Catholic Charities Maine Donors Provide Help & Hope in the New Year

We are so grateful and inspired by the outpouring of support for our Christmas Appeal. Having raised just over $131,000 it was our most successful fundraising effort to date. With more than 475 donors participating we are able to make a tremendous impact on our Emergency Services program which answers the call daily, all year long, from individuals and families in crisis from across Maine.

From help with rent, security deposits, bills and heating oil to new glasses, clothing and medications you enable us to answer their calls of despair with hope and generosity. Thank you!

PO Box 10660
Portland, Maine 04104

Dixie Shaw, Director of Hunger & Relief Services, was the recent recipient of the Lifetime Achievement award from the Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce, the Presque Isle Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs.

According to Chamber Executive Director Theresa Fowler, “Dixie embodies everything we look for in a candidate for this award – no one can deny the tremendous amount of work and energy she puts into improving the lives of people in Maine and particularly in Aroostook County.”

During her 28-year tenure at CCM, Shaw has grown a small home supplies depot and food pantry into a comprehensive model to sustain the needs of those who are hungry and vulnerable in the County.

Her “can do” attitude has resulted in the robust Hunger & Relief Services program. Built from the ground up, it now provides food to more than 35% of the population (> 24,000 individuals) of Aroostook County.

“I didn’t have anywhere else to turn, I’m sure I’d be homeless if it wasn’t for your kindness.”
– Emergency Services Client

Parish Social Ministry staff members (left to right): Susan Snow, Justin Dean, Michael Smith, Deacon Al Burleigh, Bill Wood and Bonnie Bagley.
We provide comfort, we feed the hungry, we stand for the vulnerable, we seek wholeness, we bring recovery, we teach the children, we offer support to seniors, we strengthen families, we welcome strangers, we change lives.

Did you know? In fiscal year 2015, RIS resettled 442 primary refugees and assisted more than 66 secondary migrants and 77 asylum in becoming self-sufficient members of our community. Our Clients came from Iraq, Congo, Somalia, Burundi and Rwanda among other nations with high hopes of starting a new life in Maine. If you are interested in volunteering to help a New Mainer acclimate to life in a new city or mentor them along their professional pursuits, please contact Bethany Edmunds at bedmunds@ccmaine.org

Did you know? SEARCH served nearly 300 seniors in 2015, up 21% from the year prior! If you’d like to volunteer your time to help a new Mainer acclimate to life in a new city or mentor them along their professional pursuits, please contact Bethany Edmunds at bedmunds@ccmaine.org

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Our Hunger & Relief Services has received a $38,559 grant from Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) as part of the national organization’s efforts to fund activities that expand outreach to rural communities. The CCUSA grant is made possible thanks to funding from the Walmart Foundation. The funds will be used to purchase a multi-use truck in Aroostook County for food distribution and expansion efforts from our two CCM food banks.

Did you know? CCM’s Hunger & Relief Services program provides food to 35% of Aroostook County’s population which is more than 23,000 individuals yearly. A donation to our Spring Appeal now underway can help Farm for ME grow to flash-freeze vegetables for year-round distribution; expand distribution of our fresh produce statewide to feed even more Mainers; and add staff and enhance volunteers outreach to increase our harvest by 10,000 lbs! Give online at www.ccmaine.org/endhunger

We know someone who does.

Great Ways You Can Help!

Same site, same products but when you do your shopping at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of eligible purchases to Catholic Charities Maine! And there’s no limit as to how much we can earn!

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