

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1998 Annual Report

of

The Maine Commission for Community Service

Maine State Planning Office

193 State St., 38 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04330



1997 Annual Report to the Governor, the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government, and the Maine Legislature is submitted in accordance with 5MRSA, Chapter 373, Section 7503.

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S*ervice* is a proven strategy for building strong communities. It is a vital thread in the social and environmental fabric of Maine.

Through ***Community Service***, Maine people invest their time and energy every day to address — and solve — chronic environmental, economic, and social problems.

Service is a vital part of ***citizenship***. It provides an opportunity for people of all ages and walks of life to exercise personal responsibility for the community in which they live.

Youth actively participate in creating viable futures for themselves and their own communities through service.

T***he Maine Commission for Community Service*** calls upon all Community Service partners in Maine — government, civic, nonprofit, public and private — to expand the capacity of Community Service so it will be a key community-building and state-building tool, well into the next century.

Service as Strategy: The Maine Position on Community Service

Adopted September 24, 1997

Maine Commission for Community Service



THE MAINE COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE engages citizens to serve their communities in the areas of education, environment, human needs, and public safety.



Through planning, convening, investing, and other activities, the Commission seeks to make real a ***vision*** of ***vibrant, productive communities with involved, responsible citizens***



Its statutory ***mission*** is to ***foster community service and volunteerism to meet human and environmental needs in the State of Maine***



Established in 1994 by Executive Order and under Maine statute in 1995, the 26-member Commission is the State government partner with the federal **CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE**.



THE MAINE STATE PLANNING OFFICE provides administrative support to the Commission. The Commission contributes to the State Planning Office strategic objective of increasing citizen service by 20%.



1998 Members of the Commission

Major Everett B. Flannery, Jr., *Commission Chair, Clinton*
Chief Deputy, Kennebec County Sheriffs Dept.

Perry Gates, *Vice-chair, Camden*
Educator, Projects Inc.

Edith R. Scott, *Secretary, Clinton*
Commercial Loan Officer, People Heritage Bank

Paul Chretien, *Immediate Past-chair, Brewer*
Labor Liason, AFL/CIO
Completed Term of Service



H. Timothy Brown, *Camden*
Student, Camden-Rockport High School

Vincent DiCara, *Gardiner*
Economic Development Consultant

Dixie Dumond, *Caribou*
Program Director, Catholic Charities ME

Dawn Girardin, *Dryden*
Volunteer Coordinator,
Western Maine Community Action

Mark Hews, *Poland Spring*
Coordinator, Thresholds of Maine Resource
Conservation District

Susan Jennings, *North Waterford*
Extension Educator,
Univ. of Maine Cooperative Extension
Completed Term of Service

Susanne C. Kibler-Hacker, *Brooks*
Director, Institutional Advancement,
Unity College

Lawrence LaPierre, *Old Orchard Beach*
Retired Senior Volunteer,
Red Cross Volunteer
Completed Term of Service

Catherine K. Lebowitz, *Bangor*
Retired Senior Volunteer,
Former Maine Legislator

Wanda Lincoln, *Old Town*
Program Manager, Foster Grandparents,
Penquis Community Action Program

Rebecca Lewis, *Machias*
Student, University of Maine Farmington

Ed Maroon, *Ex-officio,*
Represents the Department of Education
Director, Learn & Serve Program

Donald McDougal, *Hartland*
Teacher, Nokomis Regional High School

Joyce McPhetres, *South China*
Manager of Education, Assistant Vice-
President MBNA, New England

JoAnne E. Peterson, *South Portland*
Consultant, Hospice Volunteer
Completed Term of Service

Katherine Roberts, *Portland*
Social Worker, Family Institute of Maine
Completed Term of Service

Susanne W. Sandusky, *Mapleton*
Exec. Director, United Way of Aroostook

Judi Stebbins, *Winthrop*
Speech Pathologist, Griffiths Assoc.
Winthrop Town Councilor

Kathleen Ferguson, *Ex-officio*
Corp. for Nat'l Service, State Director

Patricia Toto, *Unity*
Retired Director of Placement,
Kennebec Valley Technical College
Completed Term of Service

Kathryn Tremper, *Topsham*
Graduate Student; Univ. of Southern Maine



1998 Highlights: A Year of Partnerships

From January to December, every Commission activity and initiative revolved around one of two themes:

- strengthening a Maine service infrastructure so more citizens can serve in their communities, and
- deepening partnerships that foster service as the strategy to meet community needs.

★ Unified State Plan for Service

The Commission's statute directs it to develop a three-year, comprehensive state plan for community service and National Service programs. The first such plan expired at the same time the federal agency, the Corporation for National Service, issued guidance on what it would require from States by way of community service plans.



In March of 1998, the Commission and its partners adopted the Maine Unified State Plan for Service. It was the result of a year long planning effort by all Maine entities that administer Corporation for National Service program funds. The Maine Commission and its partners looked at the "big picture" and addressed issues that were larger than just coordinating federal program activities.

Signatories included Susan Therriault for the Corporation for National Service, Ed Maroon for the Maine Department of Education, Susan K. Card for KIDS Consortium, Liz McCabe Park for Maine Campus Compact, and Everett Flannery, Jr. for the Maine Commission for Community Service.

Major Goals

- ♦ Develop a viable Unified State Plan partnership to coordinate the efforts of the various service-oriented agencies and programs.
- ♦ Promote the value of service and increase public awareness of the role of service to address community needs.
- ♦ [Make available] a coordinated network for training and technical assistance expertise at the local, regional and state levels.

★ National Service Scholarship Program



Sixty-nine Maine High School Seniors received \$1,000 Scholarships for outstanding community service through the National Service Scholars Program. The opportunity to recognize this aspect of student life was possible due to a partnership between the Corporation for National Service (CNS), the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME), and the Maine Commission for Community Service. This CNS program seeks to elevate community service by high school students to the same level of recognition as academic and athletic excellence.

Guidelines for the scholarship advised principals to select one student in their school whose volunteer contributions to the community were significant. The Corporation for National Service provided \$500 towards the scholarships which had to be matched with \$500 from local sources. FAME did the outreach to schools through its higher education financial aid activities. The Commission handled recognition of the students and acted as link to CNS, sponsor of the national program.

Due to procedural changes by the sponsors, 1998 was the last year FAME and the Commission worked together on this project. For the future, the two organizations are exploring joint efforts to inform young people about the education benefits available through AmeriCorps programs.



★ Partners for Community Service

Maine's Partners for Community Service is a grant program created in 1997 through a national challenge grant from the Ford Foundation and the Points of Light Foundation. The grant-making is administered by the Maine Commission for Community Service. The Maine Development Foundation serves as fiscal agent.

In 1998, the first grants were awarded. To be eligible, applicants had to be sponsors of Maine AmeriCorps*State programs. The grant's purpose is to build capacity of local organizations in two areas related to sustainability of service programs: volunteer management and fundraising.

Awards totalling \$45,000 went to Portland West Neighborhood Planning Council, Wolfe's Neck Farm, and Maine Humanities Council.

- ♦ The Portland West goals are to consolidate volunteer management activities and expand opportunities for volunteers to serve. As part of the plan, Portland West will provide its staff training on issues such as volunteer selection, assignment, and work documentation. In the first quarter, the agency raised 66% of the local match funds required.
- ♦ Wolfe's Neck Farm committed itself to starting a volunteer program that would involve local citizens in Farm activities. This is a significant undertaking since there currently is no formal volunteer program, and this project will involve creating all the elements (recruitment, selection, placement, supervision, documentation, recognition, etc.) of a quality volunteer management system.

A second goal the Farm set involves expanding its environmental education and service-learning programs through training local volunteers who can conduct these activities in schools and at Wolfe Neck Farm's site.

By the end of the second quarter of the grant, Wolfe's Neck had raised 100% of the match from new community partners.

- ♦ The Maine Humanities Council will involve local citizens as volunteers in its *Born to Read* and *Prescription to Read* programs. The volunteers will read aloud to preschool age children in library settings, child care centers, rural health care centers, and at activities occurring around local "Family Literacy Day" celebrations.

During development of its application to *Partners for Community Service*, the Council secured 50% of its required match for the two-year period.

★ Children's Cabinet, Communities for Children

The Maine Commission for Community Service entered this partnership in July 1996. This year, through its participation on the Implementation Team for Communities for Children, the Commission identified several sources of National Service help for Local Leadership Councils. The Commission also targeted



some of its AmeriCorps grant funds towards development of resources local councils had sought.

By far, the largest and most complex project with Communities for Children was the Governor's Service Institutes. This seven-part series brought together citizens in 30 delegations organized by Communities for Children Local Leadership Councils. Another 24 delegations based in non-partner service center communities also took part in the Governor's Service Institutes.

A full report on the Institutes, their evolution into the Maine Promise Network and the development of the Maine Promise Book, appears later in this annual report.



★ The Maine Service Exchange

Development of the Maine Service Exchange (MSE) began in earnest in late 1998. MSE is modeled on a successful program of our sister Commission on Community Service in Maryland. Maine's Service Exchange will be a statewide training network in which trainers, known as Directors and Consultants, volunteer to provide expert training services as part of their community service. They will provide high quality, cost-free training and consultation to service-related organizations who rely on volunteers to meet community needs throughout Maine.

Full operation of the Maine Service Exchange is set for Fall 1999. At that time, the MSE will:

- engage high quality Directors and Consultants as participants;
- require that services offered through the Exchange be provided for free as community service by the Directors and Consultants;
- model "best practices" in volunteer management;
- be "one stop" for any volunteer or community service organization seeking assistance; and
- use a continuous improvement evaluation to provide feedback to the advisory committee.

The Maine Service Exchange is based on the idea that citizens in Maine with considerable expertise are willing to serve their communities by sharing their skills and knowledge with those agencies or programs directly involved in responding to local needs through volunteer and community service.

Maine Service Exchange Advisory Committee

Evelyn Beaulieu,
Center for Adult Learning & Literacy
Sharon Caron,
Maine Volunteer Connection
Debra Eckart,
Extension Service/Senior Companions
Perry Gates,
Projects, Inc.
Mark Hews,
Threshold of Maine RCD
Joanne E.A. Joy,
Dirigo Prevention Coalition
Patty LeClaire,
United Volunteers/RSVP
Kathleen Leyden,
State Planning Office, Coastal Program
Wanda Lincoln,
Penquis CAP Foster Grandparents Program

Cyndie Marler,
Maine Association of Nonprofits
Ann Maynard,
Catholic Charities Maine
Liz McCabe Park,
Maine Campus Compact
Don McDougal,
Nokomis Regional High School
Michael Robinson,
Eastern Maine Development Corporation
Fran Rudoff,
KIDS Consortium
Anne Schink,
Maine Commission for Community Service
Edith Scott,
Peoples Heritage Bank
Jonathan Underwood,
SERVE/Maine Volunteer Leaders

★ Maine's Web-Based Reporting System Becomes Prototype for Federal System

The Maine Commission staff has partnered with the Corporation for National Service and Aguirre International's Project TASC to develop the Web-Based Reporting System (WBRS). It uses the Internet as a new way to transact business and transfer information among AmeriCorps program sponsors, sites, State Commissions, the Corporation for National Service, and the National Service Trust.

In July 1998, the Maine version of WBRS was selected as the prototype to "roll out" to all State Service Commissions interacting with the Corporation for National Service. The system was developed as a response to paperwork problems in data collection and workflow. Its components include financial reporting, progress reports on objectives and work, and all functions around tracking individual terms of service. The Maine AmeriCorps programs assisted with development and testing of prototypes and beta versions of WBRS.



★ The Maine Youth Service Connection

The Maine Youth Service Connection (MSYC) is a network of youth and youth organizations involved in community service. Guided primarily by its youth members, the Youth Service Connection aims to “promote youth service in Maine by publicizing service and training opportunities, sharing resources, and recognizing youth efforts.” With the addition of a new project advisor this summer, the MYSC has undergone a major shift in its function and purpose. Along with a new name (it was formerly called the Maine State Youth Connection), came a new mission statement that was more realistic and more in line with the desires of the youth involved.

The MYSC continues to establish itself as a valuable youth resource in the community. As a result, it was asked by the national department store chain, Best Buy, to promote awareness of a series of youth grants within the state and to establish a review committee to select the winners.

One of the latest projects of the MYSC is the creation of a statewide newsletter that will connect all youth who are serving and youth-serving organizations. The newsletter fills a much-needed gap in the state for a central clearinghouse of Maine youth service information and resources. Plans are to conduct study circles with young people during early 1999 on the issue of “Opportunities for Youth to give back through service.”

★ Youth Service America

An exciting new Commission partnership grew out of the Governor’s Service Institute on “Opportunities for Youth to Give Back through Service.” Steve Culbertson, Youth Service America’s Executive Director, was a keynote speaker who introduced YSA’s SERVENet program in his remarks. SERVENet is a world wide web tool that is designed to accomplish three basic tasks: match volunteers with service opportunities; help volunteer organizations advertise their service needs; and most importantly, encourage volunteer activity. The web address is <http://www.servenet.org> and does not entail any user fee, subscription, or access fee.



The partnership with Youth Service America (YSA), a national non-profit with existing National Service ties, helps the Commission meet three of its objectives related to creating a locally accessible, central point of information about service opportunities. Through the joint effort, the Commission can also foster opportunities for youth to serve their communities and meet a need of the Maine Promise Network.

During Fall 1998, the Commission provided support to students from Winthrop High School who developed a model for finding local volunteer openings and entering them into SERVENet. Other students in Maine will be invited to carry out this service project in their hometowns. The target date for entering information on SERVENet is in April 1999 on National Youth Service Day, another project of Youth Service America.





Convened By
GOVERNOR ANGUS S. KING, JR.



**THE MAINE DELEGATES TO
THE PRESIDENTS' SUMMIT ON
AMERICA'S FUTURE**

First Lady Mary J. Herman
Delegation Chair



**THE CHILDREN'S CABINET/
COMMUNITIES FOR CHILDREN
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Commissioner J. Duke Albanese,
Cabinet and Council Chair
Department of Education

Commissioner Kevin Concannon
Department of Human Services

Commissioner Michael Kelly
Department of Public Safety

Dr. Robert McAfee
Council Member

Mary Jane McCalmon
Council Member

Commissioner Martin Magnussen
Department of Corrections

Commissioner Melodie Peet
*Department of Mental Health,
Mental Retardation and Substance
Abuse Services*

Joan Benoit Samuelson
Council Member

Jane G. Smith
Council Member

Maine Chief Justice Daniel Wathen
Council Member



**THE MAINE COMMISSION
FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Major Everett B. Flannery, Jr.
Commission Chair
*Chief Deputy, Kennebec County
Sheriff's Department*

Building Communities for Children: From Presidents' Summit to Governor's Service Institutes to Maine's Promise

★ On the National Scene...

Governor George Romney of Michigan tried to persuade three presidents to convene a national volunteer summit that would "take a quantum leap" and raise the power of citizen service to a new plateau to solve the problems affecting America's children and families. He did not succeed.

Romney *did* take his idea to Robert Goodwin, president and chief executive officer of the Points of Light Foundation, and Harris Wofford, chief executive officer of the Corporation for National Service. They discussed the impact that Americans convening on nonpartisan common ground would have on persuading government and corporations of the importance of volunteering. The threesome did succeed.

Governor Romney died before his goal was achieved. Robert Goodwin and Harris Wofford took the necessary steps to make the Presidents' Summit for America's Future a reality. Its sole focus was how to mobilize community resources - especially volunteers - in order to provide youth with five resources essential to their successful development into healthy adults. These "fundamental five" are:

- ♦ Mentor: An ongoing relationship with a caring adult – parent, mentor, tutor or coach;
- ♦ Nurture: A healthy start;
- ♦ Teach: A marketable skill through effective education;
- ♦ Protect: Safe places and structured activities during non-school hours; and
- ♦ Serve: An opportunity to give back through community service.

★ On the Maine Scene

Governor Angus King, Jr. formed a subcabinet to focus on children and families early in his administration. The Children's Cabinet members are the Commissioners and senior staff of five state government agencies whose responsibilities include services for children and families: the Departments of Education, Human Services, Corrections, Public Safety, and Mental Health Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services.

Beginning in the Spring of 1996, a working group established by the Children's Cabinet began developing an initiative that would be a partnership between State government and local communities for the prevention of poor outcomes for children and the promotion of their well-being. One of the partners in that working group was the Maine Commission for Community Service.



★ The Convergence of National and Maine Initiatives

- January 1997 Governor King announces the “**Communities for Children**” initiative. Local leaders were invited to organize and enroll as partner communities. By June, 30 Maine communities representing over 70 municipalities have signed on.
- January 1997 Plans to hold the **Presidents’ Summit on America’s Future** were announced in Washington, DC. General Colin Powell agreed to chair the Summit. Four living Presidents and two former First Ladies serve as hosts.
- February 1997 **The Maine Commission for Community Service** and the United Way of Greater Portland are designated by the Summit organizers as conveners of Maine’s delegations.
- March 1997 **Maine’s 26 delegates** are identified and the Governor’s Delegation includes the leadership of Communities for Children in the State and in Portland. The remaining two delegations represent Aroostook County and Knox County. Representing Maine were:
- Governor’s Delegates - First Lady Mary Herman, Delegation Chair
Duke Albanese, Commissioner of Education,
Children’s Cabinet Chairman
Tom Broussard, Career Prospects Inc.
Dr. Dora Mills, Department of Human Services
Kate Roberts, Maine Commission for Community Service
Susan Savell, Communities for Children Executive Coordinator
- Aroostook County - Connie Sandstrom, Aroostook County Action Program
Terry Sandusky, DMHMRSAS
Dr. Durward Huffman, Northern Maine Technical College
Vicki Smith, Katahdin Trust Company
Peter Soucier, PATCH
- Knox County - Diane Andrews, Maine Chamber and Business Alliance
Tom Peaco, Make A Wish Foundation
Jim Christie, MBNA New England
Robert Rheault, Outward Bound
William Michaud, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of MidCoast Maine
- Portland - Suzanne McCormick, United Way of Greater Portland
Mary Jane McCalmon, Portland Public School
Joan McDonald, Kennebec Council of Girl Scouts
Glenn McAllister, Peoples Heritage Bank
John McDonough, City of Portland
Elizabeth Shorr, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Maine
Sam Beal, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Portland
Kristen Procida, Portland Student
Annette Lemek, AmeriCorps Member
- April 1997 The Presidents’ Summit for America’s Future takes place in Philadelphia. Over three days, 2,000 delegates from every state form concrete plans for their communities and identify resource commitments to make those plans possible.
- ♦ Maine’s commitment is to *“provide 20,000 more children with the five fundamental resources by the year 2000 through community service.”*
 - ♦ **America’s Promise - The Alliance for Youth** is unveiled. The national not-for-profit organization, led by General Colin Powell, will focus on mobilizing the nation to ensure children have access to the fundamental five resources. Key strategies for accomplishing the goal are:
 - ~developing Communities and States of Promise - cities, counties and states that are committed to bring the goals of the Presidents’ Summit and five fundamental resources to the state and local level.
 - ~ **the Promise Book** - voluntary, concrete commitments of time, materials, and funds as resources from as many individuals, educational institutions, religious organizations, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, small companies, and large corporations as possible.



May - October 1997	Maine's Summit delegates establish the framework to heighten community involvement in meeting the state's goal. Plans call for holding a seven part series, the Governor's Service Institutes .
June 1997	The first statewide meeting and training of Communities for Children partners takes place in Waterville.
November 1997	Governor King asks the Maine Commission for Community Service to lead a partnership with the Maine Summit Delegates and Communities for Children to conduct the Governor's Service Institutes.
January 1998	104 Maine organizations respond to the Commission's invitation to help plan the Institutes.
March 1998	47 communities send delegations to each Institute and begin to develop comprehensive local plans. The 30 partners in Communities for Children serve as conveners of local delegations. Another 17 communities also participate.
April - June 1998	Five Institutes, each dedicated to one of the fundamental five resources, look at best practices and model programs. A sixth Institute, Service As The Strategy, focuses on best practices and model programs in community service.
June - September 1998	Communities develop comprehensive plans and the Institute Working Group develops the Maine Promise Book . Communities for Children extends invitation to additional communities to enroll as partners.
August 1998	The Institute Working Group develops a proposal for AmeriCorps Promise Fellows to be submitted to the Corporation for National Service. The focus areas for these specialized AmeriCorps Members will be mentoring, safe places, marketable skills, community resources, and working with a Community For Children's Local Leadership Council.
September 1998	<p>The final Institute, Resources For Maine Children, is held. Governor King unveils the Maine Promise Book: Building Communities for Children, an interactive web site on which commitment makers can post the resources -materials, people, time, and money- they will make available to Maine communities.</p> <p>The Community Plans developed by the participating delegates are presented to the Governor. Twenty-one new communities join Communities for Children, bringing the total to 51 partners encompassing over 210 municipalities.</p>
October 1998	<p>The Working Group for the Governor's Service Institutes becomes the Maine Promise Network and elects Tom Broussard of Bowdoin as its first chair. The Network votes to have the Maine Commission for Community Service provide operational support to the Network.</p> <p>Other members of the Network Steering Committee are Communities for Children, Kennebec Council of Girl Scouts, Fleet Bank, People's Heritage Bank, the Maine Volunteer Connection, Dept. of Human Services, Waterville Area Boys and Girls Club, Catholic Charities Maine, Portland Mentoring Partnership, Maine Assoc. of Child Care Resource Agencies, and the Governor's Committee on Mentoring Youth.</p>
November 1998	Through discussions with America's Promise: The Alliance for Youth, plans are made for offering Maine's Communities for Children partners the opportunity to register as national Communities of Promise. This is possible because the steps for Communities for Children mirror those required to be a Community of Promise. Association with the national movement will make national resources available to Maine's Communities for Children partners.



★ Institute Outcomes

- ♦ 1,097 cumulative attendance at the seven Institutes
- ♦ 640 Governor's Service Institute Delegates came repeatedly from 47 communities
 - ~ 198 studied how community service increases access to local resources
 - ~ 341 learned about the benefits to a healthy start in life
 - ~ 156 explored various models of successful mentoring programs
 - ~ 166 considered how to enhance safe environments for youth
 - ~ 144 explored links between education and marketable skills
 - ~ 157 learned about effective community service programs involving youth
 - ~ 457 gathered to learn what resources were committed and hear community plans
- ♦ 15 business partners and the Corporation for National Service underwrote the costs
- ♦ 104 organizations involved themselves in planning the Institutes
- ♦ 211 people participated as workshop presenters
- ♦ 151 volunteered as administrative staff
- ♦ 85 organizations came to provide advice and guidance in the Resource Room
- ♦ 22 communities submitted their comprehensive community plans as of September 17th
- ♦ 245 Commitments were made to the Maine Promise Book

www.mainespromise.org

★ The Maine Promise Network: Building Communities for Children

Purpose

- ♦ Give post-Institute Support to Communities as they implement plans
- ♦ Keep focused on increasing accessibility of the fundamental 5 resources
 - ♦ Maintain commitment to community service as one strategy to increase accessibility of the resources
 - ♦ Serve as a collaborative "meeting ground" for statewide or state-level organizations/initiatives that work on increasing citizen service to strengthen communities and to benefit children and families
 - ♦ Create and coordinate promotion and recognition of the Promise Book; oversee follow-through of Promise Book commitments after the Institutes
 - ♦ Track progress on accomplishments of local and state level goals of Maine's Promise. Report progress to America's Promise
- ♦ Collaborate on public relations and marketing of key concepts (e.g., the fundamental five and Maine's Promise Book)



The Work to Be Done

- ♦ Unify community service and volunteer sectors in the same way the Children's Cabinet has worked to unify state government agencies' work
- ♦ Use Local Communities for Children Leadership Councils as the organizing mechanism for community service and volunteerism at the community level, just as the Cabinet is doing with state government agencies
- ♦ Connect the Network structurally to Communities for Children as if it were a committee
- ♦ Adopt and promote a unified message "Maine Promise Book: Building Communities for Children"
- ♦ Focus on how communities for Children Leadership Councils can accomplish their work through community service and volunteer programs
- ♦ Coordinate state level or statewide service programs that operate in local communities
- ♦ Advocate for community service approaches within the Communities for Children structure
- ♦ Advocate for best practice in the service arena as a means for assuring that programs are successful and benefit children and families in the way intended.



Students in the Teen Impact! Learn and Serve America project at Oxford Hills Community High School are creating a Teen Center for their community. "Since there's no place for them to go, many get into trouble or use drugs," says one student.

The project was conceived by the class as a response to the problem. They worked with community volunteers from the Chamber of Commerce, a local law firm, the Maine Association of Nonprofits, and another teen center to develop their business plan and recruit a board of directors made up of teens and adults.

Currently, their research is focused on how to create a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.

One AmeriCorps summer team included Portland high school students, who were refugees from Ethiopia and Somalia, as well as US natives who were college graduates. Realizing these new US arrivals were struggling with significant language barriers, the program added an ESL and reading component to help the Members serve more effectively.

All the team Members were exposed to new cultures and new people as they completed the service project, construction of a nature trail. Grueling physical and mental work forced Members to rely on one another and to form bonds that will last long into the future.



"I met with a contact at the library in Sanford. She is in charge of the area's Literacy Volunteers and has a grant from the Barabara Bush Foundation. She introduced me to other local people who are excited about what [AmeriCorps Born to Read] is doing and willing to work together.*

As I sat in the meeting I realized this was the perfect start to a literacy coalition for the community. There are so many people working toward the same goals. Yet, many are unaware of each other.

One of my goals is to fit the pieces together. Then maybe programs can combine their efforts. This is one of the ways I want this program to continue after AmeriCorps is through." Robin Bartlett, Sanford.

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. For, the harder I work, the more I live.

Life is no brief candle to me. It's sort of a splendid torch which I've got to hold up for the moment and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.

*Mr. Lloyd Davis, Executive Director
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Federal Holiday Commission*

Enter Bangor's Elizabeth Levinson Center on any day that Shirley Garceau, long-time Foster Grandparent is

volunteering and you are likely to see Shirley taking the children for "walks" in their wheelchairs, assisting them with daily routines or comforting them in her rocking chair. Shirley started volunteering at the Levinson Center in 1988.

Maybe because Shirley has a disability herself - she is deaf-mute - she has the ability to "tune-in" to the special needs of the children she serves. Her Supervisor at Levinson reports, "She will often alert staff to problems with the children before the attentive staff is aware of them."

National Service: Getting Things Done in Maine

When faced with challenges such as illiteracy, poverty, crime, and environmental problems, our nation has always relied on the dedication and action of citizens. Today, *the Corporation for National Service* carries on that tradition by working with the *Maine Commission for Community Service*, nonprofits, faith-based groups, schools and other civic organizations to provide opportunities for over **8,000 Maine people** of all ages to serve their communities as part of **34 National Service projects**.

The Corporation's three major service initiatives are AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve America, and the National Senior Service Corps. Federal funds to support these programs in Maine amounted to \$3,700,000 in 1998.

Last year, **AmeriCorps** - the domestic Peace Corps - provided more than **228 individuals** with the opportunity to spend one year serving in Maine communities. In return, AmeriCorps members received an education award of up to \$4,725 to help pay for college or pay back student loans. (To date, **500 Maine residents** serving in AmeriCorps have qualified for **more than \$2,000,000 in educational awards** from the National Service Trust.) During 1998, 90% of the Maine AmeriCorps members held full-time assignments.



Two-thirds of the AmeriCorps grants to nonprofit and community groups are made by the *Maine Commission for Community Service*. The funds passed through for operation of AmeriCorps programs in Maine totaled over \$1.3 million, and the average grant was figured at \$11,250 per full-time AmeriCorps member. Those funds covered the living allowance, insurance, training, and - in some cases - local service travel for each member.

National nonprofits such as YouthBuild, the National Association of Public Interest Lawyers, the Association of American Farmworkers, and the National Association of the United Churches of Christ, assign members of their AmeriCorps programs to Maine as well. Their efforts bring another \$225,000+ in grant funds to community service activities in the state.

Finally, AmeriCorps*VISTA and AmeriCorps*NCCC provide Maine communities with assistance through support of the individuals whose service assignments place them in local projects. The 34 VISTAs who served in Maine during 1998 were supported directly by \$420,000+ from the Corporation for National Service.

In addition to the accomplishments highlighted on the next few pages, the 228 AmeriCorps members recruited nearly **3,000 citizens as volunteers** to work alongside them.



Learn and Serve America provides schools, colleges and community organizations with grants for service-learning that helped make it possible for more than **4,000 Maine students** from kindergarten through college to meet community needs in projects that were integrally tied to their academic studies. Grants for Learn and Serve America K-12 school-based, community-based, and higher education amounted to over \$523,000.

The **National Senior Service Corps** engaged over **3,800 Maine senior citizens** in service through one of three programs. As **Foster Grandparents**, 207 seniors helped 918 young people who have special needs. The **108 Senior Companions** helped 576 other senior citizens remain in their homes, living independently. The **3,441 Maine citizens** who served in the **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)** helped 655 local organizations meet a wide range of community needs.



Grants from the Corporation for National Service to the sponsors of the Senior Service Corps programs totaled just over \$1.2 million in 1998.



Ice Storm '98 Disaster Response

★ During The Emergency

Over 120 AmeriCorps Members across Maine provided immediate and sustained response to disaster relief efforts. Assistance included debris and tree removal, shelter staffing, child care, meal preparation and delivery, and organizing a blood drive. Relief efforts were coordinated through local shelters, MEMA, FEMA, county EMA's, the Red Cross, Area Agencies on Aging, and the Voice of Maine radio station.

Lubec: DownEast Community HealthCore AmeriCorps Members worked around the clock for six days at three emergency shelters (two in Lubec, one in Eastport) . This report came from an AmeriCorps Member at the Lubec shelter which aided senior citizens in the area.

"One of the clients was getting so upset that she wouldn't eat. I discovered that she was upset because she had not had a visit from her son. I found out the son did not have transportation so the next day I arranged for him to come visit his mother at the shelter. As soon as he arrived, she was up and ready to eat with him!"

Bangor: Three teams of AmeriCorps*College Conservation Corps and Blaine House Service Corps Members assisted the City of Bangor clearing roads, removing ice from handicap-accessible ramps, staffing an American Red Cross shelter, and delivering meals to senior citizens and families at the Parkwoods Transitional Housing facility.

Etna: An AFOP AmeriCorps Member helped open another shelter in Etna.

Lewiston: AmeriCorps*Blaine House Service Corps Members assisted the county-organized emergency response team in clearing broken limbs to make roads passable. They also organized and helped staff a Red Cross Emergency Blood Drive.

Portland: AmeriCorps*SERVE ME/MVL Members assisted at the American Red Cross shelter staffing the hotlines. One Member, who is also certified as a nurses aide, was able to put her medical skills to work doing medical intakes.

★ After the Crisis

Bangor's Manna Food Kitchen was destroyed in the ice storm. The AmeriCorps*Blaine House Service Corps enlisted the help of the AmeriCorps*National Civilian Community Corps and conducted an ambitious, early spring (March) rebuilding project. Manna provides food and emergency meals to individuals and families throughout Greater Bangor. In the tradition of National Service, the AmeriCorps members worked alongside community volunteers who were local contractors, electricians, and plumbers. Together, AmeriCorps and the community were able to rebuild the structure from the ground up and bring it to full operational status in six weeks.

Maine's State Parks and public lands suffered much damage in the storm. The AmeriCorps*College Conservation Corps responded to a request for help from managers of parks and public lands. In preparation for summer use by over 524,000 summer visitors, the College Corps cleared January ice storm debris from 97 miles of trail in state parks and recreational areas, rebuilt damaged park cabins and buildings, and cleared access roads as well as campgrounds.





Personal Commitment to Maine's Promise

I will get things done **for my** community to make our children safer, smarter, and healthier.

I will bring my neighbors together to strengthen our communities.

Faced with apathy, I will take action.

Faced with conflict, I will seek common ground.

Faced with adversity, I will persevere.

I will carry this commitment with me this year and beyond.

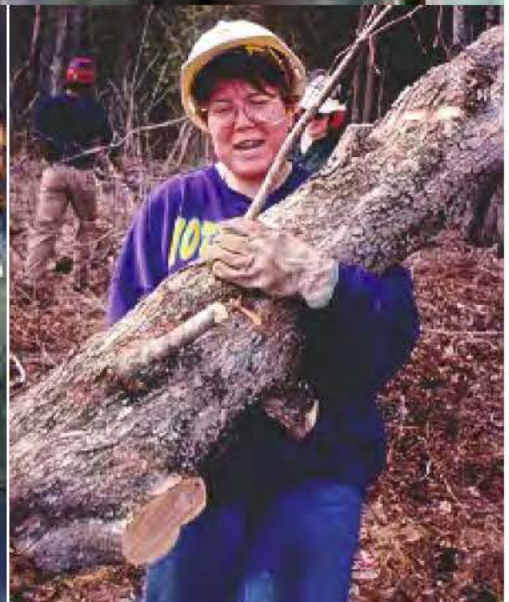
I am a Maine citizen, an American and I will get things done!

September 17, 1998









1998 National Service Accomplishments

Public Safety

AmeriCorps Highlights

- ♦ Organized substantive community service projects at 55 sites for 49 Greater Portland first time juvenile offenders that resulted in completion of restitution work valued at \$10,979.
- ♦ Helped 58 victims of domestic violence obtain temporary and permanent orders of protection from abuse.
- ♦ In situations where the legal remedy for victims of domestic violence involved something other than a protection from abuse order, the Safer Families team of attorneys handled 97 cases; 23 remained pending at the end of the grant period. Of the cases closed, 90% were resolved in favor of the project's clients.
- ♦ Provided information about Maine's protection from abuse laws to 48 shelter staff and 1,549 members of the public. Conducted workshops and community education on protection from abuse proceedings and related Maine laws to 105 individuals including health care providers from rural health care centers.
- ♦ Produced a Protection from Abuse Order video set in the tribal courtrooms with the assistance of the Passamaquoddy health center and other tribal members. The video is available free to any tribal member who needs assistance.
- ♦ At the request of the Tribal Judge at the Penobscot Nation, served as guardians ad litem and acted as juvenile caseworkers after the Nation lost their probation officer.
- ♦ Two summer law clerks served as AmeriCorps members and assisted over 250 individuals with legal problems, primarily involving domestic violence issues.
- ♦ Organized meaningful service projects for 97 juvenile offenders required to perform community restitution service, 84% of whom completed their assigned hours. The work benefited 71 local nonprofit organizations in Lewiston/Auburn. Evaluations showed positive effects on the juveniles: 36% indicated the most valuable outcome of their experience was the opportunity to interact positively with people in the program (AmeriCorps members); 38% rated as "most valuable" the actual community service work. On the issue of recidivism, program evaluations showed 65% were unlikely to re-offend.

Environment

- ♦ Constructed 18 miles of new recreational, educational and barrier-free trails. Built more than 680 new trail structures on land used by the public and held by both private conservation groups as well as municipal or state public land agencies.
- ♦ Trained 60 community members in trail development and rehabilitation techniques to expand the number of citizens able to assist with maintaining trails on public lands.
- ♦ Recruited and placed more than 186 volunteers in natural resource agencies. These volunteers contributed 2,078 hours of service.
- ♦ Conducted seven watershed surveys under the supervision of volunteer watershed associations. Due to the surveys, 64 pollution sources were identified and reported. Corrective actions have been taken on all 64.
- ♦ 30 campsites with water-only access were restored at Moosehead Lake through an "Adopt a Campsite" program organized by a SERVE/Maine Volunteer Leader.
- ♦ Reactivated or activated 23 volunteer water quality and environmental organizations that were in poor shape, hibernating, dormant or unproductive this year.
- ♦ Recruited 657 committed volunteers who serve on a regular basis on targeted projects such as water quality testing, watershed surveys, trail maintenance, as organizational board members, administrative aides and a variety of other volunteer positions that fall under the objectives of the program.





Education

- ♦ Recruited, trained, and led 347 volunteers in water quality testing projects established on 23 water bodies throughout the State. These volunteers conducted twice weekly testing using a strict quality assurance guide taught to volunteers by AmeriCorps Members. Established a data information service that can monitor Maine's waterbeds and alert water specialists to changes and pollution. The data is sent to the Maine Dept. Of Environmental Protection and the Federal Environmental Protection Agency for action.
- ♦ 200 Staff of child care centers, Head Start programs, home child care providers, and social service agencies along with staff of 8 rural health care facilities have been trained in family literacy.
- ♦ Community family literacy programs were launched in Bangor, Augusta, Fort Kent, and Millinocket through the combined efforts of AmeriCorps, PTAs, Libraries, Head Start, and other local organizations.
- ♦ Engaged 400 students and 10 educators in the development of educational Outdoor Learning Centers as a means of increasing their understanding of the natural environment. Taught environmental education to 1,350 elementary and high school students.
- ♦ Helped educators in 10 schools develop 24 service learning projects that benefited 383 students. 126 local volunteers helped guide student completion of those projects. Members did the community outreach and coordinated the outside resources for service learning, a time intensive effort that many teachers do not have time to do.
- ♦ Operated a summer camp that allowed 30 children from low-income families to participate in safe and structured activities.
- ♦ Twelve (12) organizations and 16 schools established new or expanded service learning partnerships with the help of AmeriCorps Members placed in the schools.

Human Needs

- ♦ Started two Teen Job Bank that provided 38 teenagers with life skills and on-the-job training by doing odd jobs for 76 local citizens.
- ♦ Organized Building Healthy Communities that brought together volunteers from 11 different organizations. The volunteers established a community garden. Responses on the volunteers' evaluations showed 78% were very interested in volunteering again.
- ♦ Compiled and distributed a resource book that inventoried all Maine mentoring programs.
- ♦ Guided 23 youth in foster care through the process of writing and publishing "Answers... A Handbook for Youth by Youth in foster care". The book was distributed to 12,000 people including 700 youth in care, and 500 caseworkers and adult care providers.
- ♦ Developed new mentoring programs and strengthened existing ones at 9 sites in 6 communities. As a result 143 mentors were matched in one-on-one and group mentoring activities.
- ♦ In conjunction with the girls and women from Maine Leap, facilitated 2 workshops at different conferences educating able-bodied people about disability oppression. They also organized and led a self-defense workshop for 32 girls and women with disabilities.
- ♦ Organized a multicultural men's refugee soccer league for men and boys from Asia, Africa and Middle Eastern Europe living in the Portland area.
- ♦ Provided technical assistance to 73 child care programs and 330 child care providers as part of the goal to improve the quality of child care. Typical of the assistance was developing curricular boxes, conducting nature and science demonstrations, and cataloguing low or no cost places for field trips.
- ♦ Trained 181 parents on child development and quality child care.
- ♦ Helped parents form 27 associations and/or support groups in order to strengthen child care programs.
- ♦ Conducted service activities in child care programs that reached 2,288 children. Included were tutoring activities for 453 children and service learning activities for 891 children.

- ♦ Established 7 after-school activity clubs as a means of increasing the number of children in safe, quality child care during non-school hours.
- ♦ Developed and expanded Adult Day Care services in Washington County. Program services included memory games, visits to the library, and physical activities, such as dancing.
- ♦ Helped provide daily support to 14 developmentally challenged adults.
- ♦ Enrolled 135 youth in a Healthy Kids program and guided their development of individual fitness goals.
- ♦ Led prevention programs for 283 students in DownEast Adventures classes.
- ♦ Helped low-income elders stay in their homes through 360 visits to provide homemaking assistance.
- ♦ Produced a video on intimate partner violence for broadcast on local access cable.
- ♦ Helped the local medical center conduct the Breast and Cervical Health program by providing information, education, and links to area medical care providers.
- ♦ Assisted with the planning and operation of free health screening clinics for seniors at 7 Meals for Maine sites in Washington County. With help from area nurses, provided screening on medications, cholesterol and blood pressure.
- ♦ During and after the ice storm, helped staff of a shelter secure heat sources for residents in 3 shelter buildings and ultimately relocate the residents to other facilities. Other members helped city officials clear passages to the homes of elderly residents.
- ♦ Improved a total of 60 units of housing affecting 240 people; another 29 units for 120 people remained in process as the year closed. The work ranged from repairs, renovations, and rehabilitation to full construction projects on single-family and multifamily housing units. Other projects benefited elderly, special needs, and congregate housing units as well as shelters.

National Senior Service Corps Highlights

- ♦ 53 Senior Companions served as assistants to homebound elderly and respite care providers for the elders' caregivers, thus allowing 221 older citizens to remain in their homes. The Senior Companions acted as advocates for clients to help obtain necessary services. They also provided individual in-home assistance to frail elders and helped developmentally challenged adults gain independent living skills.
- ♦ 19 RSVP volunteers provided transportation to medical appointments for 419 elders living in rural areas without transportation.
- ♦ 12 RSVP volunteers served as mentors to 28 pre-teen girls in an after-school program that focused on exploring talents and interests, as well as having fun.
- ♦ 137 RSVP volunteers served as tutors for 1,855 children.
- ♦ Among Foster Grandparents, 121 volunteers tutored an additional 1,054 children.
- ♦ 115 RSVP volunteers were mentors to 258 children across the state.
- ♦ Among Foster Grandparents, 145 volunteers were mentors for 900 children.
- ♦ 9 Foster Grandparents worked with 27 children in Portland on reading skills with an emphasis on developing English as a second language. After one year, half the students gained 1-2 levels on English fluency and all students gained one level on the district writing prompt.





<i>Where in Maine was AmeriCorps?</i>	AmeriCorps Works for ME	Born To Read	Blaine House Service Corps	Conservation Corps	DownEast Community HealthCorps	Maine's Promise	SERVE/Maine Volunteer Leader Program	Teach Maine	Safer Families	YouthBuild AmeriCorps	VISTA
Alna							●				
Ashland		●									
Augusta		●		●			●				●
Auburn			●	●							
Bailey Island		●									
Bangor		●	●				●		●		●
Bar Harbor				●					●		
Bath		●						●			
Belgrade				●							
Belfast									●		
Biddeford						●	●				
Boothbay						●		●			
Bremen			●								
Brewer			●								
Bridgton								●			
Brunswick	●	●						●			
Bryant Pond				●							
Bucksport				●							
Buxton	●							●			
Calais					●				●		
Camden				●			●				
Cape Elizabeth	●							●			
Casco			●								
Cherryfield											●
Cumberland	●										
Cutler				●	●						
Damariscotta				●		●	●				●
Danforth		●									
Dennysville					●						
Dresden			●								
Eagle Lake		●		●							
East Millinocket		●									
Eastport					●						
Edgecomb			●								
Edmunds					●						
Ellsworth							●		●		
Fairfield						●					●
Falmouth	●										

<i>Where in Maine was AmeriCorps?</i>	<i>AmeriCorps Works for ME</i>	<i>Born To Read</i>	<i>Blaine House Service Corps</i>	<i>Conservation Corps</i>	<i>DownEast Community HealthCorps</i>	<i>Maine's Promise</i>	<i>SERVE/Maine Volunteer Leader Program</i>	<i>Teach Maine</i>	<i>Safer Families</i>	<i>YouthBuild AmeriCorps</i>	<i>VISTA</i>
Farmington				•							•
Fort Kent		•									•
Freeport	•			•				•			
Gardiner			•				•				
Gorham	•							•			
Gray	•							•			
Greene			•								
Greenville							•				
Hallowell			•	•							
Harpswell	•	•									
Harrington		•									
Herman			•	•							
Hodgson		•									
Holden			•								
Hollis	•							•			
Houlton		•		•							•
Indian Island						•			•		
Kennebunk							•				
Leeds		•	•								
Lewiston	•		•					•			•
Liberty				•							
Limerick	•										
Limington	•										
Lincolnville				•							
Lisbon			•								
Lisbon Falls			•								
Lubec				•	•						•
Machias					•				•		
Matinicus		•									
Millinocket		•	•								
Monmouth			•	•							
Montville				•							
Naples				•				•			
New Gloucester	•										
Newry				•							
Nobleboro							•				
North Haven		•									
Old Orchard Beach	•					•					





<i>Where in Maine was AmeriCorps?</i>	AmeriCorps Works for ME	Born To Read	Blaine House Service Corps	Conservation Corps	DownEast Community HealthCorps	Maine's Promise	SERVE/Maine Volunteer Leader Program	Teach Maine	Safer Families	YouthBuild AmeriCorps	VISTA
Orono							●				●
Orrington			●								
Otisfield			●								
Patten		●									
Peaks Island	●										
Perry									●		
Pleasant Point									●		
Poland			●								
Poland Spring				●							
Portland	●					●	●	●		●	●
Pownal				●				●			
Presque Isle				●		●	●				●
Princeton		●							●		
Rangeley				●			●				●
Raymond								●			
Rockland		●							●		●
Rockport				●							
Sabattus			●								
Saco	●			●		●					●
Sanford	●	●		●							
Sandy Point		●									
Scarborough	●			●				●			
Searsport							●				
Sebago								●			
South Berwick				●							
South Bristol			●								
South Portland	●							●			
Standish	●							●			●
Steep Falls	●										
Swanville				●			●				
Thorndike								●			
Topsham			●								
Trescott					●						
Turner			●	●							
Union				●							
Unity				●				●			●
Vinalhaven		●									
Waldoboro			●								

<i>Where in Maine was AmeriCorps?</i>	<i>AmeriCorps Works for ME</i>	<i>Born To Read</i>	<i>Blaine House Service Corps</i>	<i>Conservation Corps</i>	<i>DownEast Community HealthCorps</i>	<i>Maine's Promise</i>	<i>SERVE/Maine Volunteer Leader Program</i>	<i>Teach Maine</i>	<i>Safer Families</i>	<i>YouthBuild AmeriCorps</i>	<i>VISTA</i>
Wales			●								
Warren				●							
Waterville				●							●
Weld				●							
Wells							●				
West Bethel				●							
Westbrook	●							●			
Whitefield			●				●				
Whitting					●						
Windham	●										
Windsor							●				
Winthrop			●				●				
Wiscasset			●				●	●			●
Yamouth	●						●				



1998 AmeriCorps Crew Programs

AmeriCorps*ACT(Action for Children Today)

DHS Office of Child Care and Head Start,
221 State Street, Augusta, ME 04333
Director: Marcia Lovell
Voice: (207) 287-5060 Facs: (207) 287-5031
e-mail: marcia.lovell@state.me.us

The ME Dept of Human Services, Office of Child Care and Head Start in conjunction with the Maine Association of ChildCare Resource and Referral Agencies place AmeriCorps members at a Child Care Resource and Referral Agency in each of five areas of the state. The members implement direct services to children and their families to improve the children's social, emotional, and physical development through comprehensive programming and parent involvement.

AmeriCorps* Associated Farmworker Opportunities Program

Training and Development Corp. (sponsor,)
P.O. Box 476, Ellsworth, ME 04605
Director: Jack Frost
Voice: (207) 667-7543 Facs: (207) 667-3780
e-mail: tdc@midmaine.com

Team members train migrant and seasonal farmworkers about how to reduce exposure to pesticides, and how to access health, educational and other supportive services

AmeriCorps*Blaine House Service Corps

Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (sponsor),
Water Street, PO Box 268, Wiscasset ME 04578
Director: Gaetano Quattrucci
Voice: (207) 882-7552 Facs: (207) 882-7308
e-mail: gmq@ceimaine.org

These 25 members address the critical issues of homelessness and youth at-risk in three regions. In Bangor and the Mid-Coast region, teams help local organizations rehabilitate housing for limited income families and people with special needs. In Lewiston, Members coordinate community service sites and work along with juvenile offenders who make restitution for offenses through meaningful community service.

AmeriCorps* Born to Read

Maine Humanities Council (sponsor),
371 Cumberland Ave, Portland, ME 04101
Director: Jeff Aronson
Voice: (207) 773-5051 Facs: (207) 773-2416
email: jrhcomp@compuserve.com

The 14 members bring family literacy programs, aimed at youngsters 0-5 years of age, to 7 regions of rural Maine. They work with day care centers, Head Start programs, home child care providers, medical providers and community organizations.

AmeriCorps*College Conservation Corps of ME

Maine Conservation Corps, Workforce Development Centers, ME Dept. of Labor
124 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333
Director: Ken Spalding
Voice: (207) 287-4931 Facs: (207) 287-3611
email: corps.conservation@state.me.us

34 Members accomplish conservation, outdoor recreation and environmental education service projects across Maine. AmeriCorps*CCCM also provides post secondary education opportunities and career training to eligible Members. Service projects include constructing hiking trails, developing outdoor learning centers, erosion control projects and training volunteers in trail maintenance techniques.

AmeriCorps Works for ME

Portland West Neighborhood Planning Council, 155 Brackett Street, Portland, ME 04102
Director: Tom Kane
Voice: (207) 775-0105 Facs: (207) 780-1701
e-mail: pwnpc@aol.com

This team of 6 coordinates community service sites and works side-by-side with juvenile offenders who make restitution for offenses through meaningful community service projects such as playground restoration, tutoring, and graffiti removal.



DownEast Community HealthCorps

Regional Medical Center at Lubec (sponsor), RR #2
Box 380, Lubec, ME 04652
Director: Pam Ferguson
Voice: (207) 733-5541 x158 Facs: 733-2847
e-mail: pferguson@nemaine.com

DownEast Community HealthCorps is a National Direct site sponsored by the National Association of Community Health Centers of Washington, DC. 17 Members serve in various programs of the Regional Medical Center at Lubec, a rural health clinic serving Washington County. Assignments include: youth services, child care, elder outreach, health education, tobacco and substance abuse education, and Medicaid outreach.

Maine's Promise*AmeriCorps

University of Southern Maine, Muskie School of Public Service, PO Box 15010, Portland, ME 04112
Director: Marty Zanghi
Voice: (207) 780-5867 Facs: (207) 780-5817
e-mail: martyz@usm.maine.edu

This 21 member team works at 8 sites (both rural and urban), helping communities develop/enhance mentor/life skills and community service opportunities for at-risk youth.

Safer Families Project of Eastern Maine

Pine Tree Legal Assistance (sponsor),
PO Box 512, Portland, ME 04112
Contact: Nan Heald
Voice:(207) 774-4753 Facs:(207) 828-2300
e-mail: nheald@ptla.org

A team of two attorneys addresses domestic violence by providing comprehensive legal assistance to battered victims and their children. The team disseminates legal information on victims' rights through community education seminars. Members worked with two Indian Nations and the seasonal migrant community to develop permanent resources to address domestic violence. Members also trained volunteer attorneys and social service providers to help leverage resources and strengthen coalitions.

Teach ME

Wolfe's Neck Farm, 10 Burnett Dr., Freeport, ME 04032
Contact: Steve Niles
Voice:(207) 865-4363 Facs:(207) 865-6927
email: teachme@neis.net

Ten year 'round Members and 12 summer Members sponsored by Wolfe's Neck Farm link non-profits, municipalities and schools to developing service learning. These members are certified teachers and demonstrate service-learning in their teaching of local students. They also create opportunities for students to develop and complete service projects to help their communities.

AmeriCorps*SERVE/Maine Volunteer Leaders

Workforce Development Centers,
124 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333
Coordinator: Jonathan Underwood
Voice (207) 287-4931 Facs:(207) 287-3611
e-mail: jonathan.underwood@state.me.us

15 Members recruit and serve with volunteers in natural resource agencies. Those focusing on water quality monitoring educate communities about aquatic and marine ecosystems, pollution threats as well as pollution prevention, reduction and correction, and efforts to monitor water quality and survey watersheds for pollution sources. Natural Area Access members serve with current volunteers, recruit and train additional volunteers. Finally, Members serve in an air quality monitoring program.

AmeriCorps *YouthBuild

Portland West Neighborhood Planning Council,
181 Brackett Street, Portland, ME 04102
Director: Tom Pearson
Voice: (207) 775-0105 Facs: (207) 780-1701
email: pwnpc@aol.com

YouthBuild offers education, construction training, and leadership development for youth, ages 16-24, who have not completed high school. Members rebuild communities, learning construction skills as they renovate or build housing for low income families. Funded by the Corporation for National Service and the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.



AmeriCorps*VISTA 1998 Assignments

For Information, contact:

Corporation for National Service, 91-93 State Street,
Concord, NH 03301-3939

Maine Program officer: Susan Therriault

Phone: (603)225-1450 Fax: (603)225-1459

e-mail: stherria@cns.gov

HealthReach, Dayspring AIDS Project

(Waterville): VISTAs provide health, environment, community development and domestic violence prevention activities to those unserved; work with health educators and health center managers on expanding community-based health care activities in medically underserved areas. Contact: Kathy Calder, (207) 873-1127

College Conservation Corps of Maine

(Augusta): VISTAs develop financial aid program to assist youth in pursuing post-secondary education; develop social service and building trades components. Contact: Ken Spalding, (207) 287-6107

Regional Medical Center at Lubec: The VISTA works with Downeast Community Hospital in Machias to promote use of Medicaid and expanded child health insurance programs of the state. In a joint project of the hospital, the Regional Medical Center at Lubec, and the school, VISTA is helping to develop a school health clinic. Contact: George Clay, (207) 733-5541

Maine Volunteer Connection (Warren): A VISTA assists in development of statewide database in conjunction with Maine Independent Living Services; recruits community volunteers to deliver workshops; identifies existing youth resources. Contact: Lillian Haversat, (207) 785-3388

Maine Coalition for Food Security (Portland): A VISTA works on the Transforming Anti-Hunger Leadership Program (TAHL) to increase anti-hunger education and action. Members create local teams to develop anti-hunger leadership capacities. Contact: Jim Hanna, (207) 871-8266

The Caleb Adult Center (Portland): The VISTA recruits local volunteers to serve as tutors and assistants to Russians learning English in the Portland area. Also created training program to help Russian speakers access social services and support other refugees. Contact: Mark Ewert, (207) 771-0296

Children's Cabinet (Augusta): VISTAs focus on two priority issues: Development of a coordinated system for serving high-risk children, and identification of common ground and development of a system for pooling resources to more effectively support children and families. Contact: Susan Savell, (207) 287-4377

Coastal Enterprises Inc (Wiscasset): Two members assist with affordable housing issues: coordinating and expanding the educational efforts of the New England Housing Network; expanding the rural home ownership initiative to provide comprehensive assistance to potential low income homeowners. Contact: H. Dupee (207) 882-7552

Workforce Development Centers(WDC) (Augusta): The A*VISTAs placed in seven regional offices help plan and develop new strategies for providing welfare recipients with greater access to job training services, effective job placement, and coordinating community-based services (e.g., child care and transportation) to accommodate the work participation requirements faced by welfare recipients. Contact: Steve Duval, (207)287-3378

Maine Campus Compact (Lewiston): Ten VISTAs provide training and education to faculty, staff, students, and community members about the America Reads Initiative. Work in conjunction with local literacy programs to provide training to literacy volunteers and to train other trainers in literacy tutoring. Members are placed at nine college campuses in Maine. Contact: Liz McCabe Park, (207) 786-8216

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services VISTAs placed in Resource Conservation Districts work with low-income farmers, fishermen, and foresters to locate markets for their products and enhance their business skills. Contact: John Badger, (207) 764-4126

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Midcoast Maine (Damariscotta): Coordinated and expanded mentoring programs serving at-risk youth throughout Lincoln and Knox counties. VISTA efforts create new one-to-one matches for youth to help positively fill the time spent in non-productive and potentially damaging after-school hours. Contact: Bill Michaud, (207) 563-5599



Learn & Serve America

Learn and Serve America helps schools involve students (K-12 and college) in service to communities. Learn and Serve America schools address urgent community needs identified by students within their communities, while integrating service and academics.

★ Learning Connections II

The Maine Dept. of Education administers the K-12 school-based Learn & Serve America program, known in Maine as “Learning Connections II.” (For more information, contact Ed Maroon at the Dept. of Education.) The purpose of this initiative is to integrate service learning with Maine's Learning Results.

Maine's school-based service-learning program:

1. Is program based, not project based;
2. Places emphasis on learning, with service being a method of applied learning;
3. Is accessible to all interested K-10 students who believe they may benefit from applied learning situations which are community based and for students who wish to explore service oriented careers;
4. Provides a service-learning pathway for students (grades 11-12) who desire to pursue a service oriented career field;
5. Provides K-12 activities which are in compliance with all state and federal child labor laws and health and safety laws;
6. Provides for coordination and capacity-building activities that are school based and community based;
7. Provides for the documentation or validation of work-based (internship) skills and knowledge attained by the student, particularly those technical skills unique to a job or career field; and
8. Completely integrates service and Maine's Learning Results in such a way as to provide students opportunities to earn academic credit in applied learning situations which result in a service to the community.

Arundel School Department - Change Gang

600 Limerick Road, Arundel, ME 04046

Contact: Thomas P. Doherty

Voice: (207) 797-5770 FAX: (207) 797-7183

e-mail: tom.doherty@aol.com

Good Will -Hinckley Homes for Boys and Girls - Serving to Learn

PO Box 159, Hinckley, ME 04944

Contact: Deborah Staber

Voice: (207) 453-4894

Maine SAD #48 - Service Learning Initiative

Nokomis Regional High School,

RFD#2, Box 4800, Newport, ME 04953

Contact: Don McDougal

Voice: (207) 368-5258 FAX: (207) 368-3276

e-mail: tern@mint.net

Portland Public Schools

Douglass Street Parks Project

57 Douglass Street, Portland, ME 04102

Director: William Shuttleworth

Voice: (207) 874-8225 FAX: (207) 874-8292

e-mail: wshuttleworth@hotmail.com

Maine SAD #51

Service Learning and the Environment

PO Box 6A, Cumberland, ME 04021

Contact: Melissa Skahan

Voice: (207) 829-4825 FAX: (207) 829-4802

e-mail: melissa_skahan@wilson.sad51.k12.me.us

Maine SAD #52 - Making Academic Connections to the Real World

RR #1 Box 1251, Turner, ME 04282

Contact: Doris Bonneau

Voice: (207) 225-3533 FAX: (207) 225-3978

e-mail: dbonneau@gwi.net

Maine SAD #24 - Project Sweet

Van Buren District Secondary School,

321 Main Street, Van Buren, ME 04785

Contact: Roderick Wright

Voice: (207) 868-5274 FAX: (207) 868-3537

e-mail: wright1@vanburen-s.sad24.k12.me.us



★ Project Bond

The Maine Commission for Community Service administers the community-based K-12 Learn & Serve America grant, "Project BOND." This program engages youth at risk of leaving school in service to their community

ME Youth Partnership for AIDS Prevention, York County Extension Service

RR2, Box 1678, Sanford, ME 04073

Contact: Jonathan Prichard

Voice: 1-800-287-1535

e-mail: jonp@umce.umext.me.edu

Youth Networks involving several school partnerships in western and southern Maine are assessing, designing, planning and implementing an HIV/AIDS education program in the regions' middle schools. **Collaborating Partners:** Bonney Eagle High School, Thornton Academy, Massabesic High School, Biddeford High School, Lake Region High School, Oxford Hills Junior High School, Oxford Hills AIDS Coalition, Mountain Valley Middle School, Community AIDS Awareness Coalition.

A Course in Common Good - Opportunities Alternative School

28 Lincoln St., Rockland, ME 04841

Contact: Dianne Webb

Voice: 594-6880

Email: dwebb@aol.com

Students enrolled in the "Course in the Common Good" have progressed towards developing a teen homeless shelter in mid-coast Maine. They visited other shelters, interviewed residents, created an advisory council of community members, met with realtors, zoning and code enforcement officers, and selected a site. To date, they have raised \$60,000 towards the \$350,000 needed to establish and run the shelter for its first year. **Collaborating Partners:** Mid Coast Family Planning, Mid Coast School of Technology.

Alternative Education Service-Learning Course - Maine School Administrative District #17

250 Maine Street, South Paris, ME 04281

Contact: Michael Newsom Voice: (207)743-8914

email: mike_newsom@sad17.k12.me.us

Youth enrolled in the Alternative Education program chose one community project, design a plan for addressing the selected project, and defend it and implement it. **Collaborating Partners:** Child Health Center, Town of Norway, Oxford Hills Community Exchange

Developing an Entrepreneurial Training and Small Business Development Center

Sumner Memorial HS, RR 1 Box 42,

East Sullivan, ME 04680

Contact: Geoff Zentz Voice: (207)422-3510

Youth from eastern Hancock and western Washington Counties plan, design and develop an entrepreneurship training and small business development center to serve high school students and the adult community. The program aims to create meaningful work for local people by expanding entrepreneurial opportunities in the area. **Collaborating Partners:** Hancock County Planning Commission, Alternative School.

"Friends of All Ages" - Rumford Group Homes

799 Hancock Street, Rumford, ME 04276

Contact: Sarah Duchette Voice: (207)364-3551

12 youth administered a community survey, conducted focus groups and developed a "short list" of the most popular options. The broad-based involvement of the community in identifying the need to be met ensured a viable project. **Collaborating Partner:** MSAD #43.

★ Higher Education

Maine Campus Compact administers Learn & Serve America's Higher Education grant in Maine. The program seeks to create models of excellence in service-learning in rural areas and to deepen institutionalization efforts on campuses in Maine and New Hampshire.

Subgrants focus on developing project-based service-learning and youth-oriented service-learning in rural areas, and on developing innovative solutions to the transportation problem. Training and technical assistance efforts include professional development for faculty, staff, tenure and promotion committees, students and community partners, a think tank for chief academic officers, and publication of resources for rural service-learning. The Maine Campus Compact works closely with four partner organizations to deliver this program.

For information, contact Alice Elliott, 215 College Street, Lewiston, ME 04240 (Voice: 207-786-8217, Fax: 207-786-6053, email: aelliott@abacus.bates.edu)



Maine's National Senior Service Corps

PROP Foster Grandparent Program

People's Regional Opportunity Program (sponsor),
284 Danforth Street, Portland, ME 04102-3765
Contact: Susan Lavigne
Voice: (207) 773-0202 Facs: (207) 874-1155
e-mail: fgp@nllis.net

Foster Grandparents provide one-to-one support to students in elementary, middle, and secondary classrooms. Assist children with special needs in child care, preschool, and Head Start programs. Be a loving presence at sheltered facilities for youth at risk. Develop relationships with children who are critically ill in pediatric and neonatal intensive care units. Give in-home assistance to families with special needs and teens who are pregnant and parenting.

HealthReach RSVP

PO Box 1568, Waterville, ME 04903-1568
Contact: Ruth Saint Amand
Voice: (207) 873-6880 Facs: (207) 873-6888
e-mail: hrrsvp@mint.net

RSVP matches people with organizations that need volunteers. After talking with RSVP, seniors can choose a volunteer opportunity that best meets their special interests.

Penquis CAP Foster Grandparent Program

Penquis Community Action Program (sponsor),
262 Harlow Street, Bangor, ME 04401
Contact: Wanda Lincoln
Voice: (207) 973-3500 Facs: (207) 973-3699

Each senior provides 20 hours of role-modeling and nurturance each week at local schools, Head Starts and nonprofit child care centers to at risk and special needs children annually. The FGP meets the needs of two very special groups of Maine people: our older citizens of limited income and our disadvantaged and handicapped children and youth.

RSVP of Southern Maine

Southern Maine Area Agency on Aging (sponsor),
PO Box 10480, Portland, ME 04104
Contact: Ken Murray
Voice: 800-427-7411 Facs: (207) 775-7319
e-mail: kmurray@smaaa.org

The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) recruits volunteers 55+ for nonprofit organizations. They fill a wide variety of positions including museum guides, computer consultants, tutors, friendly visitors to elderly, hospital aides, and drivers. Volunteers include homemakers, retired executives, academics and office workers, and the physically and mentally challenged.

Mid-Coast RSVP

Coastal Community Action Program (sponsor), PO
Box 808, Rockland, ME 04841
Contact: Ms Cassidy
Voice: (207) 596-0361 Facs: (207) 594-2695
e-mail: ccap@ime.net

RSVP matches people with organizations that need volunteers. After talking with RSVP, seniors can choose a volunteer opportunity that best meets their special interests.

Senior Companion Program

University of Maine/ Cooperative Extension Service
(sponsor), Family Living Office/ UME SCP,
5717 Corbett Hall, Room 322, Orono, ME 04469
Contact: Debbie Killam
Voice: (207) 581-3874 Facs: (207) 581-3212
e-mail: dkillam@umce.umext.maine.edu

Senior Companions are low-income seniors, aged 60 or older, who assist frail adults to achieve and maintain their highest level of independent living. They receive a small stipend that enables them to serve 20 hours of practical, compassionate volunteer service each week, making a very tangible difference in the lives of those they serve.

Aroostook RSVP

Aroostook Area Agency on Aging (sponsor),
33 Davis Street, Presque Isle, ME 04769-2218
Contact: Elaine Briggs
Voice: 1-800-439-1789 Facs: (207) 764-6182
E-mail: rsvp@ainop.com

RSVP matches people with organizations that need volunteers. After talking with RSVP, seniors can choose a volunteer opportunity that best meets their special interests.

RSVP of Eastern Maine

United Way of Eastern Maine (sponsor),
304 Hancock Street Suite 2-E, Bangor, ME 04401
Contact: Patricia LeClaire
Voice: (207) 941-2803 Facs: (207) 941-2804

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Eastern Maine is dedicated to reinvesting the knowledge and talents of older Americans into area communities through meaningful, productive and satisfying activity. RSVP of Eastern Maine provides a means for volunteers to serve as a resource and support system for the community, allowing nonprofit and public service agencies to enhance the services they provide.



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To all the volunteers, State Planning Office colleagues, CNS staff, and National Service participants who pitched in throughout the year, the Commission extends its heartfelt thanks.

