



Volunteer Celebration &
Annual Meeting
May 3, 2015

Agenda

2:00 p.m.

Welcome

Dirk Kershner, Board Chair

Invocation

Celebration of Board Members

Dirk Kershner and Betty Palmer

Community Support Award

Dirk Kershner and Betty Palmer

Celebration of Volunteers

Cindy Burns and Betty Palmer

Vision and Mission of 2nd Floor

Betty Palmer

Introduction of the New Board Chair

Dirk Kershner

3:00 p.m.

Annual Meeting

Susan Reisert, Board Chair

3:30 p.m.

Tours, coffee and treats

We have always held to the hope, the belief, the conviction that there is a better life, a better world, beyond the horizon.

~Franklin D. Roosevelt

Everyone deserves a way to go home...



Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter

19 Colby Street

Waterville, Maine 04901

Phone: 207-872-8082 Fax 207-872-0834

Email: shelter@shelterme.org

www.shelterme.org



A Message from the Board Chair

Over my lifetime it has been told to me how very blessed I am. I would have to agree, if it was based on this past year and the opportunity that I had to Chair the Board of the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter. This group of Board members is dedicated, passionate, loyal and caring individuals. They have worked endlessly towards the mission of the shelter over this past year. They've volunteered their time without hesitation and, regardless of the challenge, addressed whatever was asked of them. I am so grateful and thankful for all they have done for the shelter and for me during my tenure.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Jill Gilbert for sharing her skill and patience as she assisted me in her position of Secretary to the Board; to Jessica Marin for providing her professional abilities as CPA, giving time to be our Treasurer; Jon Rogers, our Clerk, for always ensuring that the shelter stays on legal track; and to each of the Committee Chairs for gathering their teams together monthly to work on their missions and goals.

A huge thank you goes out to Betty Palmer, our Executive Director; an incredibly dedicated individual that works tirelessly to assure that each shelter guest is cared for and receives the best service that we can offer. Betty is recognized throughout the community and state for her continual advocacy to end homelessness. What more could a Chair ask for than to have such an individual? During this past year we were fortunate and able to provide Betty with added support. We were blessed with our selection of Shelter Manager in choosing Tanya Fossett. She has been a fantastic addition to the team, assisting in the day to day operations. Staffing for the shelter has been somewhat interesting over this past year with retirements, illnesses and resignations but, through the hiring processes implemented this year by the Management Committee, Betty and Tanya have put together a team to lead us into the future. They have been outstanding in providing our guests a welcomed environment and safe haven.

2015 Board of Directors

Susan Reisert, Chair

Sandy Myers, Vice-Chair

Dirk Kershner, Interm Treasurer

John Margolis, Secretary

Jonathan Rogers, Clerk

Doug Cutchin

Traci McDonald

Donna Sawyer

Joshua Ward

Brian Watson

Raymond Watson

Judy Williams

Marc Sirois

Timothy Rhese

Betty Palmer, Executive Director

Sister Mae Doucette, Commemorative

Danny Karter, Commemorative



2014 MMHS Elevator Dedication

Gov. LePage with Payton, daughter of Shelter Manager, Tanya Fossett, and Kevin Joseph had fun cutting the ribbon for our Elevator Dedication at our Annual Meeting in 2014.

Betty Palmer, Executive Director, founding members, board members, staff and friends of the shelter joined in the celebration.

With the addition of the elevator it has allowed our services to grow and we look forward to continued growth in shelter services as we begin the development of the upstairs in the year ahead!

As a chair you get to have your nose in everything, which Betty might say was one of my strengths or possibly a weakness. Being involved in everything has allowed me to learn first hand the generosity of many people and establishments in the communities we serve. They have provided funding, clothing, food, every day necessities and many more extras. Many of you came and volunteered your time, skill and heart to all that we do. As we continually monitor the financial picture for the shelter we have no idea how we could have operated without you, our fantastic and wonderful group of community members that have shared so much with us this past year. I can assure you that through Betty, Tanya and the Boards diligence we have tried to spend and share what you have provided in the best way possible to those that utilize our services. I thank all of you, sincerely; for all that you have given.

During my two years as the board chair, goals that were achieved consisted of the completion of the Employee Handbook, policies and procedures for employees, job descriptions, as well as ways to attract and sustain competent employees. We also reviewed ways to be accountable for the generous donations of many community members. Through the tremendous efforts and work of the various committees, I believe all of these goals have been achieved, building a foundation to assist the shelter in maintaining its sustainability. To that end, I'm very pleased that the second floor is very close to finalization for plans to build it out for the support programs that assist those in need.

At the annual meeting I will be turning the reins of the Chair position to Reverend Susan Reisert. Susan has been a tremendous advocate for the Shelter, has chaired a variety of committees, co- chaired the Building Committee for the new shelter and has been a strong supporter and board member for many years. I welcome Susan to this role and know that she will be supported by current and new board members.

In closing I would like to thank each and every one that has been so supportive of the shelter and me over these past two years. It has been such a blessing to have served you. As you read this, I encourage you to find a way to support this meaningful organization and look at ways for you to serve those less fortunate than yourself. Every little bit helps. Join us in the humbling mission to end homelessness, one person, one child, one family at a time.

Sincerely,
Dirk Kershner

A Message from the Executive Director

Leading the Way – Changing our Systems – Creating Ways to End Homelessness

This past year, the Mid Maine Homeless Shelter and Lunder Homeless Prevention Center began the ambitious task of creating new systems in which to more effectively end homeless episodes for our community, neighbors and friends. Today, I am proud to report that by working hand in hand with other nonprofit, government, business and community partners, we've made substantial progress.

I'd be crazy to say we eradicated chronic homelessness in our community, but, I can confidently say we've made huge strides in that direction. At the heart of our efforts, we worked closely with Maine Housing, Maine of Continuum Care, Regional Homeless Council, State Wide Homeless Committee, local initiatives and Maine's Plan to End Homelessness. One of the most important things was redefining of how we measure success and by focusing more intently on adopting evidenced-based best practices and emerging program models, improving data quality, and promoting strategic partnerships.

We intensified our work around the procurement of new programs to ensure that investments were directed to solutions for permanent housing. Through the financial support of a new program at Maine Housing, we were able to receive a Shelter System Grant and to be awarded the Home to Stay Grant for the second year. This partnership helped us to place 60 households into permanent housing. Over 90% are still stably housed. In addition to being housed, they are now employed or completing an education program. Participants are receiving continued support on a drop back scale to help them regain and maintain a high level of self-sufficiency.

Our success would never have been possible without my hard working staff. In the coming year, we are committed to working harder to build on these accomplishments and create an even stronger strategic plan that will include more attention given to youth and young adult homelessness and homeless prevention. I know the staff is as excited to continue this challenge as I am.

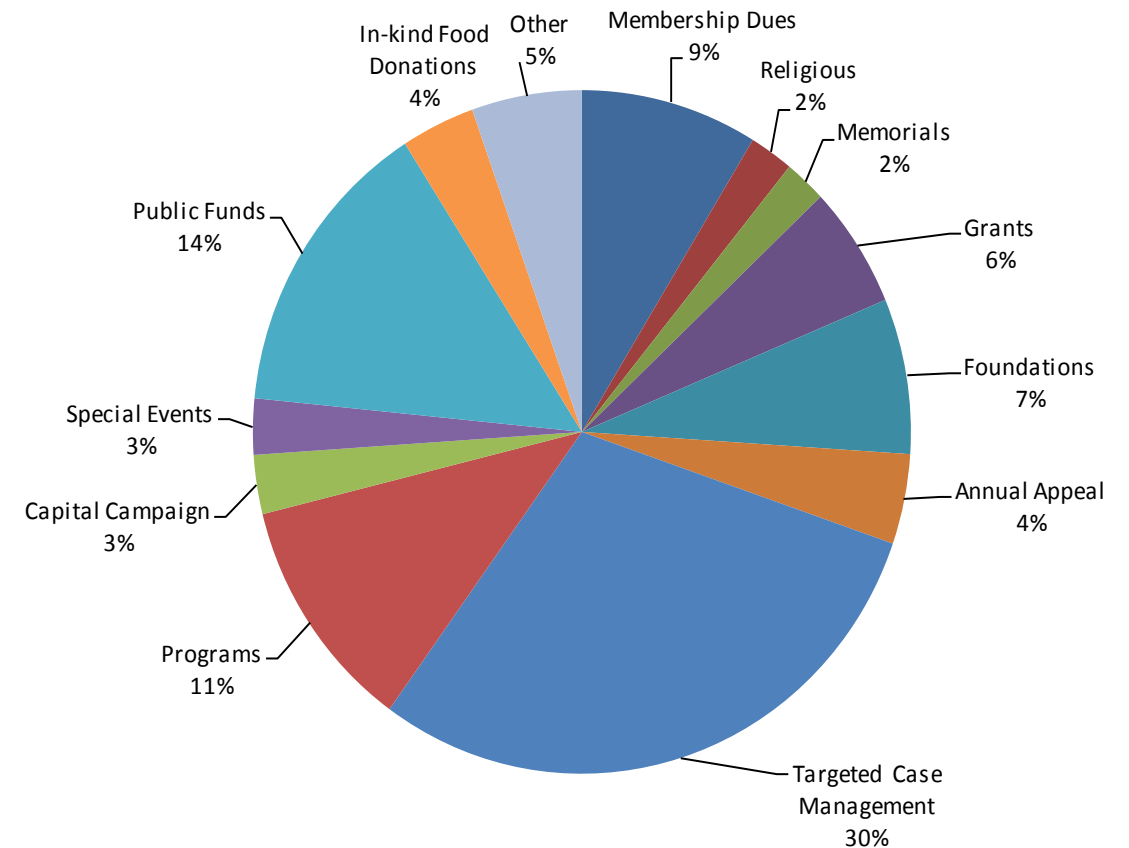
I also want to take the time thank the many volunteers that keep us running smoothly. Volunteers are not the same as employees. They can choose to stay or walk away at any time without any real loss to themselves. They are critical to the success of our organization and we can't say thank you enough for all you do.

Thank you so much for the wonderful job you do handling the phones. I've heard from contributors and other volunteers how friendly, helpful, and professional you

Generosity is the best investment.

~Diane Von Furstenberg

MAJOR DONATION SOURCES



Finance Committee

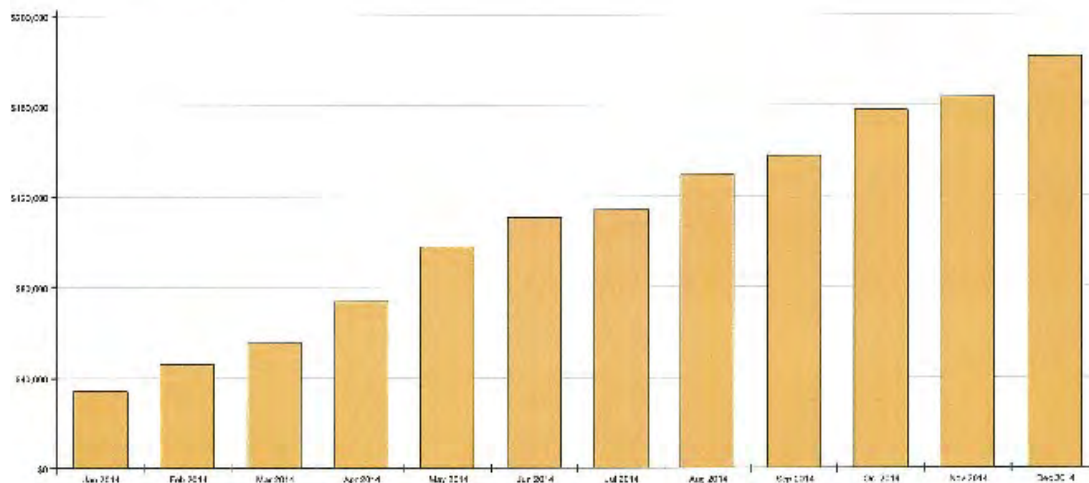
The Finance Committee has the responsibility to keep the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter financially viable through efficient fiscal operations and sound long-term investments.

In 2014 the finance committee oversaw that the financial transition and budgetary changes that incurred in the large move to the new shelter were still running smoothly. The committee continued oversight of the operating budget and managed collections of the Capital Campaign funds. The committee worked on the implementation of the new endowment account being invested and working for us. The finance committee continues to make sure the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter is a good investment for the community's thoughtful charitable investment.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica A. Marin, C.P.A., Treasurer

Donor Growth Chart 2014

Total Giving Includes Monetary and In-Kind Donations Over 12 Months



are, and that really inspires confidence in our organization. We're so lucky to have you.

Thank you for your meal donations to our program. You're doing more than just filling their bellies. You're showing them that people do care, and that gives them hope. Sometimes hope is just what people need to change their lives.

Thank you for helping sort and organize all the donations we receive. I know it has been a lot of work, but you've done a wonderful job keeping the inflow and outflow running smoothly. You're such an important part of our organization!

Thank you to the board for the time, talent, and expertise you have given to our organization. You have made a difference through your dedication and continued support of our staff, volunteers and guests. Your ideas, input, and enthusiasm were most helpful and have assisted us in making valuable improvements to our program.

Sincerely,
Betty Palmer, Executive Director

2014 Board of Directors

Dirk Kershner Chair	Doug Cutchin	Brian Watson
Rev. Susan Reisert Vice Chair	Sandy Myers	Raymond Watson
Jill Gilbert Secretary	Traci McDonald	Judy Williams
Jessica Marin Treasurer	Donna Sawyer	Betty Palmer Executive Director
Jonathon Rogers Clerk	Joshua Ward	Sister Mae Doucette Commemorative
Dr. John Margolis	Rev. Mark Tanner	Danny Karter Commemorative



Scrapfest for the Homeless

Two (2) Scrapfest events were held in 2014. Both were held at the Blessed Hope Church in Waterville. With help from volunteers and the community, we were able to raise \$2,308.56 to fight homelessness in our community!

YARD SALES

Our annual yard sales, (4) four in total for the year, held at the First Congregational Church and Pleasant Street Methodist Church in April, May, August, and September and raised a total of \$5,129.55. A huge "Thank You" to the many volunteers and the churches for your support!

Taste of Greater Waterville

We have had the pleasure of being part of this annual event in downtown Waterville. Our cotton candy booth is a big hit and has been a great fundraiser for us as well as gaining exposure for the shelter and its mission.



Building Committee Annual Report

Activities for the year:

This Ad HOC Committee was formed as a result of a series of meetings held with various Board Members, community leaders and members and representatives from various state and local agencies. These discussions began in October of 2013 and culminated in the establishment of this committee in September of 2014.

The initial work performed by this committee consisted of developing an understanding of the grants that may be available to help fund this project and the associated qualification and application process. In conjunction, there were many discussions regarding what function and services this project should provide.

On September 12th this committee made a recommendation to the MMHS Board of Directors to proceed with the application of a grant to provide some, or all, of the funding for the project. Included in this recommendation was appropriation of space for housing, programming space, offices and meeting space.

In January of 2015, more information became available about the grant. Meetings were held to discuss the grant process and specific information needed for a pre-application process. The pre-application was submitted in March and was approved by Maine Housing.

Final submission of the grant intended to partially fund the 2nd floor building project was completed and submitted in April. This team worked with Betty to complete the grant application, provide ROM pricing and develop a spatial layout plan.

A meeting was held on Monday, April 6 to review the developed information and discuss the next steps.

A meeting was held on Friday, April 10 with representatives from Lewis and Malm, an architectural firm from Bucksport. We learned they have a high degree of interest in the project and have performed a lot of work in our area. They are proceeding with a formal proposal to provide their services for our project. We should get it 2 weeks from our meeting date.

The current status of the grant application is we were short listed to four (4) applicants for the grant and we are continuing to monitor the progress.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Watson,
2nd Floor Building Committee Chair

Governance Committee Summary

The first part of 2014 was spent clarifying and solidifying the roles of the different committees of the Shelter Board. In addition, the responsibilities of committee chairs were reviewed as well as the process by which committee actions and recommendations were to be forwarded to the Board for review and acceptance.

During the latter part of 2014, a great deal of attention was paid to recruiting a new Treasurer. In addition, discussions were held regarding adding a member (or members) of the homeless community to the Board.

Finally, the importance of adding mental health perspectives and services to the Shelter were discussed. To this end, efforts were made to add individuals with professional mental health backgrounds to the Shelter Board and Shelter committees.

Development Committee

Through the last year, the Development Committee has worked on improving donor relations and maintaining ties to capital campaign donors. We hosted one event at the Shelter (in October), which was unfortunately not well attended.

We are currently working on creating a list of active donors, on the higher end of the giving scale. Our plan is to develop a named group of significant donors, and to maintain contact with them, mostly through a newsletter that will go out to them twice a year.

Development continues to be a challenge for the Board. In the next year, the Development Committee hopes to engage the entire Board in embracing lessons we learned during the capital campaign. All donations to the Shelter are important, but we also need to learn to take special care in providing information and giving opportunities for our higher level donors. These donors are especially significant, as their giving allows us to continue our work when other forms of revenue are in decline.

Fundraisers

Walk to Stop Hunger

Providing food for our shelter guests and community food pantry was greatly supported by this major fundraiser.

Thank you to all those who joined us in walking in support of MMHS and helping us to raise almost \$4,000.00 that came directly to the MMHS!



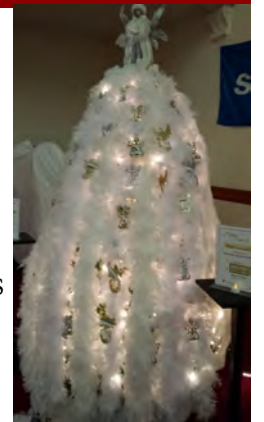
Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Business to Business

The MMHS enjoyed having the opportunity to participate in the Business to Business Showcase. It's a great way to provide homeless awareness to our community and gather support for our mission from area businesses. Yet another way to help our guests to find "a way to go home".

Festival of Trees at Good-Will Hinkley

The theme for 2014 at the Festival of Trees was "Angels Among Us", with each angel labeled with an act of kindness that was bestowed upon the shelter for the past year. The tree was decorated by Amy Przytulski of New England Fire Safety and the tree was sponsored by Maine Grains.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



Fundraisers



Community Craft Fairs

Our events committee participated in several craft fairs during the “craft fair season.” We were able to raise many dollars to help us in the fight to help our guests find their way home....

“A heart is not judged by how much you love; but by how much you are loved by others”

~L. Frank Baum, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*

OUR SHELTER SUCCESS STORY

In October, a 56 year old man left our shelter to go into permanent housing after many years of being homeless. He had lived in many different shelters from Portland to Skowhegan to Bangor. He was defined as a chronic homeless person. The shelter worked, in collaboration with the Path Outreach Team from Kennebec Behavioral Health, and we were able to secure him a voucher and housing. In September he was awarded a Shelter Plus Housing voucher that is based on his income where he will pay 30% of his income for rent, and the voucher will pay the remainder that is owed for rent. He was able to secure housing in Waterville, which will enable him to be near all his support systems that he needs to be stable and to stay housed. The Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter provided a van, and helped move him into his new home on October 6, 2014. He was now able to sleep in his own bed. He also received a table and enough household goods and cleaning items to make his house a home. He was very thankful to all that helped him, and is currently doing well.

The miracle is not that we do this work, but that we are happy to do it.
~Mother Theresa

Endowment Committee

During the first part of the year, the Endowment Committee requested information from several wealth management firms, in order to determine where and how our endowment should be managed. We reviewed the proposals we received. With the guidance of one of our lead donors, we were especially attentive to the costs associated with the liquidation of gifts of stock to the endowment.

After discussions and review, the Endowment Committee chose Golden Pond Wealth Management. We were especially impressed with Golden Pond's sensitivity to the needs of the Shelter, and our endowment. They also fully understood the need to have little to no cost associated with the liquidation of gifts of stock.

Now that the endowment has been transferred to Golden Pond, and as we wait until it is fully funded (from campaign pledges), the tasks of the endowment committee will move to the Finance Committee.

Events Committee

During 2014 we held several events which included four lawn sales, selling cotton candy at the Greater Taste of Waterville, two (2) Scrap-fests, three (3) craft fairs, distribution of several money boxes, a golf tournament, the Roy Hudson Band, and a “Thank-A-Thon”.

Thank-you to everyone on the events committee, and everyone who has given their time to volunteer to make each event successful.

2014 Standing Committees

Executive Committee

Members: Jessica Marin, Betty Palmer, Jon Rogers, Dirk Kershner, Rev. Susan Reisert, Jill Gilbert, Sandy Myers

Governance Committee

Oversees nomination process for potential new board members; reviews bylaws annually; reviews mission and vision; oversees strategic and new program planning.

Members: Rev. Susan Reisert, Rev. Mark Turner, Dirk Kershner, Betty Palmer, Jonathan Rogers, John Margolis

Finance Committee

Developes and oversees budget.

Members: Jessica Marin, Karl Foss, Jill Gilbert, Doug Cutchin, David Grenier, Dirk Kershner, Betty Palmer, Cathy Hutchinson

Endowment Committee

Developes and oversees endowment policy and use of endowment funds; oversees management of endowment.

Members: Rev. Susan Reisert, Dirk Kershner, Jessica Marin, Karl Foss, Tom Morrione, Betty Palmer, Cathy Hutchinson

Development Committee

Involved with grants, estate planning, annual appeal and donor relations.

Members: Rev. Susan Reisert, Jessica Marin, Betty Palmer, Dirk Kershner, Donna Sawyer

Management Committee

Developes and oversees employee policies both legally and ethically.

Members: Sandy Myers, Doug Cutchin, Dirk Kershner, Betty Palmer, Traci MacDonald, Vicki Johnson, Tanya Fossett

Events and Communications Committee

The events committee meets once a month to plan and hold events to raise money.

Members: Kelly Rancourt, Betty Palmer, Jill Gilbert, Rita Colson, Jennifer Curry, Meghan Curtis, Judy Gray, Tina Hintz, Kerri Oliver, Rena Cater

New AdHOC Committees for 2015

Mental & Behavioral Health and Youth & Young Adults coming in 2015!

Fundraisers

Community Donation Boxes

Did you know that November is Homeless Awareness month? To educate our community we placed donation boxes throughout the community to raise awareness. Our boxes were designed by children staying at the shelter.



Empty Bowls

This year the Colby Pottery Club held its annual holiday sale and added a new component – a benefit for the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter. One hundred or more student pots were sold with all of the proceeds going to the shelter. There was also pottery made by the advisors and staff.

Thank you!



We have an "Outstanding" young person with Evan Vigue. In lieu of gifts for his birthday, Evan asked his friends & family to give donations for the MMHS. He was able to raise \$1,065 too!

Thank you, Evan!

Major Fundraiser

Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter 2014 Benefit Golf Tournament

The annual golf tournament is a major fundraiser for the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter. This year was the 17th year of the tournament, thanks to the generosity of Steve and Paula Brown, owners of Clinton Golf Course. We raised \$15,508 in 2014 with the support of players, sponsors and donations. The money raised goes toward the operational fund at the Shelter.

Governor Paul LePage, a past member of the MMHS Board of Directors, conceived the idea of a golf tournament 17 years ago. He contacted Steve and Paula Brown regarding their private course, and they generously donated the course that first year and every year since. We owe a debt of gratitude to Steve and Paula Brown. The volunteer members of the golf committee meet from early spring until the day of the tournament to solicit sponsors, players and donations in order to make this an expense free event for the Shelter.

We want to thank everyone who makes our golf tournament a success, year after year!

Golf Committee Members:
Jill Gilbert, Nancy Karter, Diane Pooler, Jeanne LaPlante, Marie Cates, Ken Quirion, Allan Rancourt, David Holden, Tanya Fossett and Betty Palmer



During the past year staff participated in trainings such as;

Conscious Discipline

Infectious Disease

Food Handling

TB in Shelters

Fire Safety



Internships

MMHS was very fortunate, during 2014, to had three Interns.

Robert Belanger came to us from the University of Maine at Farmington. He was majoring in Rehabilitation Services and was working toward his bachelors degree. Robert first began volunteering at the shelter in the fall and decided that MMHS would be a great place do do his practicum. He was a great addition to our team.

Michelle Giroux, a student from the University of Maine at Augusta completed her senior internship in mental health and human services at the MMHS. Michelle was with us for both the spring and summer. She was a great asset and we missed her very much when her internship ended!

Marilyn Baker spent her senior internship with MMHS from the University of Maine at Augusta before completing her degree in mental health and human services. Marilyn was with us for the summer and was such a wonderful addition she is now a case manager with MMHS.

MMHS2014 Staff Outing

Staff enjoyed a fun family outing at D.E.W. Animal Kingdom in Mt. Vernon. It was a great day together with almost ¾ of our staff in attendance. It was a beautiful day and it was a wonderful opportunity for some playtime together.



Staff Meetings and Trainings

2014 was a great year for the staff of the MMHS. Staff meetings at the MMHS are held two times a month. Staff meetings include important trainings as well as presentations from outside groups and agencies that present their programs so that we are aware of services available to our guests.

For example, both Job Corps and New Beginnings (Homeless Youth Outreach) presented to our staff the services that they offer.

Major Fundraiser



OUR SHELTER SUCCESS STORY

A timid and shy 29 year old female entered the shelter in March. Once in the shelter her confidence grew. She began adding comments and advice to the shelter house meetings. She also began connecting to other guests, and started to make new guests feel welcomed. She attended High Hopes for social and employment services after shelter staff referred her to the program. She also connected to vocational rehabilitation for support with employment. In the shelter she attended many workshops, completed a resume, cover letter, worked on a budget and completed a Money Matters course. The shelter staff also connected her disability lawyer for social security benefits and has her court date in October to finalize her benefits. In August she was housed in a wonderful apartment in walking distance of all her support programs. She is currently working, providing childcare for a family member. She still works with High Hopes, Voc. Rehab and her disability lawyer. She also has case management services to keep her stably housed.

Community Support



Thank you to Mayor Karen Heck for sponsoring a fantastic New Year's Eve celebration for our guests!

Bowling & Chinese Food
With Games, Pizza, Prizes
A great time was had by all!

THANK YOU!

Goodness is the only investment that never fails.

~Henry David Thoreau

OUR SHELTER SUCCESS STORY

A young mother of one child entered the shelter; she was homeless, with no secure job, and only an 11th grade education. Upon entering the shelter, staff worked with her to enter Adult Education where she obtained her GED, she has recently enrolled at the Kennebec Valley community college and will begin classes in January to obtain a college education. While in the shelter she was able to begin counseling, and obtain mental health services. She also attended the employment class that is offered in the shelter, completed a professional resume and a cover letter that she will be able to use once she completes her education and begins her career. Her daughter participated in the Eduare play group weekly, and Mom attended the Conscious Discipline classes to work on her parenting skills. In September she left the shelter with a Home to Stay Voucher that offers her a home plus monthly case management meetings that will give her the support and services she will need to keep her stable and housed and to never be homeless again.

Happiness consists in giving, and in serving others. ~Henry Drummond

MMHS 2015 Staff

15 Years of Service



We are honored to recognize Sally Chambers for 15 years of Service to the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter. As a part-time case manager Sally is an invaluable member of our team. She is dedicated to the mission of the shelter and we are thankful for her many years of service.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Betty Palmer, Executive Director
Tanya Fossett, Shelter Manager
Antonia Smith, Office Assistant
Cynthia Burns, Volunteer Coordinator
Cathy Hutchinson, Finance Controller

CASE MANAGEMENT

Angela Avery, Case Manager
Marilyn Baker, Case Manager
Justin Clowry, Case Manager
Sally Chambers, Case Manager
Yedda Smith, Case Manager
David Sovetsky, Employment Specialist


EVENING SHIFT ATTENDANT

Ben Forbus
Kevin Giles
Jessica Grass
Rosie Fiehel

BREAKFAST COOKS

Mark Roberts
Scott Bolduc

\$5 Shelter Bucks \$5



\$5 DOING GOOD DOES YOU GOOD \$5

In 2014, MMHS introduced a program where our guests can earn “shelter bucks.” They can be earned by doing extra chores, completing tasks on time, participating in project days etc. They can then use their bucks at our in-house shelter store.

Employment Program News

We are happy to provide several new opportunities to our shelter guests to improve their employability. A prevocational program is currently in place and developing with great outcomes and participation. Guests now have the opportunity to participate in a prevocational program including, volunteering in a warehouse and retail setting. In addition, an employment specialist is available to assist with preparing for interviews, resume writing, and job development.

OUR SHELTER SUCCESS STORY

N. is a 40 year old mother of two who entered the shelter to begin a new life after leaving a domestic abuse situation. Escaping domestic abuse left her homeless, alone and parenting two young children on her own. Once in the shelter, she participated in the Employment Class, completed a resume and cover letter and did job searches. She attended parenting classes, and participated in the EduCare program that promotes early childhood education for her and her young children. She also worked closely with the Family Violence Project to provide education and advocacy for victims of domestic abuse. N. was chosen to receive a Housing Choice Home to Stay Voucher that provides her with financial support to help pay her rent. N. also agreed to continued Case Management services that will give her the support she needs to be successful, and stay stably housed. In the spring N. plans on attending Kaplan University to pursue a degree in Nursing, and will someday, in the near future, be able to financially care for herself and her chil-

Community Support

Local Businesses Support MMHS

Buen Apetito has been providing dinner once a month to our shelter guests for the last 5+ years! We are very grateful for their support. They are a wonderful example of how a business can support the MMHS!



Right: A donation from Capza's Pizza
Below: A donation from Sam's Italians



It would be impossible to list every business that has contributed in some way to the MMHS in the past year. We cannot express how grateful we are to each one for their support!

Community Support



Lemonade Stand Fundraiser

Just one example of how youth are changing the world!
Alex and Meredith, along with their cousins, held a lemonade stand that benefited the shelter!

Our Youth are Making a Difference!

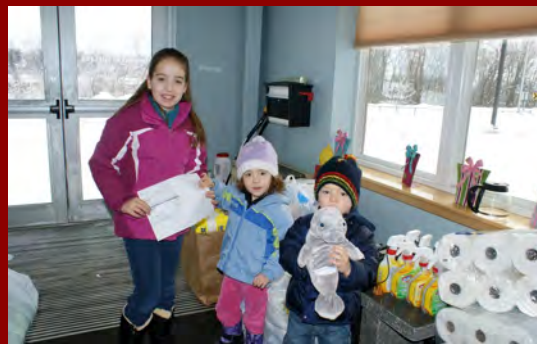
Waterville High School



A BIG thank you to Waterville High School for all the donations you collected!

Kids that care are COOL!

One of our “Outstanding” young people, Emma Farnham, helping in her community!



Employment Class

The Adult Education Program in Waterville has provided a staff member to come to the shelter on a weekly basis. Guests develop a resume and get support with job search.

EDUCARE

In partnership with KVCAP, EDUCARE provides a high quality learning and development center that, with families and communities, ensures school readiness for children birth to age five.

Meditation/Spiritual Life Bible Study

Guests are able to learn how to use meditation to benefit all areas of their lives with Bible Study.

Money Matters

This 4-week series, in partnership with KVCAP, focus' on learning to make a budget. Understanding how to manage a bank account, increasing one's credit score, using loans and credit wisely.

SNAP-ED

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education is nutrition and physical activity education for people who are eligible for SNAP benefits (previously known as food stamps).

Veteran's Support Program

Guests' who are veterans are linked to veteran agencies such as Veteran's Inc., ESM/ Veteran Specialist and Togus VA services.

Parent Enrichment Classes

Sponsored by KVCAP's Family Enrichment Council of Kennebec & Somerset Counties Community Based Nurturing Parenting Program. Guest parents were offered a free 10-week program tailored to meet the needs and learning styles of anyone parenting a child!

The work goes on, the cause endures, the hope still lives and the dreams shall never die. ~Edward Kennedy

Shelter Programs

The MMHS works closely and collaboratively with agencies and facilities that provide services to homeless individuals in our community.

Guests are provided support while at the shelter by utilizing trained community volunteers and resource specialist to refer and link them with appropriate services and benefits. Collaborative partnerships include:

AA Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous is held Monday thru Friday for our community members and guests of the shelter. This meeting is facilitated by local AA leaders.

Birthday Wishes

Birthday Wishes is a nonprofit organization that provides birthday parties for homeless children living in over 185 family homeless shelters and transitional living facilities throughout New England. Through the generosity of Colby Staff and Students, our guests have been able to enjoy Birthday Wishes at MMHS.

Conscious Discipline

Conscious Discipline supports guest parents by using daily conflicts and everyday life events to teach character building, conflict resolution, social skills, and self control.

Focus' on creating a safe environment for children to learn and practice skills needed for healthy social, emotional, and academic development.

Double Trouble

Facilitated by the staff of Kennebec Behavioral Health, Double Trouble in Recovery (DTR) is a twelve step fellowship of women and men who share their experiences, strength and hope in each other so that they may solve their common problems and help others to recover from their particular addictions and manage their mental disorders.

Community Support

It's kind of fun to do the impossible.

~Walt Disney

The
Gardiner
Boys & Girls Club
chose to "Give" of
their time!



Mix 107 FM
Listeners
Donated to
Help Peoples
Experiencing
Homelessness

Teens at Camp Caribou chose to
help our homeless shelter for
part of their camp experience!



Community Support

MeANS Academy at Good-Will Hinkley



Students and staff from MeANS Academy at Good-Will Hinckley helped to put in this awesome towering garden.

The trees and low-bush blueberries they planted were a big hit at the shelter too.

They came back weekly throughout the summer to help to tend them. Such wonderful dedication!

What an exciting opportunity for our guests to learn how to maintain, grow and harvest their own vegetables.

Thank you to the students and staff for all your hard work and help!



Colby
CARES
Day



One of the many
sports teams from
Colby!

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.
~Aesop

Colby Students
Helping Out!



Thomas & Colby
Students

Making a Difference
in THEIR Community



Community Support



Meet Connor and Addison

For the second year in a row this dynamic brother and sister team have collected items and money to donate to the MMHS! As a culminating project for their homeschool year they organized this amazing drive for us.

You're AWESOME!

OUR SHELTER SUCCESS STORY

An intact family of five entered the shelter with no income, no home and no family support. Once in the shelter the family began to rebuild their lives. Mom and Dad began attending Educare with their preschool child. From attending the playgroup the child quickly was enrolled into their pre-school program, where he is still attending and loves it. Mom and Dad also began attending the weekly Conscious Discipline classes that provided them with parent education that benefits the whole family.

They were also referred to Kennebec Behavioral Health for counseling services and child targeted case management. They also began the Employment workshop, completing a resume and cover letter. Mom became employed and is still working.

In January they left the shelter with a Home to Stay Housing Choice voucher where they will continue to work with shelter staff for one year to ensure they stay housed and stable for a lifetime. They found housing in Fairfield in a wonderful 3-bedroom home with a large play area for the children to enjoy for a lifetime.

Community Support



2014 Leaders and Luminaries Award

Maine Non-Profits and the Bank of Maine Charitable Foundation, through its Leaders and Luminaries Award, honors nonprofit board members who have made important contributions to their communities through outstanding leadership of their organization

After reviewing over 90 applications, in October 2014 The Bank of Maine Charitable Foundation awarded four finalist the Leaders and Luminaries Award:

And the Grand Prize winner of \$10,000 was.....our very own, Doug Cutchin.

A HUGE thank you to Doug for his never ending support of the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter!



Thanks to a very kind and generous donor, 20 tickets to Shrek the Musical at the Waterville Opera House were donated to our families at the shelter!

Our guests that attended had a GREAT time!

“There's nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer.”

James “Jimmy” Doolittle
American Aviation Pioneer

2nd Annual KVO Micah Heroes Award

Nancy Lemieux

We are pleased to nominate Nancy Lemieux of Oakland for this year's MICAH award. Nancy began her journey of service with the Mid Maine Homeless Shelter years ago while getting her church youth group involved. She has continued over the years to be a key in linking us to volunteers not only in her church, but her community and the school district where she works as well.

Nancy works in the shelter with several other ladies organizing our clothing closet and keeping it well stocked. She is constantly bringing in donations from others that know she has a connection with



our shelter.

This winter Nancy headed a campaign for Random Act of Kindness Month and was able to inspire her friends, family and co-workers to donate dozens of Dunkin Donut cards to be give out to our shelter guests.

Nancy and her husband, Larry, have also played a part in helping our guests relocate to their new homes. By bringing needed furniture and household items from our warehouse to the guest's new home. They then take the opportunity to pray with them and place a Bible in the home before leaving. They truly have a heart to help others, and to see that they have the opportunity to know the love of Christ.

2015 REM Community Awards



Joe Fossett

Joe Fossett has been volunteering at the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter for the past three and a half years. Joe faithfully comes in once a week to run a homework club in the evenings. He provides help to the children and adults alike who are in school. Joe is also a go to guy for us at the shelter, always willing to jump in and help with projects. He has helped with furniture moves, yard sales, donation sorting and mass mailings. His positive attitude and strong work ethic make him a huge asset to our projects. The shelter is honored to name him as one of our most valuable volunteers.

Pierrette Ayotte

Pierrette "Perry" Ayotte has been an essential member of our volunteer office help for over three years. Perry was a huge help in our transition from our home on Ticonic Street to our current location. She is a great example of efficiency and professionalism. Because of her skills, she is used in training our other office volunteers. Her dedication to the shelter and her knowledge of our office makes her an essential member of our program at the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter. We are please to name her as one of our most valuable volunteers.



Many credit unions in our area made contributions to the MMHS as part of the Campaign for Ending Hunger. We are appreciative to each one for their continued and much needed support!

A big thank you to Paige of Albion for her wonderful donation! She had a lemonade & iced tea stand over the weekend and all the proceeds came to the shelter. Paige raised \$93.00 for the MMHS!

THANK YOU to Paige & Our Area Credit Unions!



OUR SHELTER SUCCESS STORY

In October, a 56 year old man left our shelter to go into permanent housing after many years of being homeless. He had lived in many different shelters from Portland to Skowhegan to Bangor. He was defined as a chronic homeless person. The shelter worked, in collaboration with the Path Outreach Team from Kennebec Behavioral Health, and we were able to secure him a voucher and housing. In September he was awarded a Shelter Plus Housing voucher that is based on his income where he will pay 30% of his income for rent, and the voucher will pay the remainder that is owed for rent. He was able to secure housing in Waterville, which will enable him to be near all his support systems that he needs to be stable and to stay housed. The Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter provided a van, and helped move him into his new home on October 6, 2014. He was now able to sleep in his own bed. He also received a table and enough household goods and cleaning items to make his house a home. He was very thankful to all that helped him, and is currently doing well.

I can no other answer make, but, thanks, and thanks.
~William Shakespeare

Volunteer Spotlight

Are You Part of the 100 Hour Club?
These invaluable volunteers have donated
over 100 hours of their time to MMHS during 2014!

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Perry Ayotte | John Bacon | Tish Begin |
| Germaine Bell | Kathy Bureau | Ted Dunn |
| Elizabeth Geller | John Gurney | Debbie Hicks |
| Judy Larson | John Maddux | Dave Mellott |
| Michelle McCutcheon | Jim Nelson | Judy Paquette |
| Phyllis Pooler | Kelly Jo Rancourt | Nancy Wilson |
| Richard Notarbartolo | | |

Thank you all for your invaluable time!

Celebrating Our 2014 Volunteers

Honoring our 2014 Volunteers

This year's volunteers will be honored May 3rd, 2015, at the Volunteer Celebration and Annual Meeting. The following groups and individuals were recognized for their dedication and service to the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter and its guests:

- Emma Farnham – Outstanding Youth Award**
- Evan Vigue – Outstanding Youth Award**
- Coutts Brothers – Awesome Business Support Award**
- Joseph's Market – Awesome Business Support Award**
- Mt. Merci – Outstanding School Group Award**
- Bob Hicks and Friends – Faithful Community Support Award**
- Winslow Baptist Men's Group – Faithful Spiritual Support**
- Michelle McCutcheon – Dedicated Office Volunteer Award**

THANK YOU for your dedication and work!



Our Volunteers Make a Difference



Our volunteers are the key to our success!
In 2014 our volunteers put in over 10,000 hours of time volunteering!

Our volunteers are comprised of individuals, school groups, local businesses, church groups, and former guests who want to give back to the shelter. Volunteer orientations sessions were held at least once a month and added over 170 new volunteers to our bank of over 600 dedicated veterans!

This year our volunteers provided support by:

- ◆ Providing phone and office support
- ◆ Preparing and serving meals
- ◆ Cleaning in and around the shelter
- ◆ Running our Emergency Food pantry on Friday afternoons
- ◆ Organizing monthly birthday parties for the children
- ◆ Providing childcare so that parents can attend classes
- ◆ Helping with homework
- ◆ Teaching classes in the shelter such as baking, sewing etc.
- ◆ Reading, doing crafts and playing music with the children
- ◆ Sorting and organizing donations made to the shelter
- ◆ Maintaining a clothing closet
- ◆ Picking up donated furniture
- ◆ Delivering donated furniture to guests when they move into their home.
- ◆ Organizing four yard sales and running two Scrapfest events to raise funds

OUR SHELTER SUCCESS STORY

A 61 year old female came to the shelter after five years of being homeless. The majority of her homeless experience was living in her vehicle, after her vehicle broke down; reluctantly she came to the shelter jobless, homeless, and with no income. Since she has been in the shelter, she has obtained a job and income. She also qualified for health insurance, and receives affordable housing for as long as she needs it. She since has gained a charming apartment, which is close to her children and grandchildren, and they can now spend more quality family time together.