

CATHOLIC CHARITIES MAINE 2016 FALL APPEAL

A young mother hooked on heroin.



A senior citizen desperate to remain at home.



Parents of a child with Autism.



What might their lives look like if **Catholic Charities** didn't exist?

Please help ensure our legacy of hope and healing continues!

Please consider making a donation to our Fall Appeal now underway. Your support will ensure that our 50 year legacy of addressing Maine's most complex issues — mental health, substance abuse, quality care for children and seniors, food insecurity and helping refugees rebuild their lives — will continue.

In today's uncertain times, we need your support now more than ever. Your gift will provide help and hope through:

- Counseling services to individuals battling drug and alcohol addictions;
- Homemaker services to seniors and persons with disabilities;
- Case management support to children and adults struggling with a mental illness or developmental disorder;
- Food, clothing and the most basic of needs to families in crisis, and so much more!

Please stand with us in advocating for the poor and disenfranchised by making a gift today! **Give online at www.ccmaine.org/give**; checks can be mailed to Catholic Charities Maine, Development Office, P.O. Box 10660, Portland, ME 04014-6060 or call the Development Office at (207) 523-1188.

Catholic Charities Maine making every penny count

PHILANTHROPY REPORT

WINTER 2017

AGENCY NEWS

Commemorating 50 Years of Providing Help and Creating Hope in Maine!

Nearly 200 attendees gathered to mark Catholic Charities Maine's 50th Anniversary on Wednesday, November 9th and to honor the outstanding individuals, businesses, faith-based and community organizations that have worked to build a better, stronger community at the Agency's inaugural RICHES Awards Dinner.

"While we are proud to be celebrating 50 years of service in Maine, we feel honored to be able to share this occasion with community partners who share our passion for empowering and strengthening individuals and families of all faiths here in Maine," noted Stephen Letourneau, CEO.

The RICHES Awards are named for Catholic Charities core values of Respect, Integrity, Compassion, Hospitality, Excellence and Stewardship. Six awards were presented including a **Lifetime Achievement Award** to the Agency's founding CEO, **Neil Michaud** in recognition of his inspiration and dedication in the creation of Catholic Charities Maine fifty years ago.

In the **Nonprofit Partner Award** category **Northern Maine Community College** was recognized for its 20 years of support

providing students to haul thousands of loads of lumber, wafer board and pallets of clothing that keep Catholic Charities' *Threads of Hope* Thrift Stores thriving and the Agency's Recycling Center bustling in Aroostook County thus positively impacting the effort to feed the hungry in northern Maine and beyond.

The **Volunteer Partner Award** was presented to **Larry Lachance** of Auburn. An Advisory Committee member of the SEARCH program, which Seeks Elderly Alone to Renew Courage and Hope (since 1985) and a senior companion volunteer for 38 years, it is estimated that a dollar value of Larry's volunteer effort over the years is more than \$75,000!

St. Michael's Parish in Augusta was recognized with the **Faith-based Partner Award** for its ongoing contributions to Catholic Charities programs like SEARCH, *Threads of Hope* Thrift Stores and Refugee & Immigration Services as well as community ministries, including the Angel Food Suppers that feed the homeless and an art program for youth in area shelters.

continued on next page



Pictured L to R: Stephen Letourneau, Catholic Charities Maine CEO; Fr. Frank Morin, St. Michael's Parish; Larry Lachance; Bishop Robert P. Deeley; Neil Michaud; Timothy Crowley, President of Northern Maine Community College; Nancy Pierce, *Good as New* thrift store; Gemma Cannon, HealthInfoNet; Sr. Donna Markham, President of CCUSA and David Madore, Catholic Charities Maine Board Chair

RICHES AWARDS DINNER

Commemorating 50 Years, continued

The **Inspiration Award** was presented to **Nancy Pierce** of Cumberland Foreside, in recognition of her hard work and dedication in enhancing a resource to those in need in the community via the *Good as New* thrift store. Houlton residents are now treated to a lovely place to shop that offers items at a great value; a purpose for volunteers and staff; and to donors a “green” way to pay it forward by recycling their gently used goods. And most importantly, Pierce’s commitment to the store has increased its revenues tremendously thus enabling St. Michaels’ Parish, which operates the store, to provide assistance to even more individuals and families in crisis.

The **Healthcare Partner Award** was presented to **HealthInfoNet**, an independent, non-profit organization that manages Maine’s statewide health information exchange. HealthInfoNet is a secure computer system for doctors, hospitals and behavioral health care providers like Catholic Charities to share important health information and improve

patient care by linking medical information from separate sites to create a single electronic patient record that can be accessed by authorized providers. As one of a handful of states meeting the “value-added” standard set by the Federal government, HealthInfoNet is truly a leader in its field, merging complex medical histories and treatment plans with state of the art technology to ultimately provide a safer and enhanced patient experience.

Hosted by Catholic Charities CEO Stephen Letourneau and the Most Reverend Robert P. Deeley, Bishop of Portland, the evening also featured Sr. Donna Markham, OP, PhD President of CCUSA, as the keynote speaker. Sr. Donna noted the collective call of the 165 Catholic Charities nationwide in “resolving to build bridges of hope, mercy and justice toward the creation of a culture of communal care responsive to the cries of those who are poor.” Markham also added, “I am honored to be here tonight to celebrate 50 years of working toward this vision being realized here in Maine.”

DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Quality Child Care Made Possible through Annual Golf Classic

CCM’s 14th annual Golf Classic, benefitting the *Put Children First* scholarship fund, had a record-breaking year thanks to the support of more than a dozen sponsors and 34 teams who came out to play at The Woodlands in Falmouth in September! **More than \$80,000 was raised for the fund which supports the cost of child care for low-income, working families.**

We would like to sincerely thank this year’s sponsors:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Title: Olympia Sports | Golf Cart: MEMIC |
| Gold: Winxnet | Putting Contest: Concur |
| Presenting: Cross/BGA Financial | Longest Drive (M): Met Life |
| Hat: Coastal Landscaping | Longest Drive (W): Cianbro |
| Golf Ball: Cigna | Closest to the Pin (M): Mercy Health System |
| Grill Station: Anthem | Hole-in-One: Yankee Ford |
| Snack Bag: CBRE/The Boulos Company | |

In addition to the support of sponsors and teams, many volunteers, committee members, donors and in-kind auction donors were key in building upon the success of this annual “must-play” tournament. CCM was also lucky enough to have WGME anchor Jeff Peterson on hand to emcee the live auction.



Long-time players for “The Federation” team (L-R): John Lesniak, Tom MacDowell, Mike DeLuca and Dick Carson.

Be sure to save the date for the 15th annual Golf Classic on Monday, September 18, 2017!

How to Be Gift-Wise

You want to give wisely. Here are some ideas to maximize your impact and minimize your tax bill as you make a difference for children and families in need.

1. Keep it simple. Most organizations offer a wide variety of ways that you can make a difference. Overwhelmed by all the options? Not sure what you’re passionate about?

If you want the simplest choice for maximum impact through Catholic Charities Maine, consider choosing to give where it is needed most. Your gift will help children and families in Maine in areas of greatest need.

2. Pay it forward. If changing a child’s world for good touches your heart, you can sponsor daycare for low income families. If helping Maine’s seniors speaks to you, consider donating to our SEARCH Program.

3. Give someone else’s money. Hundreds of companies across the country match employee contributions to nonprofits. That doubles your donation and impact and comes from someone else’s wallet! Simply ask your employer if they will match your donations and find out how it works.

4. Forget your checkbook. Generosity comes in many forms. Donating valuable personal property such as furniture, royalties, and even jewelry is an innovative way to turn your non-cash assets into life-transforming gifts. The simplest way to leave a legacy is to include a gift to Catholic Charities Maine in your will or as a designated beneficiary for a percentage of a life insurance policy or retirement account. You can designate a bequest for a specific dollar amount or a percentage of your estate. Your gift can include cash, stocks, bonds or personal property.

What do you have to give?

5. “Double” your tax break. Did you know you can “double” your tax break by donating appreciated assets such as stock or real estate?

If you have stock that has grown in value, you can donate it and receive a charitable deduction for the current value as well as eliminate capital gains tax on the appreciation.

Or, make a gift of real estate (either the entire property or a portion of it), and you’ll receive a charitable deduction for the current value as well as eliminate capital gains tax. You’ll also save the cost and hassles of managing and maintaining the property.

MAKING EVERY PENNY COUNT:

Stories from the Field

Farm for ME’s Harvest Reaps a Bounty to Help Feed the Hungry in Maine

Culminating its fourth growing season, the **Farm for ME program**, grew by leaps and pounds! Growing on six acres in Aroostook County, Farm for ME harvests fresh vegetables for distribution via our Food Bank to local pantries as well as statewide through sharing with the Good Shepherd Food Bank.

In addition to a bountiful harvest of 49,395 lbs. of beets, carrots, squash and rutabagas from our own field, growing support from the local farming community yielded donations of 268,650 lbs. of potatoes, broccoli, squash and cucumbers plus an additional 3,500 lbs. of corn were gleaned from partner farms by our volunteer “Glean Team” — bringing the total harvest from 2016 to a whopping 321, 545 lbs.!

“The best part is knowing we can stretch our harvest through the long, cold winter months when folks really need help by freezing a portion,” said Dixie Shaw, Director of Hunger & Relief Services. Thanks for a partnership with Northern Girls, a microprocessor in Aroostook County, the fresh veggies are flash-frozen and vacuum-packed to ensure healthy options are available at area food pantries when access to fresh vegetables is limited.

A Greener Classroom Experience

This fall students at **St. Elizabeth’s Child Development Center** came back to “greener” classrooms thanks to energy upgrades at the 200 year-old building on State Street in Portland. **The energy efficient improvements were made thanks to a \$54,103 grant from the Grants to Green initiative** of the Maine Community Foundation with equal funds from the St. Elizabeth Asylum endowment fund established by the building’s owners for a total of \$108,206. Improvements made include better insulation, air sealing (doors and windows), upgrades to LED lighting, installation of heat pumps and installation of thermostats that can be control remotely from a smartphone. Not only do these contribute to a more comfortable and cozy environment for learning but also will save the Center even more money in operating costs over time.

“Parents and children love our unique space and the convenience of our downtown location,” said Center Director Leslee Pierce, “But the expenses associated with heating and maintaining an older building were really straining our budget as a non-profit. This grant is truly a gift to all of our children and their families as it will enable us to reinvest in other areas of the Center that directly impact the children thanks to the savings we’ll see on our electricity and heating bills.”



AmeriCorps volunteer Emily Lynch gleans corn for Farm for ME.



Kids gather for a cozier circle time (above) while snow bibs are left hanging in their cubbies (right).



Great Ways You Can Help!

Donate a car or boat and help change lives here in Maine!

Do you have an unwanted vehicle or boat sitting in your garage or yard? **Donate it to Catholic Charities Maine!** Simply call our toll free number 1-855-460- GIVE (4483) and we will do the rest. We arrange to have your car picked up and sold and you will receive a donation receipt for tax purposes. It is a wonderful way for you to make a donation to CCM and remove an unused or unwanted vehicle. The money raised helps us to continue providing quality, community-based, social services. For more information visit www.ccmaine.org.

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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.

WE ARE CATHOLIC CHARITIES MAINE!