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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Community Website Empowers Youth & Families

“Tri-County Network of Care” Site Supports Self-Care and Emotional Wellness

LEWISTON – State and local system of care entities are pleased to announce the launch of Tri-County Network of Care, Mon., Nov. 9, 1-3 pm at St. Mary’s Lepage Conference Center, 99 Campus Ave., Lewiston. The breakthrough, multi-lingual website is designed for people exploring physical and emotional wellness and for their providers.

“This one-stop, community-based resource empowers youth and families,” says Doug Patrick, System Manager, Maine Children’s Behavioral Health Services, “by giving them a place to research their own issues, store and control access to their health information, and advocate directly with legislators.”

Tri-County Network of Care (www.tricounty.me.networkofcare.org) features include:

- An easily searchable regional mental health service directory
- *Confidential*, HIPPA-compliant folders for family health information
- Social networking forums for peer-to-peer support
- The latest nationwide mental health news
- 30,000 articles on mental illness, medications, recovery and more
- Advocacy and legislative information

Providers can use the site’s message boards and community calendars to share challenges and ideas, as well as brainstorm system of care solutions in collaboration with other entities. The site is accessible regardless of literacy or income level through a text-only version and other adaptive technologies, including large print sizes. It is fully ADA-compliant and Bobby-approved and available in several languages, including French, Somali, Italian and Spanish.

Tri-County Network of Care is sponsored by Children’s Behavioral Health, The Community Collaborative for Children, Youth and Families – Tri-County, and THRIVE System of Care Initiative.

THRIVE System of Care Initiative (www.thriveinitiative.org) helps providers and community organizations in Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford counties transform the way services are delivered to children, families of children, and to youth who are affected by serious emotional and behavioral challenges. Thrive trauma-informed trainings and technical assistance are family-driven, youth-guided and culturally and linguistically competent. Thrive is a partnership of Maine’s Children’s Behavioral Health Services, Tri-County Mental Health Services, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in collaboration with local provider agencies.

Trilogy Integrated Resources, Inc. (www.trilogyir.com) is dedicated to improving information and communication in the health and social service fields at the community level. Trilogy works primarily with state and county governments and other local human service entities to establish one-stop information places centered on highly interactive, community-based websites.