



THE MAINE
CHILDREN'S HOME
for Little Wanderers

Serving families and children since 1899



Annual Newsletter

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On January 25th, The Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers held their 118th Annual Celebration at the Waterville Elk's Lodge. We were very lucky to host many great donors, supporters, staff, and volunteers at this event. We were thrilled to be together to celebrate a year of tremendous progress, growth, and shared commitment. As with every gathering, we began by reciting our Mission: "to build and strengthen families and their children, instilling hope for the future and a better quality of life."

We enjoyed a wonderful meal, greeted new Board of Directors, kicked off the Annual Campaign, and heard an encouraging message from David Pride, President and CFO of Social Impressions, celebrated several outstanding supporters and looked back over this very exciting past year.

We are deeply thankful for the incredible support we have received to accomplish our goals and to serve over 3,000 children, youth, and families across our programs. You are helping us to create more loving and healthy homes all across the state of Maine every day.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Richard Dorian
Executive Director

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN DONATION

Our Annual Appeal is our first effort in 2018 to raise the funds necessary to support our programs. We hope that you will consider making a donation to our Annual Campaign using the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for your generous support!

The Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers continues to be all about creating more safe and loving homes after 118 years. We believe every child deserves the right to reach his or her full potential. Since the inception of our agency in 1899, we have made a difference in the lives of tens of thousands of children and families throughout the state of Maine and far beyond.

The Maine Children's Home is a very special place.

- Couples eager to add to their families come to us for our extensive international adoption and domestic adoption experience.
- Parents entrust our early care and education center with the nurturing of their children.
- Teen parents count on us to provide positive mentoring and the practical life skills they need to become more successful parents and students.
- Youth, families, and individuals come to the Maine Children's Home for compassionate counseling services in a nurturing environment.
- During the fall, the Christmas Program is in full swing. As community members drop off warm clothing and toys, more than 200 volunteers bustle to get gifts sorted and packed before Christmas, ensuring more than 1,850 needy children in Maine will have something special under their tree.
- In summer, more than 110 underprivileged boys and girls get to experience summer camp thanks to our scholarship program.

Each of these services and supports educates, strengthens and helps grow and prepare more resilient and empowered children, youth and families. Although we have a long and successful history to guide and inform our work, the Board and Leadership Team takes regular opportunities to explore our guiding plans. We are making the best use of the Dorothy 'Bibby' Alford Campus in Waterville and preparing for strengthened services and supports to guide us far into the future. We are so thankful for the incredible partners, donors and friends who help to support and sustain this vital work. We invite you to come for a tour of our campus or to learn about the work we are engaged in each day.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick".

BOARD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Linette Gamache
Board President

I would like to take a moment to thank our 2017, retiring Board Directors, Marisah Colon, Clarence "Chuck" Bickford, and Gwen Robertson Mohlar for their past service. I would also like to welcome our new members, Erin Campbell, Michelle Nadeau, Kirstin McQuillan, and Ronda Ducret. All of our Directors proudly engage in supporting the staff in each of our programs. I look forward to working with everyone in this new and exciting year of 2018.

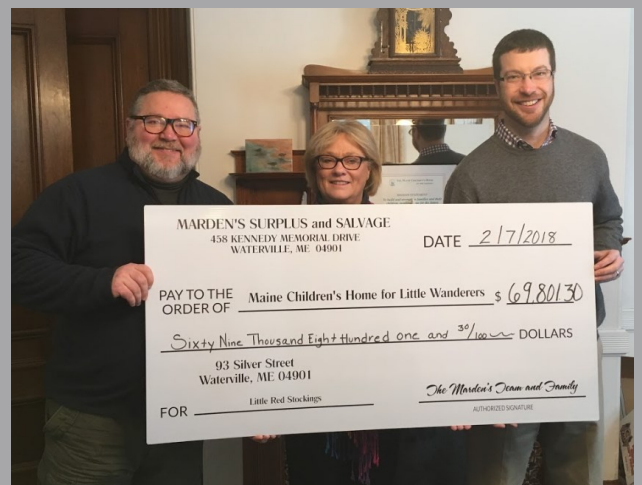
Our Annual "Super Celebration" Dinner was my second opportunity to meet young author, Juliese Padgett and her mother, Jennifer. Sharing their journey to become a family and the wisdom and compassion shared through Juliese's writing was very heartwarming. I would encourage you all to purchase her book, *The Newest Flower*. I purchased three; one for a mentor to many, one for a teacher to many and one to share with the customers who pass through my business. We are never too old for a children's book.

Thank you,

Linette

THANK YOU, MARDEN'S!

Every year, Marden's stores across the state participate in the Red Stocking campaign. They ask their customers to donate to the Red Stocking Campaign and the Marden's family also contributes a very generous donation. This campaign raises money for all six programs of the Maine Children's Home during the Christmas season so we can share the Christmas spirit year round to the community. This year, Marden's stores have gone above and beyond their previous donations and raised over **\$69,000!!**



Executive Director, Richard Dorian, Development Coordinator, Kelly Couture, and Marden's head of Marketing and Advertising, Jake Marden with the over \$69,000 donation.

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



This recognition has taken place for many years and this is the 2nd year the MCHLW Staff People, Policies & Procedures Committee engaged their peers to seek their input. These nominees were brought forward from all across our campus to recognize the common themes of teamwork, diligence, customer service as well as commitment to the Agency and Our Mission. We recognized the following Nominees:

Pat Tobey (Turner Counseling Center), **Lynette Francis** (Turner Counseling Center), **Lacey Audet** (Turner Counseling Center), **Jackie**

Dupont (Turner Counseling Center), **Deb Levenseller** (Turner Counseling Center), and **Diana Rafuse** (Administration). They were identified by their peers for excellence in their work. Congratulations all!

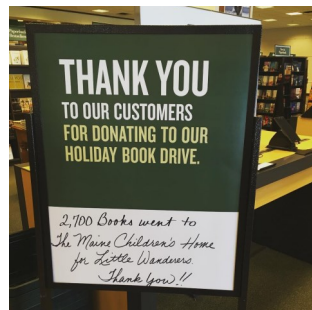
Jackie Dupont, Child & Family Therapist at the Harland Turner Counseling Center, routinely goes above and beyond to make sure counseling is successful for the teenagers at the Teen Parent School Program as well as the Waterville Alternative High School. She is flexible to their class schedules and their unexpected needs. Jackie doesn't hesitate to walk over to the school to pick up a client, make appointments or to touch base with a student she hasn't seen or she knows is having a hard time and always makes time to introduce herself to a new client. Most importantly, when working with teenagers, Jackie is very approachable and kind.

Congratulations to Jackie Dupont, Employee of the Year for 2018!

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

For several years, Barnes & Noble of Augusta has challenged their booksellers to ask their customers if they would like to purchase a book for the Maine Children's Home's Christmas Program. As a result of their efforts over the course of two months during the Christmas season in 2017, Barnes & Noble collected a whopping total of more than 2,700 high quality books for ages infant through 12 years; allowing us to give each child two books at Christmas time.

Congratulations to Barnes & Noble, Business of the Year for 2018!



GUEST SPEAKER



In 2012, seven-year-old Juliese Y. Padgett wrote *The Newest Flower*. "Mommy, I want to sell this book and use this money to help orphans." Her mother quickly realized that this book was not just for their family's enjoyment, but instead, there was a bigger picture.

Juliese and her mother, Jennifer, attended our Annual Celebration and shared the inspiration for the children's book as well as the hope for the book's message - *"to teach all children to love one another no matter what type of flower you are."* All in attendance were moved by Juliese and Jennifer's story and we were very lucky to have had Juliese also do a book signing at our event!

All proceeds from *The Newest Flower* will go to our Adoption Program to help other children, like Juliese, get adopted and find forever homes. *The Newest Flower* is available for purchase at Barnes & Noble and on Amazon.

You can also visit Juliese's website: www.thenewestflower.com

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Sherman Carey is a quiet, unassuming, unsung hero of a man. For several years, he has arrived at MCH regularly to move boxes, put away inventory, build shelves and keep the spirit light with his mischievous sense of humor. There is nothing he isn't willing to do and he is a delight to have around. We were truly honored to present this award to this good-hearted, generous man.

Congratulations to Sherman Carey, Volunteer of the Year for 2018!

Motivational Speaker



We were pleased to have a thoughtful and dynamic speaker at this year's Annual Celebration. David Pride is a professional speaker whose motivational seminars have taken him across the country and around the world.

After 6 months of chemotherapy and 8 weeks of radiation, David won a battle with Hodgkin's Disease Lymphoma at the age of 19. It was during this period of time that David learned many of the lessons he teaches involving the purpose of pain and there can be value found in setbacks.

David shared his belief that the purpose of suffering is so we can help others struggling with the same challenges that we once did. It was a very encouraging presentation for all attendees and we were very lucky to have him join us!

HONORARIUMS &

A memorial or honor gift is a loving and personal way to tell the family of the deceased or the honoree that you care. It can honor a life well lived, a special birthday, anniversary or other occasion, and enhances the quality of life for future generations. A gift given in memory or in honor of someone is a wonderful way to establish a link with the past and promote a vision of the future. The Maine Children's Home gratefully acknowledges the following memorial and honor gifts for 2017.

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Thank you also to all our in-kind donors who donate diapers, baby wipes, food, new toys and clothing, books, games, mittens, toiletries and more throughout the year in support of our programs. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.



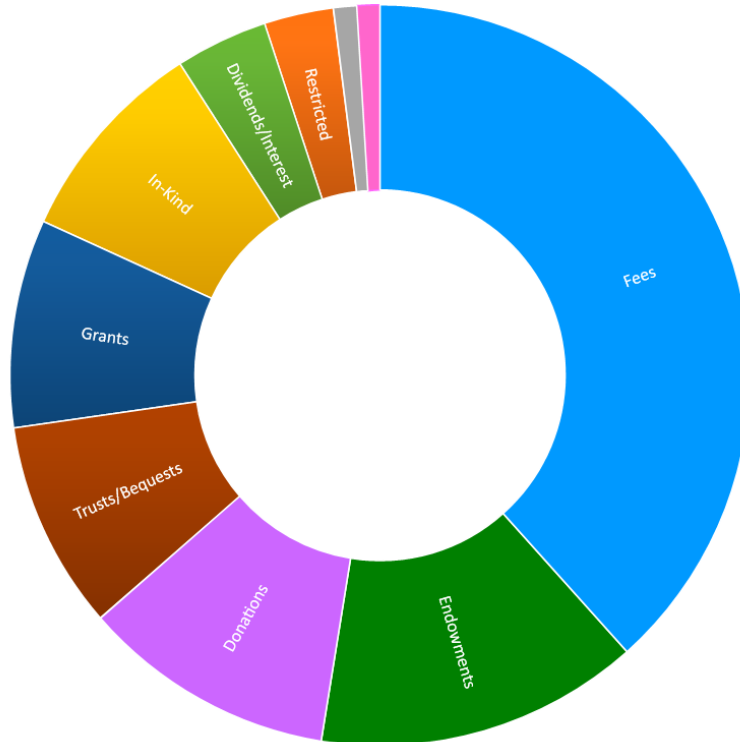
Bea Hanson has knit over 4,000 mittens for our Christmas Program



Central Maine Motors Auto Group dropping off their toy donations to Maine Children's Home

FINANCIALS

Income Sources - Maine Children's Home - 2017



The **Restricted** Income is designated for specific programs, specific projects or for specific endowments. This is not used for general operations. If restricted income becomes part of an endowment, the organization may only use the interest and dividends from investments.

The amount used from the established **Endowments** is the dividends and interest or special project funding.

In-Kind primarily represents toys and clothing donated for the Christmas Program.

Total Income: \$2,159,463*
Total Expenses: \$2,465,464

* Includes Restricted of \$61,518

■ Endowments ■ Restricted ■ Rent ■ In-Kind ■ Events ■ Dividends/Interest ■ Grants ■ Trusts/Bequests ■ Donations ■ Fees



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM WRAP-UP



We were thrilled to be invited to be one of the recipients of the Sukeforth Family Festival of Trees Event that was held at the Hathaway Creative Center in Waterville last November. Although we have had a Christmas Tree in the Festival for the prior two years, this was a whole new level of participation, outreach and support. It was an amazing community event with thousands of visitors enjoying the beautiful trees and decorations and supporting community organizations. We are deeply grateful to Rita Sukeforth, Annette Sukeforth Marin and Donna Sukeforth for their support and encouragement to be part of

this wonderful event. We are very thankful for the **\$50,513** gift from the Festival and the Mid-State Machine Foundation. It helped to make Christmas much brighter for 1,850 Christmas Program recipients.

Christmas Donation Drop-Off locations:

Nancy Marshall Communications
(Augusta)

Mainely Tubs
(Scarborough)

Ampersand Dance Academy
(Gardiner)

Giving Tree Participants:

These local businesses have committed to including a Christmas tree at their business with tags explaining the donations needed. They collect these gifts from their clients/customers and deliver them to the Maine Children's Home so children can have clothing, toys, books, and more for Christmas.

Assistance Plus	Granite Hill Estates	Northeast Labs
Attitudes	Group Dynamic, Inc.	People's Salon
Bank of America—Augusta	Huhtamaki	Prime Financial
Change Health Care	Idexx	Risk Mgmt/ ME Labor Realions
Dental Specialists of Maine	Inland Hospital	RLC Engineering
Department of German and Russian	James D. Julia	The Beauty Bar
Det. Of Public Safety Fire Marshall's Office	KeyBank—Augusta	The Children's Place
DHHS OADS—Augusta	Lapointe Lumber	Thomas College ED 110
Elanco	LL Bean Security	TNT Dance
Engineering Department at Bath Iron Works	Maine DOT Legal Services	TRC Solutions
First Congregational Church of Waterville	Maine General Wellness Works	UPS—Waterville
Grand Central Café	Mark R. Hammond Associates	Waterville Family Practice
	Martin's Point	Waterville Opera House
	ME DOT/ Bureau of Planning	Woodlands Senior Living
	New Balance	



**THE MAINE
CHILDREN'S HOME**
for Little Wanderers

Serving families and children since 1899

(207) 873-4253

www.mainechildrenshome.org



Each year, the Christmas Program distributes boxes of gifts and clothing to more than 1,700 financially disadvantaged children across Maine.

The Harland A. Turner Family Counseling Center is licensed by the state of Maine as an outpatient mental health facility. Services include individual, couple, child, and family counseling.



The Maine Children's Home is a comprehensive Hague accredited adoption agency, offering professional services and support to adoptive parents, birth parents, and adoptees.

Our Children's Place Early Care & Education Center provides comprehensive early care and education services for children from six weeks old through age five. Our fully licensed facility is proud to be NAEYC accredited which is a national standard of quality for early childhood education programs.



The Sharon Abrams Teen Parent School Program is an alternative high school program for pregnant and parenting teens throughout the state of Maine. It provides prenatal and parenting instruction along with academic and life skills courses.

The Summer Camp Scholarship Program has made the dream of attending a summer camp a reality for underprivileged children.





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Our Mission:

*To build and strengthen families
and their children, instilling hope
for the future and a better quality
of life.*

www.mainechildrenshome.org

Mark Your Calendar

March:

Easter Egg Hunt 3/31

April:

Wine Tasting Event, 4/26

May:

Dining for Dollars Fundraiser, TBA
Big E and Friends Concert, 5/12

June:

Friends Yard sale, 6/2
Children's Place Family Fun Day, 6/10
Low XII Widows Sons Motorcycle Ride
in and Cookout, 6/16

September:

Celebrating Resilience, TBA

October:

Craft Fair, 10/6
Friends Lobster Roll Lunch, TBA
Christmas Program Application Opens,
10/31

