

SERVING MAINE COMMUNITIES SINCE 1983

# 35



**MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2017-2018**

## FROM THE CHAIRS AND PRESIDENT

# 16 Counties, Nearly 500 Communities = One State Of Mind

When the Maine Community Foundation began its philanthropic mission 35 years ago, its founders quickly realized the organization would need ways to connect with all parts of the state. To that end, President Ed Kaelber and his colleague and successor Marion Kane created a county program with committees of local leaders from each county who would serve as advisors to the foundation. The advisors would help review grant applications and make awards to local organizations from permanent county funds established by individuals and institutions.

By 1986, Aroostook, Piscataquis, and Washington counties had dedicated funds and committees in place. Today, 14 of Maine's 16 counties have permanent endowments to support local organizations working to build strong communities in their regions. The remaining two counties should have their funds and committees in place by 2019. Each county fund benefits from the engaged advisors who know their communities and are committed to improving the lives of people within them.

As you read through this report, consider that the foundation started with a gift of \$10 in 1983 and now has more than \$530 million in assets; that in 1993 grants and scholarships surpassed \$1 million for the first time, while in 2017 they exceeded \$32 million; and that the 11 funds under management in 1984 have grown to more than 1,800 today. The timeline on pages 12-13 shows these and other milestones.

This report celebrates resilience in Millinocket and Dick and Eleanor Morrell's commitment to giving. We talk with Dr. Frank Bragg of Bangor about tackling the opioid crisis and highlight a program for adult learners. You'll also find updates on MaineCF's five strategic goals, financial reports, and ideas for how you can work with MaineCF to invest in Maine. And on the back cover we salute Ed Kaelber, who passed away on May 17, five days after his 94th birthday.

Although much has changed at the Maine Community Foundation over the past 35 years, our mission, and our commitment to it, have remained steady. You are the inspiration behind that mission: to work with donors and other partners to improve the quality of life for all Maine people. We look forward to continuing to partner with you in the future. Thank you.



Peter Lamb  
Chair, Board of Directors



Karen Stanley  
Vice-Chair, Board of Directors



Steven Rowe  
President & CEO

*Peter Lamb, Karen Stanley, and Steve Rowe tour the Colonial Theater in Augusta. A grant from MaineCF's Belvedere Historic Preservation Fund is helping restore this cinema built in 1913.*



# MAGIC IN MILLINOCKET

*Nonprofit investments, community spirit help a former mill town move forward*

**The magic is back in Millinocket** these days with community spirit that won't let this once-booming mill town fade away.

Millinocket wore its "Magic City" moniker for decades, rooted in the region's rapid growth as hard-working newcomers from Canada, Italy, Poland, Lithuania, Hungary, and Finland flocked to the area at the turn of the 20th century. They built the world's largest paper mill, rolling out newsprint around the clock while earning above-average paychecks.

Since the mill's final closure in 2008, the town population that once peaked at 7,700 has dropped to around 4,000. Today, hope for renewed growth springs from volunteers, entrepreneurs, nonprofits, and investors who see potential in the area's wealth of natural resources, rural charm, and commitment to economic development.



Matt Polstein, a MaineCF board member, has watched the town's transition since he opened the New England Outdoor Center adventure resort in 1982. "When the mills were closing, as a community we were looking outward for salvation," he says. "I think we've changed to a community that's recognized that if we're going to make things better we're going to have to do most of it ourselves. It's got to happen here."

**Our Katahdin**, a nonprofit and MaineCF grantee fueled by volunteers, has led revitalization efforts that include purchase of the former mill site for one dollar. Earlier this year, North Carolina-based LignaCLT announced plans to build a plant on the site that will produce

cross-laminated timber and create up to 100 jobs. Volunteers include local engineers who are helping Our Katahdin create a hub for its Next Generation Fiber Park, which can provide infrastructure and utility needs for additional modern forest product industries.

The vast Maine woods that drew Henry David Thoreau to the region in 1846 also hold new potential for tourism with the designation of Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument. And last December, the third Millinocket Marathon and Half drew 1,100 runners – more than doubling 2016 registrations.

"There is a strong sense of pride, family, and community here and we must tap into that pride and change the conversation from 'how do we keep the doors open' to 'how do we make the Katahdin region the top four-season destination in the eastern United States,'" says Matt DeLaney, director of the town's public library.

**Northern Forest Center**, with support from MaineCF donor investors and a 2018 community-building grant, is opening doors for more new residents by purchasing and renovating downtown homes into high-quality rental units.

The nonprofit and other partners also launched the first phase of a broadband technology plan with Wi-Fi hotspots along Millinocket's main street. Jessica Masse, a partner at Designlab, can point to the firm's first-place national marketing awards to demonstrate why connecting to the world is so critical for Millinocket. "The digital and creative economy has real potential to become a pillar of a diversified economy in the Katahdin region," Masse says.

Library director DeLaney and others drawn to Millinocket know that discipline, communication, and cooperation will be key to create more magic as Millinocket reinvents itself. "It feels a little bit like the Wild West," DeLaney says. "In a great way."

*Matt Polstein, a MaineCF board member, has worked with others to rebuild the region's economy.*



LUCY VAN HOOK

## Building A Future

Lucy Van Hook fell in love with Maine's coast during a high school study trip, returned from her home in upstate New York to attend Bowdoin College, then followed her heart to Millinocket.

Not quite three years later, she and her "dream man" Eben Sypitkowski (with his dream job at Baxter State Park) are married, own a house in town, and have a black fuzzy pup and new daughter Maisie – one of 23 Millinocket babies born in 2017. Van Hook is community development director at Our Katahdin, a MaineCF grantee that provides a platform for community-driven revitalization projects.

"This small vehicle to raise funds has increased a sense of pride, and a sense of change, and a sense of possibility," says Van Hook. Since 2015, Our Katahdin has funded 31 community projects and helped nurture 26 community leaders to implement them.

Van Hook believes an anchor tenant at the One Katahdin mill site is key to building an infrastructure that will attract other modern forest product industries and sustain a resilient economy. High-speed internet, she adds, is absolutely necessary to support existing businesses and attract new entrepreneurs and others who will help the region thrive.

Ten years from now, Van Hook hopes to see a downtown with outside spaces for local food and beer, recreational trails that connect Millinocket to other places, and a community center that serves all ages. And as the town grows, she'll watch Maisie blossom and join more children on their morning walk to school.

*Lucy Van Hook with her daughter, Maisie, near the former mill site in Millinocket.*

# MAGIC IN MILLINOCKET

**JESSICA MASSE**

## Connecting the World



*A town Wi-Fi tower is on the roof of Designlab, the downtown business owned by John Hafford and Jessica Masse.*

Jessica Masse and John Hafford know the power of making connections. In 2004 when Hafford founded Designlab, the partners' nationally recognized design and marketing firm, they could wait hours for dial-up internet service to send large files from Millinocket.



*Mike Brown, a former millworker, renovates Millinocket homes for a Northern Forest Center initiative to provide more housing in town.*

“Our growth as a company is directly related to broadband,” says Masse. The Aroostook County natives are champions for broadband expansion, but the Katahdin region’s large geographical area makes it an expensive investment for private companies.

Masse believes public investment – whether as a public utility or some other creative solution – may be needed to reduce those costs. “The internet is quite literally our connection to the world and it should be accessible to everyone,” she says.

Masse and Hafford spent six years in Boston before they moved to Millinocket full time. And even after a decade, she says, they’re regularly surprised by the beauty of a new discovery: a hidden sand beach, a grove of giant moss-covered boulders in an old growth forest, an unexplored hiking trail, a body of water tucked in the shadow of Katahdin.

Masse’s optimistic others in the digital economy will follow: “There is a pool of creative would-be entrepreneurs currently working in urban centers who would much prefer to work in a place they love while accessing markets around the world.”

**MIKE BROWN**

## Restoring his Hometown

Mike Brown, like so many other Millinocket residents, had to rethink his future after mill “downsizing” in 1986. Today the former millwright-turned-contractor and cabinet maker works to rebuild the town he’s called home nearly all his life. Brown renovates properties the nonprofit Northern Forest Center purchased to expand housing options and revitalize neighborhoods where asking prices for homes may not top \$35,000.

“I don’t think that we will ever see a situation where we have one employer that had the workforce of the mill,” Brown says, “but I think that may not be a negative.” He predicts more businesses and a diversified workforce for his hometown: “I have a very positive outlook for Millinocket’s future.”



*Matt DeLaney with a rendering of renovations planned for Millinocket Memorial Library.*

## MATT DELANEY

# Seeing Beyond Books

Matt DeLaney has a personal mission to inspire positive change, and he's found a place and profession where he can do just that as director of Millinocket Memorial Library. In 2016, he and his partner Emilie discovered what they wanted here: "a small, rural town, where we could live a simple life in a close-knit community with access to outdoor adventure."

DeLaney had worked for a decade in New York state public libraries. He saw Millinocket going through dramatic changes and knew residents urgently needed a dynamic library that would support its transition. Supporters are now readying the 1963 facility for growth through a \$1.25-million building renovation planned for 2019 – a "future-proof library" that can adapt to changing community and technological needs.

"I think a major part of the library's role in the efforts here is to contribute to the incredible quality of place of the region," says DeLaney. This spring MaineCF awarded the library a community-building grant to establish and run the Katahdin Gear Hub. The gear-lending library will work with other organizations to loan local residents mountain bikes, cross-country skis, snowshoes, and backpacks so they, too, can participate in the area's four-season recreational economy.

When DeLaney envisions its future, he hopes people will know Millinocket for having an innovative and enriching public education system and bustling, age-friendly community with jobs and cutting-edge manufacturing. "Millinocket Memorial Library will be a vibrant center of discovery and learning," he predicts, "and Millinocket will be a place that invites young people to return home to start a business and start a family."

# MaineCF Grants: From Trails to Entrepreneurs

Recent grants from MaineCF to Millinocket area nonprofits total more than \$68,000.

## Our Katahdin

- **2015:** to launch a leadership incubator focused on supporting local entrepreneurs and community leaders in partnership with Katahdin Region Higher Education Center
- **2016:** to create a vision and improvement plan for the downtown corridor of the Katahdin region
- **2017:** to commission a site plan for the former Millinocket paper mill property that highlights opportunities for future economic development

## Katahdin Tourism Partnership

- **2015:** to support the Katahdin Woods & Waters Scenic Byway Improvement Project, which will develop four off-road parking areas and improve a trail segment

## Friends of Baxter State Park

- **2016:** to develop and launch a Baxter Youth Conservation Corps

## Millinocket Memorial Library

- **2018:** to help build the Katahdin Gear Hub to engage the community in multigenerational programming by improving access to outdoor recreation in the region

## Northern Forest Center

- **2018:** to contribute to Millinocket's revitalization by purchasing, renovating, and reselling homes in the downtown, setting a new quality standard for housing, and attracting new residents

# A Fund for the Ages

A COMMUNITY EFFORT EVOLVES  
WITH CHANGING HEALTH CONCERNS



*Dr. Frank Bragg at Eastern  
Maine Medical Center  
in Bangor.*



**A fund established decades ago** to help tuberculosis patients now faces a new epidemic: overdose deaths in Maine that claimed a record 418 lives last year.

Grants totaling more than \$200,000 from the Penobscot Valley Health Association (PVHA) Fund at MaineCF have supported treatment and recovery efforts in Greater Bangor for the past two years. Penobscot County Committee members award PVHA funds each spring with community-building grants.

The fund began as the Bangor-Brewer TB and Health Association in the early 1900s to help local people care for family members with tuberculosis. “The white plague,” as it was called, claimed nearly 750 people in Bangor between 1895 and 1909, according to the *Bangor Daily News*.

When the state took over care and monitoring of TB patients, the fund’s mission vanished, says Dr. Frank Bragg of Bangor, who chaired the fund’s board as its work evolved with a changing world. Armed with a new name, the Penobscot Valley Health Association looked for other ways to meet the community’s needs. PVHA first launched asthma education, an initiative that continued until Eastern Maine Medical Center began its own program. Next came AIDS education as PVHA stepped in to help a struggling local AIDS network get back on its feet.

In 1990 PVHA turned its attention to the growing issue of homeless youth – 200 to 250 each night had no place to sleep, the Bangor City Council reported. PVHA hired a social worker, sold its medical equipment from the TB days, and rounded up beds from a former osteopathic hospital. Its building became Shaw House, a homeless shelter PVHA operated for seven years.

With the retirement of the PVHA’s executive director, says Bragg, the board sold its building and became a grantmaking organization. The \$1.3 million it invested with MaineCF in 1996 later became a related fund of the foundation’s new Penobscot County Fund. A few PVHA board members, including Bragg, joined the county committee.

Laura Reed, MaineCF’s foundation officer in Penobscot County, says Bragg’s leadership and commitment to improve quality of life stretches beyond his medical practice and extends into his community: “His time and voice over the years have helped Bangor evolve and embrace its challenges.”

Bragg just completed nine years of service on the Penobscot County Committee, but the legacy he carried to MaineCF will continue every year as PVHA Fund grants address unmet health needs in the Bangor area. “PVHA remains true to its roots,” says Bragg, to “respect the spirit in which that money was left to the community.”

## MAINECF GRANTS SUPPORT OPIOID TREATMENT EFFORTS

The following grants were awarded from MaineCF’s Penobscot Valley Health Association Fund:

### 2016

- **Acadia Hospital Corp.**, for the Primary Care Suboxone Training pilot project: \$50,000
- **Bangor Area Recovery Network**, for a telephone recovery service: \$23,100
- **Bangor Public Health & Community Services**, to support Community Health Leadership Board efforts to address and improve substance use disorder outcomes in Greater Bangor: \$10,000
- **Penobscot Community Health Care, Inc.**, for assessment of patient outcomes and patient/family experiences with the CHAMP program for newborn babies undergoing treatment for physical and emotional symptoms experienced because of prenatal narcotic exposure: \$10,000

### 2017

- **Down East AIDS Network**, to strengthen the Health Equity Alliance’s overdose reversal medication distribution program and enhance access to treatment and recovery services: \$50,000
- **Families and Children Together**, to produce videos for YouTube and Facebook to change the perception of addiction and recovery: \$8,760
- **Penobscot Community Health Care, Inc.**, to support medication-assisted treatment, including Suboxone induction, primary care services, and mental health counseling: \$50,000
- **Wellspring, Inc.**, to provide supportive services for clients who have completed the residential addiction treatment program and are moving into the transitional housing program: \$8,000

## DONOR SPOTLIGHT

# Dick and Eleanor Morrell: College, Community, and Commitment

Dick and Eleanor Morrell are true champions of education. A Brunswick native and successful businessman – he and his family owned Downeast Energy – Dick has been devoted to his alma mater, Bowdoin, where he is trustee emeritus. “Education is vital to society,” he says.

Eleanor, who grew up in New Britain, Connecticut, has been equally committed to supporting the University of New England, which she attended when it was Westbrook Junior College. She praises the leadership of former UNE Presidents Sandra Featherman and Danielle Ripich, pointing to the expansion of the health education programs, including pharmacy and dental schools, and opening a campus in Tangiers, Morocco.

The Morrells come from modest backgrounds. “My parents and Eleanor’s parents didn’t have all that much money, but they were generous with what they had and active in the community,” Dick notes. “They set a good example.”

The couple love their community and have been generous in their support of local and regional nonprofits, from Mid Coast Hospital in Brunswick to the Maine State Music Theatre, making use of their donor-advised fund at the foundation. “We’re in a position to be helpful to a lot of organizations through the Maine Community Foundation,” says Dick.

Their support goes beyond the financial. Eleanor volunteers at the hospital every week, working at the café. For many years she also has helped to organize the annual Grand and Glorious Yard Sale, a major fundraiser for the hospital.

The Morrells have the community foundation in their will to provide permanent ongoing support for the causes they care about, continue their philanthropy with the help of their children, and help address future issues in Maine. “We certainly couldn’t do it on our own,” says Eleanor. Adds Dick: “It makes us feel more comfortable if our legacy is being done thoughtfully and professionally – this is the business way to do it.”

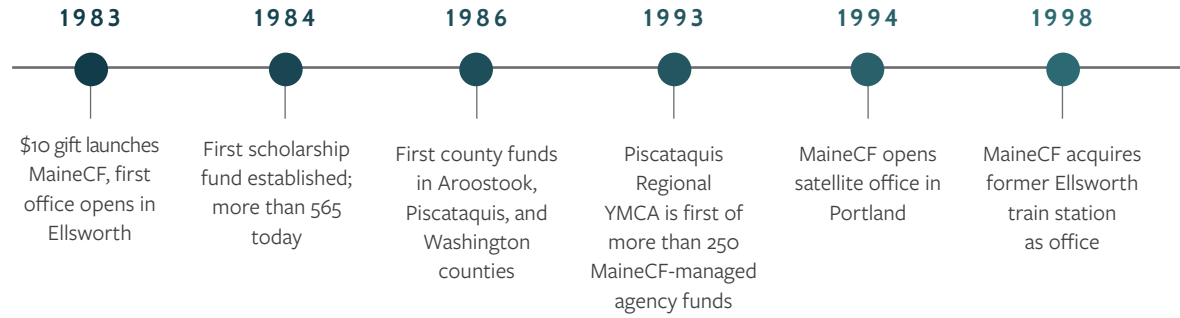
*Right: Dick and Eleanor Morrell in the living room of their home in Brunswick. The painting above the fireplace by Ann Grimm shows the couple’s summer home on Isle of Springs off Boothbay.*

*Below: Senator George Mitchell. Photo Dennis Welsh, courtesy Mitchell Institute*



When Senator George Mitchell addressed the audience at the Maine Community Foundation’s Inspiring Philanthropy evening at USM’s Hannaford Hall in 2012, he started by acknowledging several individuals. High on his list was the Morrell family. He explained how he worked his way through Bowdoin College as an employee of Brunswick Coal and Lumber. “I really owe my college education to the Morrell family business,” Mitchell said. They are, he added, “one of the most wonderful families I have ever met.”





# MaineCF grows from a \$10 donation to more than \$530 million in assets



1991

## CASCO BAY COLLABORATION

When Friends of Casco Bay realized shortly after founding that the organization needed a full-time advocate for Casco Bay, MaineCF provided start-up grant support for the position. Joe Payne became Casco baykeeper in 1991, and helped Maine take the lead as one of the first waterkeepers in the world. Environmental lawyer Ivy Frignoca took the helm in 2016 when Payne retired, and continues collaborative work with others to protect and advocate for the health of Casco Bay.

*Ivy Frignoca, Casco baykeeper. Photo Kevin Morris, courtesy Friends of Casco Bay*



2006

## ENVIRONMENTAL FUNDERS NETWORK

EFN started as a group of Maine funders who wanted to add value and impact to their grantmaking by working together. Between 2009 and 2011 the network awarded just over \$1.5 million to 16 organizations that enhance the quality of place in Maine. EFN continues its mission in 2018 with offerings that include a program on aquaculture in Maine and an upcoming tour of the Mount Katahdin region to learn about efforts to grow its natural resource-based economy.

*Snow-covered Mount Katahdin from the shore of Millinocket Lake.*

2001

MaineCF assets exceed \$100 million

2003

Maine Compact for Higher Education launches to support access to higher education

2007

\$15 million bequest from Deborah Pulliam establishes Belvedere funds

2013

Grants to Green program pilots energy efficiency programs for historic buildings

2015

Grants surpass \$35 million

2016

New strategic goals focus on early childhood, adult education, racial equity, older adults, and entrepreneurship and innovation

2018

MaineCF assets exceed \$530 million



2007

### MAINE FARMLAND TRUST BUY/PROTECT/SELL PROGRAM

In 2007, the Maine Community Foundation made a \$1-million low-interest loan to Maine Farmland Trust to purchase high value farmland, permanently protect it with an easement, and sell it to a farmer at a price consistent with its use. To date, with MaineCF’s support, the trust’s Buy/Protect/Sell program has directly protected 41 farm projects and permanently preserved 10,245 acres of farmland. The program has enabled 44 farmers to buy or lease needed land.

*Early morning harvest in August at Bumbleroot Organic Farm in Windham. Photo Mat Trogner*



2007

### PEOPLE OF COLOR FUND

MaineCF’s People of Color Fund was the first fund in Maine dedicated to addressing racial equity. The fund supports organizations that are led by and serve people of Native American, Latino, African, Arab, and Asian descent. Since 2007, 139 grants from the fund totaling \$908,260 have helped address health disparities, provide leadership development for people of color, and support projects and organizations that improve economic opportunities in Maine.

*Fatumo Mohamed takes a break from working on her high school homework at Tree Street Youth to enjoy the autumn foliage. The Lewiston nonprofit is a People of Color Fund grantee.*

# Moving Forward:

## UPDATES ON MAINECF'S STRATEGIC GOALS

### THRIVING OLDER PEOPLE

MaineCF kicked off its Reframing Aging Initiative last September at the Maine Summit on Aging with a keynote and sessions by Dr. Julie Sweetland of FrameWorks Institute. The Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit uses empirically driven communications to change conversations about social issues. This spring MaineCF hosted 50 participants from Maine's aging advocacy community and 10 from New Hampshire for training about FrameWorks' communications recommendations related to aging and older people. Senior Program Officer Laura Lee will make a presentation about the initiative next fall at the national Grantmakers in Aging conference.

MaineCF's Maine Charity Foundation Fund also turned its focus to older adults and awarded 19 grants totaling more than \$78,000 to projects that increase access to resources, engage people in healthy pursuits, provide transportation, and reduce isolation.

MaineCF also continued support for the Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging for Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

*Lesley Fernow of Maine Highlands Senior Center presents at a recent FrameWorks workshop where 60 participants learned how to communicate more effectively about aging.*



*A television reporter interviews Laurie Lachance, president of Thomas College and a speaker at MaineCF's summit.*

### A STRONG START

MaineCF launched its goal to provide all Maine children a healthy start last November at the Invest in Maine summit. More than 400 people gathered in Bangor to explore how early childhood experiences lay the foundation for future success and the connection between the well-being of young children and the health of Maine's economy.

A new MaineCF program awarded six early childhood planning grants that will allow communities to gather data about their 0-5 age population, map community resources, identify barriers, and develop local solutions. The first cohort of the program, announced in May, are:

- Presque Isle (Aroostook County Action Program)
- Blue Hill Peninsula and islands (Healthy Peninsula)
- Portland (Starting Strong)
- Dover-Foxcroft and Highlands region (United Way of Eastern Maine)
- Biddeford (United Way of York County)
- Wabanaki people (Wabanaki Health and Wellness).

MaineCF also is a funding partner of Right From the Start, a coalition of early childhood advocates working to educate state legislators and create a platform of policy recommendations.



## RACIAL EQUITY

MaineCF continues to build on the momentum of our inaugural summit about white privilege with new programs related to racial equity. We have met with nearly 100 people across the state for feedback about our strategies. Planned initiatives include:

- Investing in Leaders of Color, a capacity-building program designed for leaders of color working on issues of racial equity
- Leadership Learning Exchange, a peer-learning community for white leaders of Maine organizations and institutions to reflect on their experiences with race
- An internal assessment of how MaineCF currently supports racial equity and ways to improve and expand our efforts.

MaineCF and other organizations also hosted a capacity crowd in February at the University of Southern Maine to hear John Biewen, creator of the “Seeing White” documentary radio series, and his regular guest Dr. Chenjerai Kumanyika, speak about Northern racism and whiteness.

*John Biewen and Dr. Chenjerai Kumanyika spoke about the “Seeing White” podcast during a visit to Maine.*



## ACCESS TO EDUCATION

In 2017 MaineCF joined education and business leaders in the new MaineSpark coalition that is working to ensure Maine’s workforce has the skills necessary to meet challenges of the current and future economy. The coalition has adopted a statewide goal: 60 percent of Mainers will hold education and workforce credentials and be positioned for success by 2025.

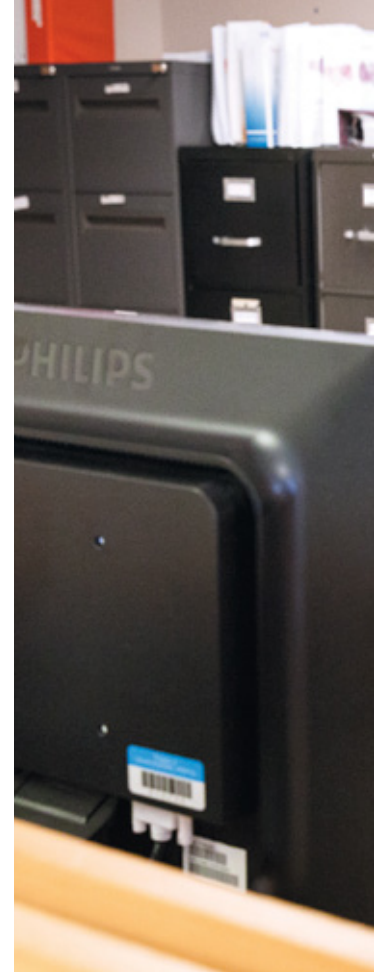
Two regions, Lewiston-Auburn and Kennebec Valley, will pilot the Maine Adult Promise (MAP) program. MAP will test how regional networks and local expertise can help adult learners return to school, with the goal of increasing college degrees or credentials by 63,200 over the next decade.

MaineCF also conducted a survey to better understand what emergency assistance is available on Maine campuses to help students stay in school. The survey will also identify innovative ways to assist students.

## ENTREPRENEURS AND INNOVATORS

MaineCF has initiated efforts to support rural entrepreneurial networks, expand rural broadband services, and strengthen prospects for Downeast innovation. Initiatives include:

- Research about ways entrepreneurs and innovators in rural areas connect with one another, resources, and markets
- Grant support for a study in three Maine communities that will assess integrating utilities to expand rural broadband
- A pilot program and multi-year partnership with Machias Savings Bank to strengthen the Downeast entrepreneurial ecosystem
- Grants to Blue Hill Consolidated School for a public Fab Lab/makerspace; to Dorcas Library to develop an entrepreneurship incubator program on the Schoodic Peninsula; and to MaineStream Finance to expand its business and entrepreneurship classes and microbusiness technical assistance services to Hancock and Washington counties
- Support for events across the state that celebrate entrepreneurs and innovation.



## Partnering to Support Adult Learners

The Maine Community Foundation is all about partnerships, especially when it comes to increasing access to education. Since making a special commitment in 2012 to support adult learners, we have been fortunate to have a number of donors and organizations partner with us to help Mainers meet opportunity and build the state's economy.

Our ambitious goal guides this work: "All Maine people, including adult learners and other nontraditional students, are able to complete a degree or certificate program to maximize their potential." When we invest in individuals and their dreams, the whole state benefits.

In 2017, the community foundation awarded a record 100 scholarships to adult learners, about 9% of total MaineCF scholarship recipients. More than half of previous applicants renewed their awards and continued on paths to success. We currently hold over \$5 million in scholarship assets that are dedicated to adult learners. MaineCF also conducted a survey of Maine campuses to better understand what emergency grants and loans are

available to help students. These nontraditional ways of supporting students may help adult students persist and graduate in the face of financial barriers.

We recently completed a three-year partnership with the Foundation for Maine's Community Colleges (FMCC) to support adult learners at Eastern Maine and Washington County community colleges. Through cooperation with FMCC, we awarded a total \$240,000 to 30 students who completed Summer Success Academies, intensive pre-enrollment prep that helps ease the return to college. FMCC's president reported a retention rate of 80%-100% among scholarship recipients, calling it "encouraging and well above the Maine Community College System's overall student persistence and completion rate of 53%."

Maine Community Foundation's long-term vision improves lives and lifts the economy. We can accomplish that by easing access to and completion of education and training to close the gap between worker skills and workplace needs.





Two FMCC program participants, Leigh-Ann Hanson of Calais and Edward Collins of Woodland, offer testimony to the success of the partnership. Hanson completed her studies at Washington County Community College (WCCC) and her business internship at Calais Regional Hospital, where she was hired for a full-time position. Collins is graduating from the heating and plumbing program at WCCC. He has inspired one of his teenage sons to attend the same program.

*Left: Edward "Eddie" Collins works on a Ridgid power threading machine in the Heating and Plumbing Program classroom at Washington County Community College.*

*Right: Leigh-Ann Hanson completed her studies and is now a posting accountant in the Patient Financial Services Department at Calais Regional Hospital.*

## Save the Dates:

As a member of the MaineSpark coalition, the Maine Community Foundation shares the goal that, by 2025, 60% of Mainers will hold the credentials that position them, their families, and Maine for success. We will be partners at two conferences in 2018 that focus on this work.

**We encourage you to attend if you would like to help us achieve this ambitious goal.**

**MAINE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION**  
Annual Meeting  
Brick South, Portland  
October 25, 2018

**EDUCATE MAINE**  
Education Symposium &  
Leadership Luncheon  
Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland  
December 7, 2018



# EDUCATE MAINE



# GREAT GRANTS

HERE ARE JUST A FEW FROM 2017...

## ENVIRONMENT

- **Appalachian Mountain Club**, for the Great Maine Outdoor Weekend, a biannual series led by outdoor-oriented organizations celebrating the “how, where, and what” of being outside in Maine. *Fund for Maine Land Conservation*
- **The Conservation Fund**, to coordinate partnerships to protect 18,840 acres for wildlife habitat, recreational, and economic development in Hancock and Washington counties. *Fund for Maine Land Conservation*

## EQUITY

- **Four Directions Development Corp.**, to assess on-reservation lending models and lending potential in the Maliseet community. *Penobscot County Fund*
- **Mount Desert Island High School**, to hold a statewide Rainbow Ball Weekend for rural Maine LGBTQ and allied teens. *Equity Fund*
- **OUT As I Want to Be**, to provide training and support to rural schools to provide safe spaces for LGBTQ youth. *Statewide Community Building*
- **The Maine Multicultural Center**, to encourage economic development and business opportunities and provide assistance to connect immigrant populations to Eastern Maine. *Penobscot County Fund*

## FAMILY

- **Greater Portland Family Promise**, to support transportation of homeless families between the Day Center and host congregations. *Cumberland County Fund*
- **Habitat for Humanity of Waldo County**, to provide workshops to increase access to affordable home ownership for low-income Waldo County residents. *Waldo County Fund*
- **Multilingual & Multicultural Center**, Portland Public Schools, to establish a Multilingual Parent University to increase parent involvement. *People of Color Fund*

- **Open Door Recovery Center**, for child care/parenting education and development of Hills House Residential Treatment Program. *Hancock County Fund*
- **York County Shelter Programs**, for the Family Matters Addiction Treatment program to counsel, support, and educate children and other family members of those struggling with addiction. *York County Fund*

## FOOD SECURITY

- **Maine Charity Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program**, to provide home delivery of free groceries for medically homebound, low-income, older people. *Maine Charity Foundation Fund*
- **Town of Madawaska**, to help the local food pantry make energy efficiency improvements to decrease operational costs and increase funding available for programming. *Aroostook County Fund*
- **Twin Villages Foodbank Farm**, to grow, distribute, and store fresh organic food for low-income residents of Lincoln County. *Lincoln County Fund*

## HEALTH

- **Hospice of Southern Maine**, for capital improvements to the public spaces and patient rooms at Gosnell Memorial Hospice House. *Welch Charitable Fund*
- **Maine Medical Center**, to support the Learning Collaborative, a partnership of clinical learners addressing health care for homeless people in Portland. *Frances Hollis Brain Foundation Fund*
- **New Mainers Public Health Initiative**, to expand Women’s Health Series workshops that provide information to immigrant and refugee women on a range of issues. *People of Color Fund*

## HISTORY AND CULTURE

- **Colonial Theater, Inc.**, to restore the Augusta theater’s sub-floor. *Belvedere Historic Preservation Fund*
- **Penobscot Theatre**, to produce “Ugly Lies the Bone” and ensure access to Bangor performances for veterans, active military, and their families. *Maine Theater Fund*
- **Quoddy Tides Foundation**, to develop a Place Over Time walking tour and related materials for Tides Institute Museum of Art’s six historic buildings. *Washington County Fund*



- Southern Aroostook Agricultural Museum, to install an exhibit of the world’s largest potato basket and highlight contributions of the Micmacs to potato harvesting. *Aroostook County Fund*
- The Committee to Restore the Abyssinian Meeting House, to research period clothing, create costumes, and develop a script for a one-act play about the Underground Railroad. *Maine Expansion Arts Fund*

- Eastern Area Agency on Aging, to provide low-income older people and adults with disabilities free money-management services so they can live independent, financially stable lives. *Statewide Community Building*
- Maine Highlands Senior Center, for community conversations to encourage community participation in program development for the new Senior Commons. *Piscataquis County Fund*

## JOB SKILLS

- The Center for Wisdom’s Women, to further develop the herb gardening and social enterprise project to cultivate job skills, meaningful work, and ultimately income. *Androscoggin County Fund*

## OLDER PEOPLE

- Age Friendly Saco, to create community gardens for all ages to address needs of older adults with raised garden beds and intergenerational programming. *Maine Charity Foundation Fund*
- Aroostook Band of Micmacs, to expand the tribal elders program. *Maine Charity Foundation Fund*

## YOUTH AND CHILDREN

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine, to expand the Big Readers project to support more children reading at grade level by the end of third grade. *Rines Thompson Fund*
- Maine Early Learning Investment Group, to elevate early childhood education and parent engagement to break the cycle of poverty. *Western Mountains Fund*
- Oxford Hills Community Gardens, to build the Community Garden Library & Resource Center to increase agricultural educational services for hundreds of local youth. *Oxford County Fund*
- Preble Street, to meet the basic needs of homeless youth and help them establish stability through supportive services. *Welch Charitable Fund*

*Richard Silliboy, of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs, prepares ash for traditional basketmaking in his workshop near Littleton.*

# 2017 Financials

## BY THE NUMBERS

**\$53.2 Million**

TOTAL GIFTS

**\$32.0 Million**

TOTAL GRANTS  
AND SCHOLARSHIPS

**\$2.4 Million**

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

**\$533.5 Million**

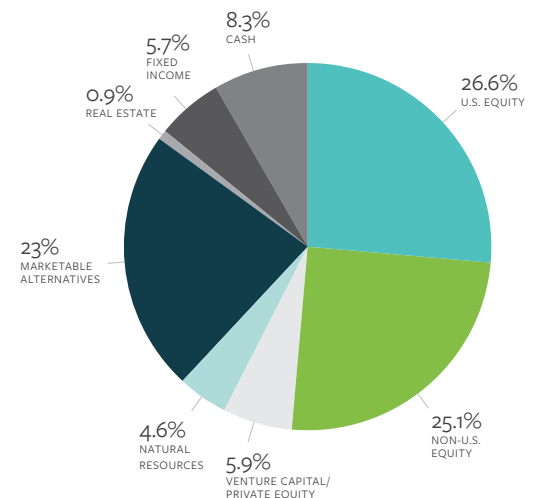
TOTAL ASSETS  
As of 12/31/17

**+14.1%**

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

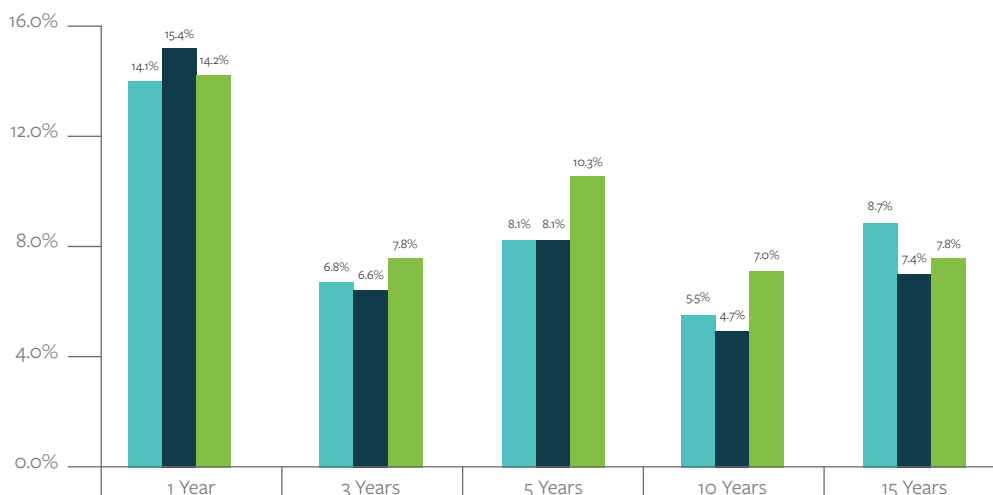
## A DIVERSIFIED PORTFOLIO

The goal of the Maine Community Foundation's investment program is to preserve and enhance the real value of assets over time. To accomplish this goal, the community foundation pursues diversified asset allocations and utilizes more than 30 different investment managers who employ a broad array of strategies and span the globe. Additional financial and investment information is available at [www.mainecef.org](http://www.mainecef.org).



## INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

Effective stewardship of philanthropic assets is the key to building permanent charitable funds that can help strengthen Maine communities. The Maine Community Foundation has maintained a sound record of risk-adjusted returns that has, on an annual basis, placed our investment performance in the top quartile of more than 450 endowments and foundations monitored by Cambridge Associates.



\*From 01/01/04 to 09/30/05, the benchmark was 55% Wilshire 5000 Total Market Index; 30% Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index; and 15% MSCI All Country World ex U.S. Index (net). From 10/1/2005 to 6/30/2012, the benchmark was 35% Wilshire 5000 Total Market Index; 15% MSCI World ex U.S. Index; 5% MSCI Emerging Markets Index (net); 5% Wilshire U.S. REIT Index; 5% Natural Resources Blend (50% Goldman Sachs Commodity Index, 50% MSCI World Natural Resources Index); 20% HRFI (Hedge Fund Research Inc.) Fund of Funds Composite Index; and 15% Barclays Capital Government Bond Index. From 7/01/2012 to 12/31/2016, the benchmark was 35% S&P Total Market Index; 20% MSCI All Country World ex U.S. Index (net); 5% Wilshire U.S. REIT Index; 5% Natural Resources Blend (50% Goldman Sachs Commodity Index, 50% MSCI World Natural Resources Index); 20% HRFI (Hedge Fund Research Inc.) Fund of Funds Composite Index; and 15% Barclays Capital Government Bond Index. Starting 1/1/2017 the benchmark consists of 55% MSCI ACWI, 5% Wilshire U.S. REIT Index; 5% Natural Resources Blend (50% Goldman Sachs Commodity Index, 50% MSCI World Natural Resources Index); 20% HRFI (Hedge Fund Research Inc.) Fund of Funds Composite Index; and 15% Bloomberg Barclays Government Bond Index.

- Maine Community Foundation
- Benchmark\*
- 60% S&P 500/40% Bloomberg/Barclays Aggregate Bond Index (reference only)

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Maine Community Foundation's overall financial picture benefited from substantial advances in U.S. and global markets in 2017. At the same time, our diversified investment strategies have been consistently successful in achieving our principal goal: to balance risk in order to preserve and grow capital for charitable purposes. The following chart provides financial figures as of December 31, 2017, with comparative information for the preceding year.

### Financial Highlights for the Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2017, and 2016

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2017 (Unaudited)</b>	<b>2016</b>
Donor-advised funds	204,051,026	174,340,906
Endowment funds held for nonprofit organizations	93,188,451	80,759,918
Funds designated to specific organizations	79,703,373	70,318,589
Field-of-interest funds	70,754,081	65,080,106
Scholarship funds	48,736,880	40,223,909
Charitable gift annuities and other planned gifts	20,940,513	13,139,465
Special programs	2,056,663	2,050,040
Supporting organizations	9,266,089	8,527,146
Operations	4,796,006	4,995,810
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>533,493,082</b>	<b>459,435,889</b>

### Gifts Received and Additions to Endowment Funds

Donor-advised funds	29,673,141	15,476,987
Endowment funds held for nonprofit organizations	4,578,908	10,702,305
Funds designated to specific organizations	1,963,654	2,070,517
Field-of-interest funds	2,130,284	2,003,410
Scholarship funds	5,820,486	2,809,935
Charitable gift annuities and other planned gifts	7,712,145	7,849,645
Special programs	395,601	870,429
Supporting organizations	883,107	0
Operations	1,177	6,160
<b>Total Gifts and Additions to Endowments</b>	<b>53,158,503</b>	<b>41,789,388</b>

### Grants Paid and Distributions from Endowment Funds

Donor-advised funds	19,131,401	21,604,101
Endowment funds held for nonprofit organizations	2,798,453	2,941,196
Funds designated to specific organizations	3,296,446	2,723,929
Field-of-interest funds	3,500,638	2,973,714
Scholarship funds	2,402,936	2,274,216
Supporting organizations	329,415	310,420
Other grants	557,655	965,231
<b>Total Grants and Distributions from Endowments</b>	<b>32,016,944</b>	<b>33,792,807</b>

The annual audit of the 2017 statements was not complete at the time this report was printed. If you would like an audited financial statement, please contact Vice President and Chief Financial Officer James Geary by email, at [jgeary@mainecf.org](mailto:jgeary@mainecf.org), or by phone, at (877) 700-6800. You can also visit [www.mainecf.org](http://www.mainecf.org) to view audited financial statements, tax returns, and to learn more about MaineCF's investment program.

# New Funds 2017

Donors and nonprofit partners established 60 new funds at the Maine Community Foundation in 2017, bringing the total under management to more than 1,800. We hope this small sampling conveys a sense of their commitment to Maine.

## **William Bingham II Scholarship for Adult Learners**

To support students in Oxford, Franklin, and Somerset counties returning to school at the post-secondary level, opened by the Betterment Fund in honor of a retiring trustee

## **“Chummy” Broomhall Maine Nordic Ski Fund**

To benefit aspiring Nordic skiers from Maine who need financial support to pursue their dream of making it to the Olympics

## **Camp CaPella Fund**

To provide long-term support for camp operations and year-round programs for children and adults with disabilities

## **Cumberland County Rural Library Fund**

To benefit rural libraries in Cumberland County

## **Down East Hospice Volunteers Fund**

To support the charitable or educational purposes of Down East Hospice Volunteers and its affiliated agencies

## **East Grand Lake Conservation Easement Fund**

For stewardship of the East Grand Lake Conservation Easement

## **Hugh McKenna Lynch Memorial Fund**

To benefit nonprofit organizations in Maine and elsewhere

## **Virginia and Robert Parsons Scholarship Fund**

To provide four-year scholarship support for graduating students from York High School

## **Windham Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fund**

To support Windham Neighbors Helping Neighbors and the organization’s efforts to purchase heating fuel for those in emergency need

**To find out how you can start a fund at the foundation, visit the “Donors & Fundholders” section at [www.mainecef.org](http://www.mainecef.org).**

*On the cover: Lilly Taylor, a seventh-grader at Great Salt Bay Community School, transplants an onion with classmate True Ledbetter at Twin Villages Foodbank Farm in Damariscotta. Food from the farm is donated to local food banks. Grants from MaineCF’s Lincoln County Fund have supported the farm’s efforts.*

## Maine Community Foundation Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

Peter F. Lamb, Kittery Point, Chair  
Karen W. Stanley, Castine, Vice-Chair  
Katie Fullam Harris, Cumberland, Secretary

### DIRECTORS

Sarah Chappell Armentrout, Lyman  
D. Gregg Collins, Caribou  
Timothy Crowley, Caribou  
Martha E. Dumont, Cape Elizabeth  
Susan Hammond, Bangor  
Elizabeth R. Hilpman, Woolwich  
S. Peter Mills, III, Esq., Cornville  
Adilah Muhammad, Lewiston  
Matthew A. Polstein, Millinocket  
Anne Roosevelt, Portland  
G. Steven Rowe, Portland, *ex officio*  
Candace S. Sanborn, Auburn  
John C. Witherspoon, Kingfield

---

### 2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Writing/editing: Carl Little, Andrea Nemitz

Photography by Thalassa Raasch  
unless otherwise noted

Design: Portland Design Co.

Printer: Penmor



# Ways to Invest in Maine

When you give through the Maine Community Foundation, you join thousands of charitably minded individuals who are committed to strengthening Maine. Our in-depth knowledge of the state and expertise in philanthropy can help you transform your passion for giving into powerful, meaningful change.

**HERE ARE A FEW WAYS YOU CAN PARTNER WITH US:**

## GIVE NOW

### Lead with Us: Donate to a Fund

Help us strengthen Maine communities by giving to the community foundation's county and regional funds or partner with us through statewide flexible funds that include our five strategic goal funds and unrestricted Invest in Maine Fund.

– OR –

### Name Your Passion: Create a Fund

Thinking about starting a family or corporate foundation? A donor-advised fund, named or anonymous, may be a tax-advantaged and convenient alternative. A scholarship, a fund to support a favorite organization, or a particular cause – we can help you fulfill your passions through philanthropy that means the most to you.

## GIVE LATER

### Give to the Future: Make a Planned Gift

Your legacy can be shaped to support the causes you care about now and provide financial and estate savings. Everyone has a legacy. What's yours?

## TO LEARN MORE

Visit [www.mainecef.org](http://www.mainecef.org) or call Laura Young, vice president for philanthropy, at (207) 412-0844, or email her at [lyoung@mainecf.org](mailto:lyoung@mainecf.org) for a confidential consultation.



## A Legacy of Stewardship

David Moses Bridges (1962-2017), a member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe of eastern Maine, was a renowned birch bark artist, educator, and environmental activist who believed that stewardship of cultural and natural resources from one generation to the next was vital to healthy communities.

Family and friends honored his memory with the new David Moses Bridges Scholarship for cultural, artistic, and environmental preservation that will encourage connections between master artists and apprentices, aspiring artists, scholars, and elders. The scholarship also will support research and publications inspired by and about Bridges and his work and preservation of culturally important spaces and resources.

The First Peoples Fund Scholarship Committee will assist the Maine Community Foundation in the selection of students, with awards to start in 2019.

*David Moses Bridges in his South Portland workshop with one of his birch bark baskets. Photo Patty Wight, courtesy Maine Public*



245 Main Street  
Ellsworth, Maine 04605  
ph: 877-700-6800



### EDWARD G. Kaelber, 1924-2018: FOUNDER AND LEADER

Ed Kaelber founded two significant Maine institutions: College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, where he presided from 1970 to 1982, and the Maine Community Foundation in Ellsworth, which he founded in 1983 and led for six years. As current MaineCF President and CEO Steve Rowe noted, Ed Kaelber had “a unique talent to inspire others to join him in turning innovative ideas into reality.”

Kaelber, asked if he ever thought about the impact he’d made, said this: “I like to think in one way or another I’ve helped a lot of people, and I feel good about that. I think I’ve helped the state of Maine.” Yet in his usual modest way he was quick to share credit: “When I say ‘I,’ I have to put that in context: I mean it was me and the people I was able to get to join me. None of it could I have done alone.”

*Roc Caivano, Portrait of Ed Kaelber, oil on canvas, 2018.  
Courtesy the artist and College of the Atlantic*



Several MaineCF donors and friends have asked about gifts to honor Ed Kaelber. Such gifts can be made to the MaineCF Sunset Fund. This unrestricted fund supports activities of MaineCF and other nonprofit organizations in Maine.