# Gold Star Standards of Excellence

# 2026 Awardees

The Breathe Easy Gold Star Standards of Excellence program recognizes Maine behavioral health, healthcare, higher education and hospital organizations that are addressing tobacco use and exposure by implementing strategies that support tobacco treatment and prevention.

## Behavioral Health

| | |
|---|---|
| Platinum | Aroostook Mental Health Center |
| Platinum | Catholic Charities Maine |
| Gold | Groups Recover Together |
| Platinum | Kennebec Behavioral Health |
| Gold | Kerish Benttinen LCSW LLC |
| Platinum | MaineHealth Behavioral Health |

## Higher Education

| | |
|---|---|
| Gold | Northern Maine Community College |
| Platinum | University of Maine |
| Platinum | University of New England |
| Platinum | University of Southern Maine |

## Gold Star Champions

**Kevin Hudson**
***University of Maine***

**Shelley Coull, DPT, PT**
***University of Southern Maine***

## Hospitals

| | |
|---|---|
| Platinum | Houlton Regional Hospital |
| Platinum | MaineGeneral Medical Center |
| Platinum | MaineHealth Franklin Hospital |
| Platinum | MaineHealth Lincoln Hospital |
| Platinum | MaineHealth Maine Medical Center Biddeford Sanford |
| Platinum | MaineHealth Maine Medical Center Portland |
| Platinum | MaineHealth Mid Coast Hospital |
| Platinum | MaineHealth Pen Bay Hospital |
| Platinum | MaineHealth Stephens Hospital |
| Platinum | MaineHealth Waldo Hospital |
| Platinum | MaineHealth Behavioral Health at Spring Harbor |
| Platinum | Mount Desert Island Hospital |
| Platinum | Northern Light Mercy Hospital |
| Platinum | Penobscot Valley Hospital |

## Healthcare

| | |
|---|---|
| Platinum | Boothbay Region High School School-Based Health Center |
| Platinum | HealthReach Community Health Centers |
| Platinum | Hometown Health Center |
| Platinum | Lincoln Academy School-Based Health Center |
| Platinum | Mabel Wadsworth Center |
| Platinum | Medomak Valley High School School-Based Health Center |
| Platinum | Morse High School School-Based Health Center |
| Gold | Nasson Health Care |
| Platinum | Oasis Free Clinics |
| Platinum | Pines Health Services |
| Platinum | Wiscasset Middle High School School-Based Health Center |

BREATHE EASY
REDUCING SMOKE EXPOSURE IN MAINE

*The Breathe Easy Maine program is administered by the MaineHealth Center for Tobacco Independence on behalf of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services*