



OCTOBER 2018

Happy Halloween!

Greetings!

The Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers is a continual place of hope and resilience. Each of our programs helps *'build and strengthen families and their children, instilling hope for the future and a better quality of life.'* We are very pleased to share that the new space for the Turner Family Counseling Center will be open the first week in November. The Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce, board members, representatives of elected officials, Peachey Builders, staff and a number of friends joined us for the official Ribbon Cutting and dedication of the second floor of the Parks building on the Dorothy 'Bibby' Alfond Campus on Silver Street in Waterville.



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. All staff members are licensed clinicians qualified by credentialing and experience. Particular areas of expertise are: Play Therapy and expressive therapies, Trauma-focused treatment and Teen parent counseling. We offer flexible hours, including evenings and weekends by appointment and most insurances and MaineCare are accepted. Please call or email us if we can be of assistance!

The 'new' Turner Family Counseling Center is the capstone to our model of care and support for children, youth and families. Raising children, growing families, and creating safer, more loving communities requires a confidential and caring place for coaching, listening and training to sustain long-term growth and success. The following quote from William Arthur Ward on counseling is a great encouragement: 'We can choose to throw stones, to stumble on them, to climb over them, or to build with them.' Let us build and grow together.

In sincere gratitude,

Richard Dorian, Executive Director

Christmas Program: Application & Donations



The holiday season brings one of The Maine Children's Home's biggest efforts into focus. Each year, more than 1,700 disadvantaged children throughout the state of Maine, ages 0 through 12, receive packages of new toys, books, warm clothing and more through our **Christmas Program**.

By hosting a toy drive or a giving tree, you can help keep our inventory stocked and ready to make the holidays brighter for area children. If you would like to host a toy drive, please **fill out this form** and return to Christmas Program Director Cristen Sawyer by **email** or by mail.

If you or someone you know is in need of Christmas help, please **visit our website**. Our application opens on November 5th and will close on December 7 (or until we reach 1,700 boxes, whichever happens first).

Urgent Christmas Needs List

- Outfits of clothing in size 0-16
- Hand knit mittens in solid colors
- Warm pajamas (size 10, 12, 14, 16)
- Toys and play-sets depicting popular characters from movie/TV
- Family board games up to age 12
- Infant and toddler toys encouraging mobility, development, or education
- Gifts for older children (craft kits, model car kits, larger Lego sets, makeup kits, science kits, pre-teen themed bedding or room decor, sporting goods, etc.)
- Books for newborns/toddlers & pre-teens
- Coloring books and crayons

COMPLETE CHRISTMAS NEEDS LIST

Friends of the Maine Children's Home: Lobster Roll Lunch



On Friday, October 26th, our **Friends of The Maine Children's Home** assembled over 1,100 lobster rolls for local businesses as a fundraiser that supports MCH programs! Christmas Program is the largest recipient of funds raised! Thank you to **Cozy Harbor Seafood** for donating the lobster meat, Centerpoint Community Church for donating the space to prepare the lunches, Hannaford Supermarkets and Home Depot for donating bags and boxes to deliver the lunches, schools and businesses who bought lunches and, last but not least, The Friends of Maine Children's Home for organizing this amazing fundraiser!

Adoption Program: Adoption Awareness Month



November is **Adoption** Awareness Month! To celebrate, we are collecting books that we can give to families once they have adopted their child into their forever homes! We have created an **Amazon Wish List** of all the books that help families have conversations about the adoption journey or you can donate on our website for us to buy books (*please include a note in your donation that it is for books*)!

Please send all books to:
Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers
Adoption Program
93 Silver Street
Waterville, ME 04901

DONATE

The Children's Place: It's Pumpkin Time!

Pumpkins are one of the wonderful vestiges of autumn that invite young children to explore using all of their senses. Carving, comparing, rolling, measuring, painting, cooking, sharing with friends and singing about; are just a few of the activities the children at The Children's Place are doing with these beautiful gifts from nature.





Sharon Abrams Teen Parent School Program: Common Ground Fair Trip



On September 21st, teens from the [Sharon Abrams Teen Parent School Program](#) visited the Common Ground Fair in Unity. Our trip was part of the free admission day for schools at the fair. The teens were able to bring their babies with them to experience the activities. The teens enjoyed the different demonstrations, animals and food. We had an opportunity to watch the sheep dog trials, pet the donkeys and horses and watch the momma pig nursing her babies. We also experienced many different fibers, stones, flowers and foods. The teens practiced some great life skills of packing to prepare for the elements to enjoy a busy day at the fair. All the teens in attendance had a great time and are looking forward to attending again.

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

Upcoming Events

FRIENDS MEETING

The Friends of the Maine Children's Home are goodwill ambassadors that have helped promote



fundraising activities, as well as provide resources to help grow our six core programs, for more than 60 years. Meetings are held on the **first Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m.** in the Eskelund Community Center, located on our campus at 93 Silver Street, Waterville. [Learn more here.](#)

SUKEFORTH FAMILY FESTIVAL OF TREES

The Sukeforth Family Festival of Trees is an annual celebration where you can walk through a winter wonderland, meet Santa, and enter for a chance to win a Christmas tree. This event benefits local charities and for the second time, [The Maine Children's Home](#) is one of them! Make sure to come out and support us on **November 16, 17 & 18 and November 23, 24 and 25** at the old American Legion Building at 21 College Ave. in Waterville!



GIVING TUESDAY

Tuesday, November 27th is Giving Tuesday! This global movement helps nonprofit organizations, like MCH, raise money for a specific need. This year, we are focusing our efforts on our Trust-Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI®) training and outreach! Check out our [website](#) for more information and

be sure to give on November 27th!

ADOPTION INFORMATION MEETING

Are you interested in learning about whether adoption is an option for your family? The Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers Adoption Program hosts **FREE** adoption information meetings the last **Wednesday** of each month at our Waterville (93 Silver St.) and Portland (527 Ocean Ave.) offices at **6 pm**. If you are interested in attending, please complete this [form](#).



A MAGICAL CHRISTMAS

Join us on **December 7th & 8th** at 7:30 pm at Hallowell City Hall for "A Magical Christmas" fundraiser for our Christmas Program! Peacox Productions is Maine's Premier Male & Female Impersonation Troupe with music, dance, and comedy, and this performance will include a special appearance by Maine Humorist, Gary Crocker! Please bring an unwrapped toy or warm mittens for children ages birth to 12 years old! [Click here to RSVP.](#)

Agency Report Card

October, 2018



Maine Children's Home

Working with children and their families...
everyday

What have we been up to?

	Program	Accomplishments
1	Adoption	182 Open Cases! Adoption staff received TBRI® training.
2	Harland Turner Counseling Center	New counselor, Denise Gianini starting November 12th! Two counselor positions available. Call us for more information!
3	Teen Parent School Program	Two new inquiries and one tour.
4	The Children's Place	Updated food prep and storage areas completed in the Infant and Mobile Infant rooms! Funded with the KVCAP Partnership Grant.
5	Christmas	Volunteers and Donations needed! Please look on our website for urgent donation needs or contact us to sign up to volunteer!
6	October 26, 2018	Lobster Roll Lunch fundraiser sponsored by Friends of Maine Children's Home is putting together 1,000 lunches this year! Thank you, Cozy Harbor Seafood for donating lobster.
7	November 3, 2018	Campus improvements! Counseling Center and Development moving to new office spaces!
8	Festival of Trees	We are very grateful to have been chosen again to be one of the recipients of proceeds from the Sukeforth Festival of Trees.
9	Thank You!	To our friends, supporters, sponsors, volunteers and staff: your generosity, commitment and support help more than 250 children, youth and families every month.



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

Serving families and children since 1899

On the Dorothy 'Bibby' Alfond Campus

DONATE

www.mainechildrenshome.org

