveness of healthcare, typically through transformational change. In other words, they're a lot like Quality Counts! We see this as a coming together of equals - the result of natural synergy between two partners with complementary strengths.

After four months of due diligence and negotiations, the board determined that an affiliation-merger with Qualidigm will help us continue the important, quality improvement work we're doing with all of you - our Members and key, community partners - on behalf of the citizens of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. It will also go a long way in expanding QC's footprint throughout all of New England, with a focus on future CMS initiatives and contracts.

Here are some of the highlights:

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- This will be a two-step process involving a transition or affiliation period (through July 31, 2019), culminating in a full-blown merger (effective August 1 of next year).
 - Qualidigm is committed to promoting QC's brand identity and presence in Maine, building on our strong relationships in the region. They see us as a critical hub for northern New England.
 - QC will still be maintaining an office in Manchester, ME. The plan is to have the majority of current/future QI programs and services for northern New England emanate from this location.
 - Our Members decided that Qualidigm would become the sole Member" of Quality Counts. QC Members will retain their benefits and access to services through their current membership period, but they'll be giving up their voting rights.
 - QC will have representation (and a voice) on the combined board of directors. And I will be staying on board; Qualidigm wants to be sure that we have continuity and strong leadership going forward. In fact, we anticipate that the overall impact on current staff (through contraction, the inevitable result of any merger) will be minimal.
 - Over time, there will be a gradual blending of our names/logos, marketing materials, websites, and social media campaigns. We're also considering combining our annual conferences!
 - As the merged entity develops its model for supporting highly competitive bids for CMS task orders, we will continue to strive for operational and programmatic efficiency.

For additional information about Qualidigm, please check out their website: www.qualidigm.org. I also encourage you to give me a call if you wish to discuss this exciting opportunity in more detail.

Thank you for joining us on the journey!

~ Larry

**Maine Quality Counts +
Qualidigm**

...
Stronger Together!

STAY CONNECTED:



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