



MARCH 2018

Friends!

It's been a long winter and we are all so ready to spring ahead. **The Maine Children's Home** is preparing to carry out many successful activities to support children and their families this season!



We are always excited to welcome children to the **Annual Easter Egg Hunt**. It is a great joy for mid-Maine children from the second grade and younger to stroll around campus, gather eggs, candy and also to win a variety of prizes. Special thanks to all of the volunteers from New Balance, the **Friends of The Maine Children's Home** and other community volunteers.

We are thrilled with the work that Deb Levenseller, LCSW – Clinical Director, and Lindsay Bragdon, LSW – **Adoption Program** Director, are doing to lead the upcoming two-day **Empowered To Connect Conference** on Trust Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI). We are striving to share new resiliency tools for families, teachers, counselors and others supporting children from hard places to adjust and find hope after surviving traumatic experiences in their young lives.

We are also gearing up for the **Beer & Wine Tasting** fundraiser. It will be bigger and better than ever as we have enhanced the event to include tastings from local Maine breweries and wineries. We are thankful to our many sponsors for the incredible support for this key fundraiser, which enhances all of the programs that we operate.

Please be in touch if you'd ever like to take a tour, come volunteer or learn how you can make a difference in the lives of Maine children and families in need today.

In sincere gratitude,

Richard Dorian, Executive Director

Agency Report Card

March, 2018

Maine Children's Home

Working with children and their families
Everyday

How did we do?

Program	Accomplishments
1 Adoption	5 international placements (10 children total) and 10 new inquiries. Portland Office – open for business!
2 Harland Turner Counseling Center	248 open clients and 18 new referrals.
3 Teen Parent School Program	First evening information session for past & present students a huge success. The topic was financial management.
4 Conference	Empowered to Connect featuring Trust-Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI) impacted methods. April 13 & 14.
5 The Children's Place	Our children are anxious to get outside and enjoy warmer weather. Program is full! 20 new inquiries.
6 Beer & Wine Tasting	Beer and Wine Tasting on Thursday May 3, 2018 . Amazing auction items!
7 Summer Camp	Friends yard sale to be held Saturday, June 2 to benefit the Summer Camp program. Save the Date!
8 Grants	Grant received from Inland Hospital for Teen Parent School Program! Thank you!

www.mainechildrenshome.org



Teen Parent School Program: Evening Teen Parent Group



Last month we held our first Evening Teen Parent Group for current and former teen parents and their significant others at the Sharon Abrams Teen Parent School Program. This new program is focusing on ways that we can support our teen parents in their journey to become more independent and successful young families. The first class was with Tyler Hafford, a financial advisor from Morgan Stanley.

Tyler talked with the students about topics including:

- ▶ Making a budget
- ▶ Credit scores
- ▶ Getting loans
- ▶ Paying for housing, transportation, food

- ▶ Making paychecks last
- ▶ Creating a savings account
- ▶ Living on minimum wage

We would like to thank Tyler for his time and knowledge and to **It's a Good Pizza** for the donation for the evening meal. We would also like to thank Alicia Lemar, UNE Intern, for her research, time and commitment to this expanded support opportunity.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TEEN PARENT SCHOOL PROGRAM](#)

Beer & Wine Tasting



*****PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE*****

On Thursday, May 3rd, The Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers will be hosting a beer and wine tasting at T&B's Celebration Center in Waterville. Enjoy wine and craft beer from local Maine vendors, heavy hors d'oeuvres, live music from The Sunday Project and a silent and live auction from 5:30 to 8:30 pm with Maine humorist, Gary Crocker. Check out our [Facebook](#) for up-to-date auction items and more details!

Tickets are \$35 per person and are available online, at the door or by calling Kelly Couture at (207) 872-0261. Must be 21+ to attend.

RSVP

FEATURED MAINE VENDORS:

[Tree Spirits Winery](#)
[Bartlett Maine Estate Winery](#)
[Breakwater Vineyards](#)

[Cushnoc Brewing Co.](#)
[Waterville Brewing Company](#)
[Boothbay Craft Brewery](#)
[Ricker Hill Hard Cider](#)

[CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

The Children's Place News:

Eat Well Play Hard



In February & March, our two preschool classrooms were part of a 6-week *Eat Well Play Hard* program offered by Maine SNAP-Ed (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, providing nutrition education services to low-income Mainers). *Eat Well Play Hard* is a practice-tested curriculum designed to increase young children's consumption of fruits and veggies, encourage choice of low-fat or fat-free dairy products, increase time young children are physically active, and decrease the amount of time young children spend

watching television.

Each week Nutrition Educators, Emily & Sam, visited the preschoolers at **The Children's Place** with an interactive lesson that included a book, movement activity & cooking/snack experience based on that week's lesson. The lessons included:

- introduction to **ChooseMyPlate** and openness to trying new foods
- investigating the differing colors/textures/tastes of vegetables and fruits
- introduction to dairy in relation to strong teeth and bones
- growing vegetables and fruits and comparing edible seeds (pea pods) and inedible seeds (mangoes)
- how nutritious foods are linked to physical activity, growth and development

As a result of this 6-week program, teachers at The Children's Place have additional tools to enrich the science, math, literacy, health and nutrition curriculum in their classrooms.



"Thumbs up" to tasting broccoli, carrots & red peppers



Making fruit kabobs



Movement: picking vegetables in our garden

Empowered to Connect Conference

EMPOWERED TO CONNECT CONFERENCE

PRESENTED BY SHOW HOPE

The **Empowered to Connect Conference** features practical teaching in a safe and supportive community as we work to equip families, churches, and professionals to better serve children impacted by adoption and foster care. It features Trust-Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI) methods developed by Dr. Karyn Purvis and Dr. David Cross from the **Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development**, to help bring attachment and connection in families. The content is ideal for adoptive and foster parents, those considering adoption or foster care, and those who are serving and supporting others, including social workers, agency professionals, church staff and ministry leaders, counselors and therapists.

DATE: Friday, April 13 & Saturday, April 14

TIME: 10 am to 6 pm (both days)

LOCATION: Thayer Center for Health, Dean Auditorium

Note: You do not need to attend both dates, but you could come one day for \$10 by paying at the door. Registration deadline is Thursday, April 5th.

[REGISTER](#)

Friends of The Maine Children's Home



Friends preparing lobster rolls for the Annual Lobster Roll Lunch



The Friends put together the Annual Yard Sale which benefits the Summer Camp Program

The Friends of Maine Children's Home is a service organization comprised of individuals committed to providing support to all the core programs at The Maine Children's Home through volunteerism and fundraising. They meet once a month to plan and organize projects and are an important presence at Maine Children's Home events. The Friends meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 6 PM on our campus and are always welcoming new members!

2017 Reader's Choice Award



The 2017 Best of the Best Reader's Choice Awards asked readers of the Morning Sentinel to vote for the best business in every category. Voting was closed in mid-December and The Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers was named #2 in the Charitable category. Thank you to everyone who voted for us!

The Best of the Best Reader's Choice Awards is presented by the Morning Sentinel in conjunction with the Mid-Maine, Skowhegan and Franklin County Chambers of Commerce.



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CHILDREN'S HOME**
for Little Wanderers

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