

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

MAINE COMMISSION FOR  
COMMUNITY SERVICE

Advancing Volunteerism. Strengthening Communities.

# 2014 HIGHLIGHTS

## SERVICE ENTERPRISE

MCCS partnered with Points of Light Institute and three Maine United Ways to bring Service Enterprise to Maine. Service Enterprise is a research-based process through which organizations assess and re-develop their approach to engaging volunteers in operations. The incentive for undertaking change is that Service Enterprises are proven to be more sustainable and able to double their impact without doubling their budget.

In 2014, MCCS organized the first 15-hour training for facilitators whose role is to lead groups of local organizations through the change management process. Subsequently, two regions held Service Enterprise trainings (Bangor and York County) for a total of 10 agencies.

MCCS learned of local government agencies in other states that tried to use this nonprofit change process but with some difficulty. Consequently, MCCS joined a national research project that modified Service Enterprise assessment so it applies to public sector agencies. As 2014 closed, MCCS joined United Way of the TriValley Area in a project to adapt the change management process to the public sector. The United Way work is funded by the Lerner Foundation.

## AMERICORPS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

On September 11 and 12, Maine AmeriCorps members, VISTAs, and AmeriCorps Alums joined forces to mark the 20th anniversary of AmeriCorps. The first event was a day-long service project by 112 AmeriCorps members in support of the City of Lewiston. The second gathering was at the Capitol Hall of Flags where the AmeriCorps members starting service were sworn in by Maine Chief Justice Leigh Saufley. And in a special swearing-in ceremony at Walker's Point, 9 Maine AmeriCorps members represented their peers at a swearing-in ceremony led by President George H.W. Bush.

## MAINE CIVIC HEALTH AND VOLUNTEERING

The annual report on the status of civic health indicators and volunteering in Maine showed the rate of volunteering held steady at 32% but there were significant shifts. For example, after 2 years of being #1 in the nation for teen volunteering (40% in 2012) the rate of volunteering among Maine teens slipped to 37%. Mainers' participation in civic life also declined. Most notable is the 5 point decline (22% down to 17%) in the percent of citizens who engage with local government officials about community concerns. While the annual total hours citizens devote to volunteers dropped slightly (40 hours/year/volunteer to 38 hours/year), retention of volunteers by local programs remained at 70%. The full report and data for Maine can be found at [VolunteerMaine.org](http://VolunteerMaine.org).

## OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ **AmeriCorps Program Design for Potential Grant Applicants.** Provided technical assistance to five organizations that responded to a call for AmeriCorps program concept papers. 55 people participated in 12 hours of training around essential elements of program design.
- ◆ **Blaine House Conference on Service and Volunteerism.** The emphasis in 2014 was on proven models that could be replicated in Maine (e.g., combining employment readiness with volunteering for SNAP beneficiaries) and tools for accountability such as calculating return on investment. Among the 284 attendees, 84% had fewer than 5 years experience managing volunteers and 64% had fewer than 8 hours of relevant training in the past 12 months. Attendees' evaluations showed 94% rated sessions as very good or excellent.
- ◆ **National Service Technical Assistance.** MCCS staff worked closely with the Dept. of Public Safety's Bureau of Information (SBI) to develop a process for complying with a section of federal law requiring background checks for all National Service participants. A particular challenge was the portion of the law and subsequent federal regulation that requires fingerprint background checks for any National Service participant (AmeriCorps, Foster Grandparent, Senior Companion) whose service puts them in contact with vulnerable populations. MCCS and SBI staff were able to craft a procedure that complies with National Service federal law and U.S. Dept. of Justice/FBI laws and Maine law.
- ◆ **Certified Manager of Volunteers online course.** The CMV course went live in 2014 and enrolled 26 online students before year end. It is a 6-week introduction that is based on the Novice Competencies for Managers of Volunteers.

# MCCS PARTNERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND SUPPORTERS

The Commission is grateful to these partners, volunteers, and supporters.

## PRO BONO SERVICES AND IN-KIND SUPPLIES

Deborah Atwood  
Bagel Mainea  
Bangor Letter Shop  
Bangor Daily News  
Reeta Benedict  
Lynn Benoit-Grzyb  
Black Bear Inn  
Rob Boensteel  
Corallina Breuer  
Katherine Cassidy  
Kerry Corthell  
Deb Couture  
Jenifer Craven  
Meghan Duff  
Meredith Eaton  
Katy Elder  
Emera Maine  
Sarita Field  
Betsy Fleurent  
Rachel Garwood Hackett  
Katherine Gerber  
Good Will Home Association

Philip Grzyb  
Hannaford  
Erica Hutchinson  
Michael Klahr Center, UMA  
Lisa Laffin  
Lowe's  
Gordon Liu  
Jennifer Lobley  
Mary Lyon  
Maine Association of Broadcasters  
Maine Dept. of Transportation  
Maine GIS  
Emily Mancini-Fitch  
Loir Jean Mantooth  
Eleni Margaronis  
Lisa Morin  
Tom Mullin  
Karin Oliveira  
James Oliveira  
Melissa Paley  
Portland Housing Authority  
Portland Public Schools

Regan StPierre  
Suzanne Sandusky  
Portland Sea Dogs  
Anne Schink, ABS Consulting  
Mathew Scease  
Harold Shaw  
Shaw's Supermarkets  
Linda Silka  
Lisa Suarez  
Claire Sullivan  
Time Warner Cable, Your Magazine  
Town of Sanford  
RSU 18  
Michelle Vazquez Jacobus  
Donald Vincent  
Glenn Walton, Kaplan University  
West Bath School  
Alan Witchey  
Tamara Whitmore  
Cindy Whitney  
Joseph Young  
Brenda M. Zollitsch, Ph.D.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Anonymous  
Michael Ashmore  
Bonnie Bagley  
Bangor Savings Bank  
Ed Barret  
Kathy Billings  
Scott Blake  
Cabot Creamery Cooperative

Corporation for National and  
Community Service  
Maryalice Crofton  
Janice Daku  
Mark Hews  
Richard Higgins  
Ronald Holmes  
L.L. Bean

Susan Lavigne  
Gordon Liu  
Machias Savings Bank  
Lindsey Oliver  
John Portela  
State Farm Insurance  
Unum Insurance  
Barbara Wentworth  
Youth Service America

## PARTNERS IN SERVICE

### Maine VISTA Project Host Sites

American Red Cross  
Beehive Design Collective  
Bryant Pond, 4-H Camp/Learning Ctr  
Bucksport Bay Healthy Communities  
Catholic Charities Maine  
Community Financial Literacy  
Down East AIDS Network  
Finance Authority of Maine  
Habitat for Humanity York County  
Hardy Girls Healthy Women

HealthReach Health Centers  
Healthy Androscoggin/CMCS  
Heart of Biddeford  
Kennebec Valley Community Action  
KidCare America  
Let's Go!/Inland Hospital  
Many Flags One Community  
Morris Farm Trust  
New Mainers/Portland Adult Ed.  
Partners for Hunger Free York County  
Penquis

Pine Tree Legal Assistance  
Portland Housing Authority  
Portland Public Schools Multilingual  
and Multicultural Center  
Southern Maine Agency on Aging  
Tri-County Mental Health Services  
United Way of York County  
UMaine VETS Program  
USM Veterans Resource Center  
United Way of Eastern Maine  
Westbrook School Department

# COMMISSION FUNDAMENTALS

**The Maine Commission for Community Service (MCCS)** builds capacity and sustainability in Maine's volunteer and service communities by funding programs, developing managers of volunteers and service-learning practitioners, raising awareness of sector issues, and promoting service as a strategy.

## HISTORY

The Commission was established in 1994 by Executive Order and under state statute in 1995. The 25 members of the Commission are appointed by the governor to three-year terms and, as outlined in 5MRS c373 §7502, each represents a specific part of Maine's volunteer sector.

MCCS is Maine government's partner for the federal Corporation for National and Community Service. Among the statutory responsibilities associated with the partnership are conducting grant competitions for National Service program funds (primarily AmeriCorps State); provide technical assistance and training to Maine National Service programs as well as potential applicants; and advise the Corporation on needs to be addressed by VISTA, Senior Corps, and other direct grant programs.

## MISSION

Foster community service and volunteerism to meet human and environmental needs in the State of Maine.

## VISION

Vibrant, productive communities with involved, responsible citizens.

## OFFICE TEAM

Maryalice Crofton, Executive Director  
Pam Zeutenhorst, Program Officer, Volunteer Sector Initiatives and Inclusion  
Michael Ashmore, Grant Programs Officer, and State Emergency Donations Coordination Team  
Brienne D. Hasty, Planning and Research Associate  
Ray Edgar, Maine VISTA Project Director

Maine VISTA Leaders stationed at the Commission in 2014

Jean Curtis, Patricia Johnson, Asia Alexis, Amy Ezhaya

## FINANCES

\$2,202,687	Total Revenues
\$2,258,328	Federal funds from Corporation for National and Community Service
\$ 319,413	Other cash (registration fees for training events, private sponsorships of activities, grants, etc.)
\$ 857,002	In-kind donations of services, space, supplies (valued according to Government Accounting Standards)
\$2,202,687	Total Expenses
\$ 226,081	Personnel
\$3,069,625	Grants and contracts*
\$ 100,649	All other (includes training, communications, supplies, etc.)
\$ 38,389	State and Departmental Indirect

\*Grants included AmeriCorps State, Volunteer Generation Funds, VISTA Support Funds, and Commission Support. The data above is for informational purposes only and is not an official financial statement.

## FUNDING SERVICE PROGRAMS

The Commission awards and manages federal funds granted to Maine by the Corporation for National and Community Service. After grant decisions, MCCS monitors grantee performance, outcomes, and compliance. It also ensures participants are eligible for program benefits.

### AMERICORPS STATE GRANTS

In 2014, all funds were committed to a continuation year of the AmeriCorps three-year grant period.

Program Name/ Legal Grantee	----- Funding -----		AmeriCorps	
	Award Expended	Local Match	Members #	Ed Award Value
Bangor AmeriCorps Opportunity Collaborative Eastern Maine Community College	\$137,797	\$101,031	15	\$ 51,100
FoodCorps AmeriCorps Maine Food Corps	\$ 78,000	NA (Fixed Amount Grant)	10	\$ 55,500
Island*Fellows AmeriCorps Program Island Institute, Rockland	\$130,000	NA (Fixed Amount Grant)	10	\$ 55,500
LearningWorks AIMS HIGH LearningWorks, Portland	\$690,073	\$334,914	56	\$106,315
Maine Conservation Corps Dept. of Conservation, Agriculture & Forestry	\$351,583	\$999,315	76	\$186,373
Multilingual Leadership Corps Goodwill Industries NNE, Portland	\$260,000	\$400,767	38	\$133,551
The REAL School RSU 14, Windham	\$132,000	\$217,734	16	\$ 60,483

### 2014 VOLUNTEER GENERATION FUND (VGF)

The Maine Commission for Community Service is one of 19 state commissions awarded Volunteer Generation Funds by the Corporation for National & Community Service. In Maine, the Volunteer Generation Fund supports volunteer centers, development of regional peer networks for managers of volunteers, and the introduction of Service Enterprise development process for nonprofits.

Grantee	----- Funding -----		Function(s)	County/Region Served
	Award Expended	Match		
United Way of Androscoggin County	\$ 5,500	\$ 9,580	Peer Network, Online Technology	Androscoggin, Oxford
United Way of Eastern Maine	\$30,082	\$38,448	Volunteer Center, Peer Network, Service Enterprise	Penobscot, Washington
United Way of Greater Portland	\$25,057	\$39,535	Volunteer Center and Peer Network	Cumberland
United Way of Tri-Valley Area	\$45,981	\$69,482	Volunteer Center, Peer Network, Service Enterprise	Franklin County and Livermore, Livermore Falls
United Way of York County	\$38,000	\$61,356	Volunteer Center, Peer Network, Service Enterprise	York

## COMMISSIONERS

Ronald Holmes, Chair  
New Sharon  
URS - Washington Group International

John Portela, Chair-elect  
Brunswick  
Bath Iron Works

F. Celeste Branham, Vice-chair  
Lewiston  
University of Maine Farmington



Bonnie Bagley  
Gray  
Catholic Charities Maine

Ed Barrett  
Lewiston  
City of Lewiston

Kathleen Billings  
Bangor  
Emera Maine

Scott Blake  
Bangor  
Bangor Savings Bank

Camille Cramer  
Milo  
UMaine/Schooners Restaurant

Janice Daku  
Farmington  
Western Maine  
Community Action

Mark Hews  
Poland  
M E Hews and Company

Richard Higgins  
Hallowell  
ME Emergency Management Agency

Mary-Anne LaMarre  
Oakland  
Maine Sheriffs' Association

Susan Lavigne  
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Opportunity Alliance  
Senior Volunteer Programs

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Maine Department of Education

Gordon Liu  
Edgecomb  
Center for Ecological Living  
and Learning

Andrew E. Matlins  
Bangor  
Maine Air National Guard

Nancy McKechnie  
Hampden  
Consultant

Lindsey Jean Oliver  
Portland  
The Portland Sea Dogs

Colleen Smith  
Bangor  
Retired

Eileen Smart (Ex officio)  
Concord, NH  
Corporation for National Service

Barbara Wentworth  
Saco  
United Way of York County

David Whiry  
Orono  
University of Maine Center on Aging



## COMMISSIONERS COMPLETING SERVICE

Mary Catherine Bromberg, Oakland

Susan Hammond, Bangor

## MAINE COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

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