



2019 - 2020

ME

# VaxFacts<sup>SM</sup>

**MVB** | MAINE VACCINE BOARD

## DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES,

MVB was formed by legislative action in June of 2010. Mindful of the importance of public accountability, approaching its 10th anniversary, MVB chartered an independent study of its effectiveness.<sup>1</sup> The study results are gratifying. Not only have the objectives which prompted the legislative initiative been achieved, but also program constituents are pleased as well.



Thankfully, MVB had fully funded its reserve targets prior to calendar year 2020 which, due to COVID-19, has been particularly stressful on many organizations. MVB's operating financial model is self-correcting for volatility, so MVB has weathered the COVID-19 crisis well. Mindful of the strains experienced by others, the MVB voted to absorb another year of vaccine cost increases by holding assessment rates steady through 2021.

The study also validated the cost-savings methodology jointly developed by MVB and KidsVax<sup>®</sup> nearly a decade ago. With an extraordinarily high survey data coverage of over 60% of all vaccine purchases statewide, the independent study confirmed that financial savings for Maine healthcare payers consistently have been in the 20-28% range annually.

We remain grateful for the staff of the Maine CDC as well as healthcare providers and front-line workers statewide who administer vaccines funded by MVB. Their work truly has been heroic.

**Peter Gore, Chair**  
Peter is Executive Vice President of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce. He serves on a volunteer basis as the Chair of the MVB.

<sup>1</sup> See [www.mevaccine.org/impact](http://www.mevaccine.org/impact)

## One of the most important outcomes of Maine's universal vaccine program are the health benefits achieved through improved immunization rates for Maine's children.

Most of the credit for this goes to Maine's healthcare providers, in cooperation with the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) vaccine distribution system, clinical expertise and technical support. The work of the Maine Vaccine Board (MVB) in overseeing the universal vaccine program has been aided by representatives of the Maine CDC, as well as the cooperation of employers and health insurers who do business in Maine.



\*2019 National Immunization Survey Childhood Report, published Oct. 2020

MVB has reduced administrative and financial burdens on health care providers. Instead of having to purchase vaccines up front and await repayment from insurance companies, provider offices now receive vaccines from the state free of charge.

MVB funds help support Maine's universal childhood vaccine purchasing program. The program yielded over \$41 in savings per child this year. That added up to almost \$6 million in total health care cost savings.

The Maine Universal Access to Childhood Vaccines Program is a joint public and private effort that provides all Maine children birth through age 18 access to vaccinations. The MVB gathers the funding from health insurance carriers and third party administrators, and, in collaboration with the Maine CDC, aids in improving immunization rates while lowering the costs of health care. The universal childhood immunization purchasing program administered by DHHS in partnership with the MVB allows the state to purchase all of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) recommended childhood vaccines at substantially discounted rates.



Independent studies estimate that for all Maine children born in a given year who receive all childhood vaccines to protect them against vaccine preventable diseases and followed through the age of 6\*:

**135**

LIVES ARE SAVED

**600,000**

CASES OF DISEASE ARE PREVENTED

**\$43 million**

IN DIRECT COSTS ARE SAVED

**\$1** SPENT ON VACCINES

**= \$10.10**

SAVED IN DIRECT HEALTHCARE COSTS

\*Data from Fangjun Zhou, PhD Health scientist, CDC 2011 and CDC FY2021 Reports to Congress



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Maine CDC

## A Message from Tonya Philbrick Senior Health Program Manager, Maine CDC

The COVID-19 pandemic has strained the Maine Immunization Program in ways which no one could have anticipated last year. Parental response to social distancing guidelines and stay-safe-at-home recommendations, as well as certain school closings, understandably resulted in delays in important well-child health visits across the board and vaccination visits in particular. The professionalism and diligence of Maine's pediatric community is evident in that, as 2020 drew to a close, nearly all missed early childhood immunization appointments had been made up and we were back on track in our multi-year effort to improve meaningfully Maine's immunization rates. I am grateful for our hardworking team members who assured adequate inventory in provider offices, notwithstanding the hosts of ordering and delivery and general communication challenges presented by the pandemic. Thankfully, rock-solid operations of the Maine Vaccine Board, including appropriate advance reserve funding, assured that financial support was never a challenge in maintaining Maine's vaccine supply.

Now, as we shoulder, along with other public health and general Maine healthcare resources, the burden of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, I want to express my gratitude both for our team members and for new partners who are widening the broad provider partnerships we have established over the years.

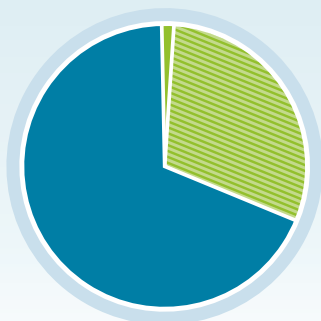
Maine, thankfully, entered this crisis better positioned than many states. We look forward to assisting providers as they finish catching up on other vaccines over the months ahead and for resuming our work on long-term immunization rate improvements as we also simplify statewide COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

**Tonya Philbrick**  
Senior Health Program Manager, Maine CDC

## FINANCIALS

July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

**Resources**  
**\$13,534,690**

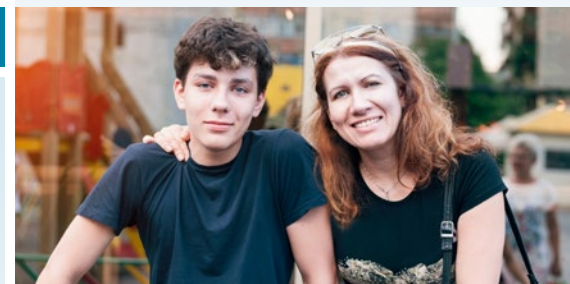


- **67%** Assessments
- **32%** Reserve Release
- **1%** Interest

**Expenditures**  
**\$13,534,690**



- **98%** Vaccine Purchases
- **1.1%** Service Agent
- **0.7%** Legal
- **0.2%** All Other



### ADMINISTRATOR:

1-855-KidsVax (543-7829) | [www.KidsVax.org](http://www.KidsVax.org)

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