




Maine
Community Foundation

**2024-2025
Statewide Impact
and Community
Leadership
Report**

**Building
a Better
Maine,
Together**



Message from the President and Board Chair

What a year it has been for philanthropy across the country and here in Maine. A volatile federal policy environment and significant changes in public investment have created a challenging funding landscape for Maine nonprofits, communities and people in every corner of our state.

The Maine Community Foundation (MaineCF) is committed to doing everything possible to support the critical work of our nonprofit partners today so they can stay focused on building a better Maine for the future. We are committed to working across sectors and issue areas to make the greatest impact building a vibrant Maine with just and fair access to opportunities for all people.

This commitment includes grantmaking from both our competitive grant programs and from our donors with advised funds who entrust MaineCF with their philanthropic investments. This also includes new initiatives that will impact people and communities throughout Maine.

Affordable housing

MaineCF has set a goal to preserve affordable housing across the state, securing housing for thousands of low-income residents.

Resilience

MaineCF has several new initiatives to protect our food, farms and help communities plan for increasingly severe weather events.

Economic opportunity

MaineCF is working on a broad economic opportunity agenda and committed \$6 million to Maine Venture Fund in an innovative partnership to support promising startup businesses across the state.

Strong local news, strong communities

MaineCF is leading the Maine chapter of Press Forward, a national effort to build stronger communities by strengthening local journalism.

We hope that in addition to reading this report, you will join us on an interactive journey through MaineCF's year and work. You will notice red bars throughout the publication with QR codes that lead to inspiring short videos of MaineCF's impact across the state. This year-long project captures how our partnerships with donors, nonprofit organizations, businesses and statewide leaders help build a better Maine, together.



Ben Sprague

Ben Sprague
Board Chair

Deborah A. Ellwood

Deborah Ellwood
CEO and President



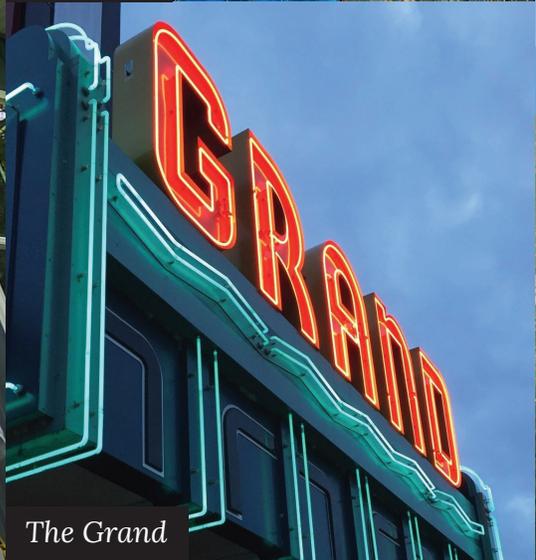
Resilient Communities MaineCF has set a goal to help at least 45 communities initiate resilience planning over the next five years.
Tailwind Media photo



Habitat for Humanity



Birdsacre



The Grand



Maine School Garden



Maine State Ballet



Maine Afro Yoga Project



Torchlight Media

Building a Better Maine

The Maine Community Foundation's grantmaking, philanthropic partnerships and statewide leadership initiatives work only through its collaborations with thousands of donors, nonprofits, volunteers, advisors, businesses and local and statewide leaders who all share the same goal: to build a better Maine.

Each of these elements combined helps to make a greater impact for Maine and for Maine people now and into the future.



Video: For over 42 years, MaineCF has been working to build a better Maine.

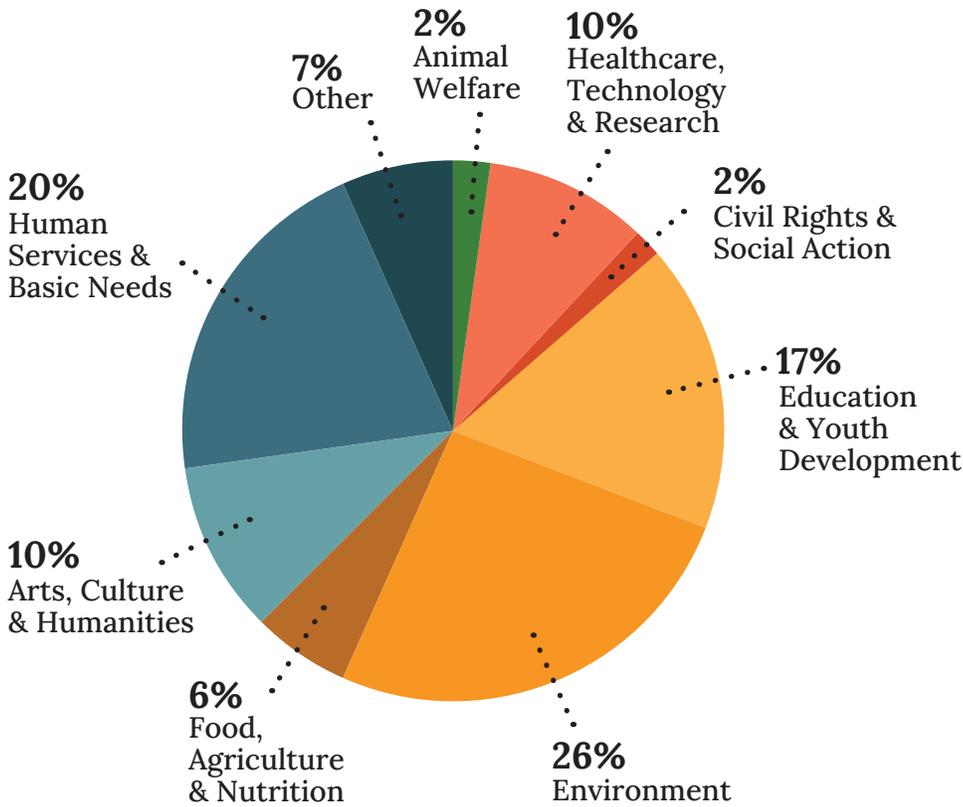


Maine GearShare Supported by a grant from MaineCF, Maine GearShare helps make outdoor recreation more equitable and sustainable. *Rippleffect photo*

Supporting Nonprofits

MaineCF's grantmaking supports healthy communities

MaineCF's grantmaking program is the cornerstone of its work to build a better Maine. In 2024, this included 16 competitive grant programs, nearly 800 scholarship funds and hundreds of grants awarded annually through donor-advised funds.



\$84
million awarded
in 2024

\$750
million awarded
since 1983

16
competitive grant
programs

700+
scholarship
funds

Maine Women's Fund

The **Maine Women's Fund** this year welcomed 53 grant proposals from nonprofits that help transform the lives of Maine women and girls. Proposals are reviewed by a group of women leaders who make bold investments in organizations and projects that build a better Maine for women and girls. In 2025, the Maine Women's Fund awarded 10 grants totaling \$300,000 over two years.

Trades for ME, a program of **New Ventures Maine**, encourages bright futures for Maine women through careers in trades.



County and Regional Program

MaineCF's county and regional funds are permanent resources serving each of Maine's 16 counties. These funds support a broad spectrum of organizations and projects that add to the vibrancy and health of our communities – from the arts to education, the environment, economic development, human services and more.

The funds pool financial resources from supporters, creating opportunities for donors to work together to drive impact and meet the communities' changing needs. Each fund is advised

by a committee of local leaders who help inform grantmaking and ensure dollars meet the unique needs of their respective communities.

This year, the Waldo and Cumberland County funds celebrate milestone anniversaries.



Video: MaineCF's county and regional funds support healthy communities



Waldo County

35 Years

Number of grants awarded: **327**
Total amount awarded: **\$1,045,589**



Waldo County Woodshed

For the past 10 years, **Waldo County Woodshed** has provided free firewood for people in need across Waldo County. The all-volunteer effort provides short-term heating assistance, with wood available to households for pickup from November through early spring. Demand for heating assistance has resulted in its expansion to eight distribution sites across the county.

Cumberland County

20 Years

Number of grants awarded: **271**
Total amount awarded: **\$1,539,232**



Cultivating Community

For more than two decades, **Cultivating Community** has been working to increase access to local foods and hands-on learning in public schools and community spaces. Today it provides paid internships for 50 youth annually, hosts a network of multilingual farm stands, provides affordable growing space and training to more than 50 growers from immigrant, refugee, and asylum-seeking families, assists the City of Portland with its garden program and more.

Meeting the Moment

MaineCF and its fundholders respond to critical funding needs

This past year has brought a challenging funding landscape for Maine nonprofits, driven largely by shifts in federal policy. MaineCF is uniquely positioned to respond quickly, using its established grantmaking infrastructure to get resources out the door to meet critical needs.

While philanthropy cannot fully offset reductions in public investment, MaineCF—Maine’s largest and oldest statewide community foundation—is committed to doing everything possible to help our nonprofit partners meet this moment. Through both its own funds and the generosity of philanthropic partners, here are some of the ways MaineCF has been able to help organizations facing urgent challenges meet the moment:

Federal cuts in SNAP benefits

When federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits lapsed in October, MaineCF directed \$250,000 in discretionary funds to Good Shepherd Food

Bank’s Mainers Helping Mainers program to help families bridge the gap.

Supporting Maine’s LGBTQ+ youth

As a show of solidarity, one fundholder granted out the entire balance of their MaineCF donor-advised fund to OUT Maine, an organization dedicated to building welcoming and affirming communities for LGBTQ+ youth across the state.

Confronting antisemitism

In response to rising antisemitism in Maine, another donor-advised fundholder awarded a \$500,000 grant to the Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine to support critical community and security needs.

MaineCF and our donors continue to be steady partners to Maine nonprofits, stepping up in moments of crisis and ensuring communities across the state have the support they need.

MaineCF Response:

\$500,000

into the Community Building Grant Program, which supports nonprofits in all 16 counties.

\$250,000

from the Invest in Maine Fund to support one month of Good Shepherd Food Bank’s Mainers Helping Mainers program to help offset SNAP funding lapse for 170,000 Mainers. The program supports local farmers.



Kittery Land Trust



Waldo County Bounty



Queerly ME



Wintergreen Arts

\$180,000

to the Maine Association of Nonprofits and Maine Philanthropy Center to help serve and counsel nonprofits in the moment.

\$13 million

increase in grants in 2025 versus the same time last year.

Partners in Impact

MaineCF provides many ways to make a difference in Maine

Thousands of individuals and institutions partner with MaineCF to maximize their philanthropy and support the causes they care about. The foundation offers giving options at every level—from small local gifts to contributions that address Maine’s systemic challenges.

Donors can make an immediate impact through the **Invest in Maine Fund**, which directs resources where they are needed most. **County and regional funds** provide permanent support across all 16 counties by granting resources to organizations meeting local community needs. **Field-of-interest funds** also help donors align their giving with specific issues or interest areas.

For those who wish to support a particular nonprofit over time, **designated funds** provide ongoing funding at regular intervals. **Statewide**

initiative funds advance MaineCF’s strategic priorities, including resilience to severe weather events, land conservation and access, affordable housing, and economic opportunity.

Scholarship funds help students of all ages pursue their educational and career goals. **Donor-advised funds** give individuals the flexibility to support the organizations and issues that match their passions. And **planned giving** allows donors to create a lasting legacy through bequests and pass their values on to future generations. MaineCF can assist with gift planning, which can provide tax benefits and in some cases, even income, while greatly benefiting the Maine community.

To learn more about partnering with MaineCF, contact Bree Arsenault, vice president of philanthropy, at barsenault@mainecf.org.

\$818

million charitable assets under management
(2024)

467

donor-advised funds
(2024)

284

nonprofit agency funds
(2024)

800+

scholarship funds
(2024)

Giving Together

In 2024, more than \$3 million in grant proposals to MaineCF’s competitive grant programs went unfunded due to lack of resources. MaineCF’s user-friendly **Giving Together** portal helps current fundholders increase their giving capacity to Maine nonprofits and helps make the most of their donor-advised fund at MaineCF. These staff-vetted proposals allow donors to respond to urgent needs from organizations and issues close to their hearts.



Habitat for Humanity



“There’s literally no way that we could have the level of investment, expertise and advice without the Maine Community Foundation.”

Kate O’Halloran,
Executive Director,
LifeFlight Foundation

The LifeFlight Foundation is one of the hundreds of Maine nonprofits to entrust MaineCF with long-term investments through nonprofit agency funds. *LifeFlight Foundation photos*

Sustaining Nonprofits

Nonprofit agency funds help ensure financial stability for hundreds of Maine nonprofits

Every three hours, a critically ill or injured patient is transported to a hospital by LifeFlight of Maine. That is nearly 3,000 patients per year who rely on LifeFlight to ensure patients receive the specialized care they need.

This transportation service is crucial in a large, rural state like Maine, where the nearest hospital could be an hour away from a person in need. LifeFlight’s aircraft, medical equipment, crew training and more are supported by the nonprofit LifeFlight Foundation, which relies on contributions to help sustain LifeFlight’s services.

To help ensure financial stability for Maine people in need of critical medical care, the LifeFlight Foundation entrusts its investments with MaineCF through nonprofit agency funds. Nonprofit agency funds are simple and

effective ways to take advantage of the foundation’s professional investment management services to help financially sustain organizations into the future. Nearly 300 Maine nonprofits utilize MaineCF’s resources with their endowments and other long-term funds so their services are viable well into the future.

To learn more about investment services for nonprofits, contact Liana Kingsbury, senior director of nonprofit agency funds, at lkingsbury@mainecf.org.

Video: See how nonprofits partner with MaineCF for their investment services




Statewide Leader

Affordable Housing

Initiative to preserve affordable housing for thousands of Maine residents underway



Video: See how MaineCF is working to make housing more affordable in Maine



We Own It! A Blueberry Fields Cooperative resident waters flowers outside her home. *Photos from Flax Studios*



Blueberry Fields Cooperative Resident



Liza Fleming-Ives,
Genesis Community Loan Fund

Residents of Blueberry Fields Cooperative, a manufactured home community in Brunswick, were at risk of losing their homes last year due to a proposed sale of the land that could have significantly increased lot rental fees.

Mobile home communities have long been one of the most affordable housing options in Maine. Today, there are nearly 480 of these communities that are home to more than 45,000 residents. Ownership and operation of Maine's mobile home communities have shifted rapidly in recent years, from local ownership to out-of-state investors. Given that many mobile home residents own their homes but rent the land, they are especially vulnerable to lot price increases.

All over the country, outside investors have purchased mobile home communities and increased lot rents, which puts low income residents in jeopardy of losing their affordable homes.

But thanks to collaboration by the Blueberry Fields Cooperative community and \$26.3 million raised in just two months, residents were able to collectively purchase the land and maintain their homes. This success story was made possible in part by Genesis Community Loan Fund, which assisted the cooperative with a low-interest loan.

Now, MaineCF and Genesis have partnered to preserve at least 600 affordable housing units across Maine over the next five years to help secure safe, stable housing for thousands of Maine people. This partnership will include supporting resident ownership of mobile home communities and maintaining affordable rural rental properties for people with low incomes.

“For the Maine Community Foundation to make a commitment to affordable housing is supporting a core element of what is going to allow families, individuals and communities in Maine to thrive.”

Liza Fleming-Ives,
Genesis Community Loan Fund

MaineCF will commit its own discretionary resources to this larger investment fund effort and hopes to help build momentum to make a meaningful difference to preserve affordable housing.

Affordable, stable housing is essential to build a better Maine and peace of mind for thousands of Maine people who rely on it.

“You don’t wake up in the morning wondering, ‘Oh, gee, how am I going to make rent this month?’”, a Blueberry Hills Cooperative resident said of land ownership. “We are in charge of our own destinies here.”

Learn more about how to become involved with this critical effort by contacting Bree Arsenault, vice president of philanthropy, barsenault@mainecf.org.

Community Resilience

Local action guides community resilience planning



Maine Climate Commission Members and staff of the Maine Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resiliency Commission make a panel presentation at the Maine Municipal Association meeting. Above: Quintin Soloviev photo | Left: MaineCF photo

Two major winter storms in 2023–2024 caused widespread damage across Maine’s coastal and inland communities, disrupting homes, infrastructure and livelihoods. These events underscored how vulnerable many communities remain to increasingly intense storms and the urgency of strengthening local resilience efforts.

MaineCF is committed to supporting communities—especially those with fewer resources—as they begin or advance resilience planning. As Linda Nelson, economic and community development director for the Town of Stonington, noted, “The Maine Community Foundation is jumping in to support resilience efforts, rebuilding efforts. And that’s an incredibly foresightful and important thing for our small communities in Maine.”

MaineCF is also helping build the capacity of support networks such as the Climate Change Adaptation Providers (CCAP), a cross-sector group offering technical assistance to

municipal and community leaders, and the Maine Community-Led Energy and Climate Action Network (MAINECAN), a newer initiative from the University of Maine’s Mitchell Center that provides peer learning and practical guidance for community groups.

At the state level, MaineCF serves on the Maine Climate Commission and the Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resilience Commission, which this spring released a plan to strengthen the resilience of Maine’s people, environment, and economy in the face of future storms.

Through this coordinated effort, MaineCF aims to help at least 45 communities begin resilience planning over the next five years.



Video: See how MaineCF is working statewide to put resilience planning into action



Conservation and Land Access

Farmland Protection

Increasing pressure from land developers, a growing interest in farmland from non-farming buyers, dramatic increases in the cost of land and farm viability issues are making it harder for Maine farmers to afford to keep their land in agriculture.

Compared with other New England states, Maine has the most abundant land but has conserved the least amount – less than 5% – of its farmland.

Land for Communities

Land for Communities is a newly redesigned grant program. It supports community land projects that increase relationships to land for underserved geographies and populations in Maine. Projects must expand access to underserved populations and either restore Wabanaki stewardship of lands and water or make the land available for community use for food, including hunting, wild harvesting, community agriculture or community fisheries.



Somali Bantu Community Association



Niweskok

Wabanaki Learning

One pillar of MaineCF's conservation work is providing resources for the acquisition of land by or for Wabanaki Nations or Wabanaki-led organizations.

Deepening our learning and offering educational opportunities, particularly for our donor community, are important focuses for both the MaineCF board of directors and staff. Taking the time to listen and learn from Wabanaki citizens and experts will help further refine MaineCF's contribution toward Wabanaki healing and prosperity.

Economic Opportunity

MaineCF investments in education and innovation support Maine's economy

Investing in Education

Every year, MaineCF's adult learner scholarship supports hundreds of non-traditional Maine students who choose to go back to school to earn a degree, learn a new trade or earn a professional certificate or license. Adult learners are either over the age of 25, have children or dependents and/or full-time jobs. But their drive to learn something new or continue their education fuels them.

In 2025, Cedrick was one of these students who decided to advance his career by earning a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certificate from Westbrook Adult Education with the support of MaineCF's adult learner scholarship.

After his day-long shift at a lobster-processing plant, he spent several evenings per week in a classroom or suited up in blue scrubs to learn

how to care for patients in a clinical setting. CNAs are crucial to the health care system as they support doctors and nurses throughout their daily rounds and, most importantly, support patients in their time of need.

After months of classroom and clinical work, Cedrick earned his CNA license last spring. But that's not where Cedrick's educational story ends. Beyond earning his CNA, Cedrick hopes to return to school for a higher-level nursing degree. "I want to learn in life," he said. "I want to go far."



Video: MaineCF's adult learner scholarships increase economic opportunities



"We and the learners could not do it without Maine Community Foundation support. Every single day we're deeply thankful for the work that the organization is doing."

Alice Shea, Westbrook Adult Education curriculum director



Investing in Innovation

MaineCF is committed to building a better Maine and increasing economic opportunity in all corners of the state. One unique, exciting way MaineCF and our donors create new opportunities is by working towards the goal of investing 2 percent of our investment portfolio right here in Maine. As a step towards that goal in 2025, MaineCF invested \$6 million with the Maine Venture Fund (MVF), an experienced fund 100% dedicated to investing in promising Maine-based start-up businesses.

Through this MVF partnership, MaineCF will be helping grow new ventures like Tanbark Molded Fiber Products in Saco, which makes recyclable and compostable packaging from sustainably sourced wood fiber from Maine and New England forests, to replace single-use plastics. Tanbark's packaging is in use at Luke's Lobster in Portland, at Eggologic (which creates nests for birds in captivity), and is expanding into use for beauty and other packaged goods.

“The impact of a commitment like Maine Community Foundation’s is that there will be more startups. Those companies will employ many Mainers, and make Maine a more vibrant place to live and work.”

Nina Scheepers, principal,
Maine Venture Fund

 **Video:** See how MaineCF supports entrepreneurs like Tanbark in Maine



Tailwind Media photos



Press Forward Maine Author Charles Blow, MaineCF President and CEO Deborah Ellwood and Press Forward Maine Senior Advisor Lisa DeSisto discuss the importance of local news. *Brianna Soukup photo*

Reimagining Local News

Press Forward Maine will increase access to trusted, local news

Without local news, there are no reporters covering school board meetings, no watchdogs keeping an eye on municipal government, no uplifting stories about achievements of youth sports teams or notices about winter weather cancellations.

Many of Maine's remaining local news outlets have reduced staff, coverage areas and frequency of publication. Two counties are considered news deserts — meaning they lack sources for local news — while three others are at risk of losing their only news outlet.

Press Forward Maine is a new statewide initiative, led by Maine Community Foundation

and part of a larger national movement spearheaded by the MacArthur and Knight foundations to strengthen local news.

Building on MaineCF's long tradition of convening conversations and listening, Press Forward Maine will work with its advisory council and partners across the state to reimagine, reinvest and rebuild community news.

Lisa DeSisto, former CEO of MaineToday Media and the Maine Trust for Local News, is leading the effort, along with an advisory council comprised of volunteers with diverse backgrounds and perspectives. The work to



Press Forward

Advisory Council

- Emily Barr**
CEO, Graham Media Group (retired)
- Carlos Barrionuevo**
director, Public Media Company
- Jeanne Bourgault**
CEO, Internews
- Maulian Bryant**
Penobscot citizen, executive director, Wabanaki Alliance
- Andrew Butcher**
president, Maine Connectivity Authority
- Judy Meyer**
editor emeritus, Sun Journal
- Prashant Mittal**
director of professional programs, professor of practice, Roux Institute
- Bobby Monks**
board member, Pro Publica
- Kathryn Olmstead**
author, editor, former educator
- Andrea Perry**
program director, Broad Reach Foundation

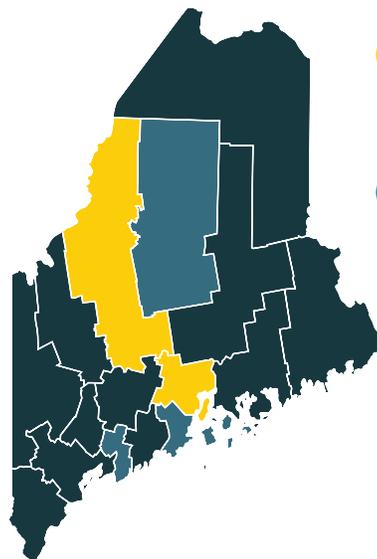
“Local news has the power to inform, engage and bring people together. Press Forward Maine’s goal is to ensure all people in Maine have access to trusted, local news, which aligns with MaineCF’s mission to build a better Maine.”

Lisa DeSisto, Press Forward Maine
Senior Advisor at MaineCF

engage with Maine media and civic leaders to understand the challenges they face is underway.

Press Forward Maine will partner with the national chapter of Press Forward and MaineCF’s existing network of philanthropists to leverage collective resources and relationships to advance this important work.

For more information about Press Forward Maine, contact Lisa DeSisto, ldesisto@mainecf.org.



- 2 of Maine’s 16 counties are news deserts
 - 3 counties are served by one news outlet
- Source: Medill Local News Initiative 2024*

2024 Audited Financials



\$84,376,742
TOTAL GIFTS



\$84,428,959
TOTAL GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS



\$3,436,391
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS TO INDIVIDUALS



\$818,639,246
TOTAL ASSETS as of 12/31/24



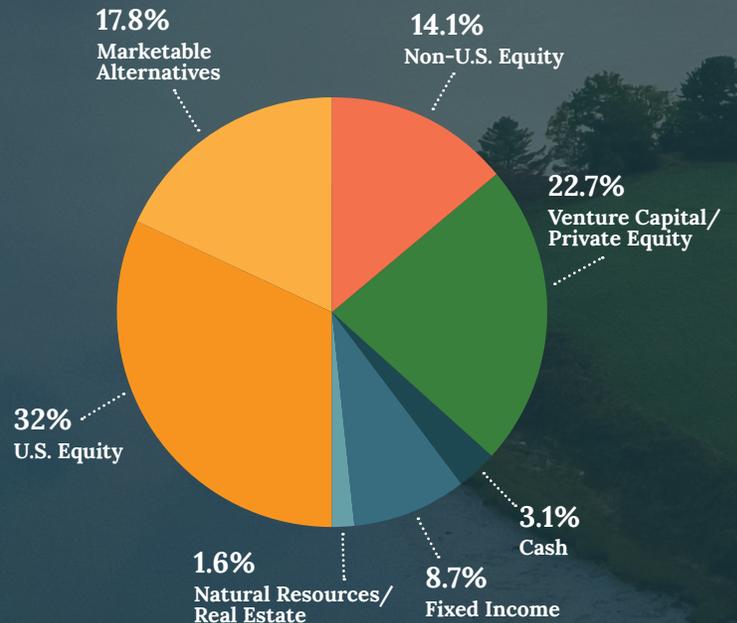
+11.76%
INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

A Diversified Portfolio

The goal of MaineCF's investment program is to preserve and enhance the real value of assets over time. To accomplish this goal, the community foundation employs a globally diversified asset allocation and utilizes more than 30 different investment managers. Additional financial and investment information is available at mainecf.org/investments.

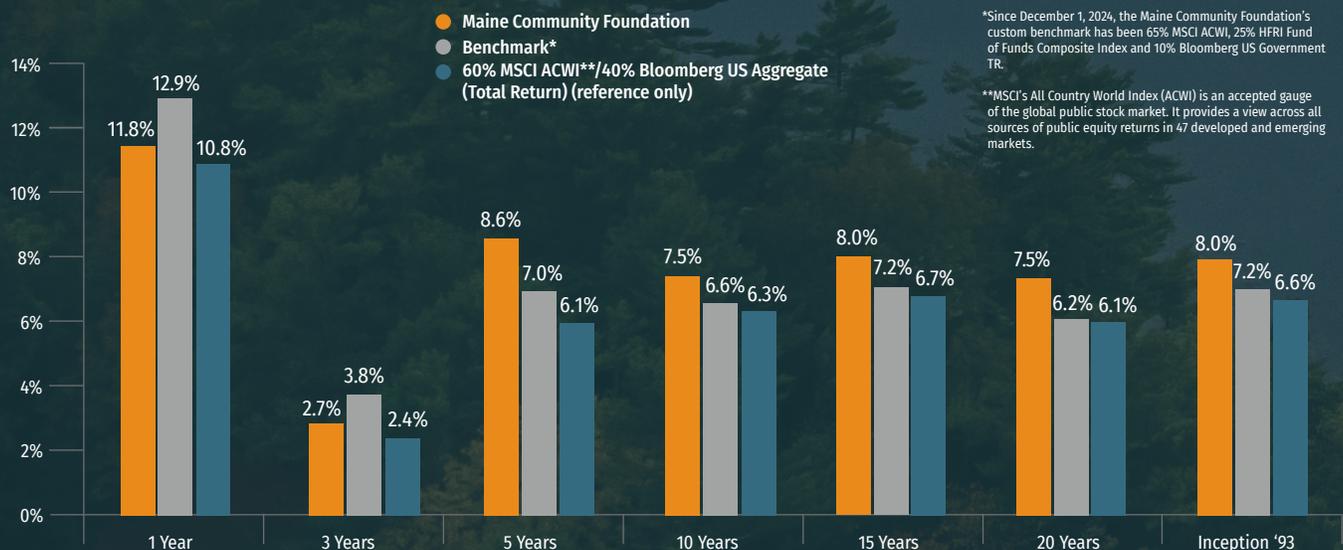
2% in Maine

Beginning in 2023, MaineCF committed 2% of the primary investment portfolio to investments right here in the state of Maine. Of that ~\$16M amount, \$12.6M has been committed or invested.



Investment Performance

Effective stewardship of philanthropic assets is the key to building permanent charitable funds that can help strengthen Maine communities. MaineCF has maintained a sound record of risk-adjusted returns that has served the foundation and its donors well over the long term. 2024 saw continued market gains, largely driven by US big tech, strong corporate earnings and investor excitement around AI innovation. In this environment, the primary pool portfolio returned 11.8% compared to our benchmark return of 12.9% for 2024.



*Since December 1, 2024, the Maine Community Foundation's custom benchmark has been 65% MSCI ACWI, 25% HFRI Fund of Funds Composite Index and 10% Bloomberg US Government TR.

**MSCI's All Country World Index (ACWI) is an accepted gauge of the global public stock market. It provides a view across all sources of public equity returns in 47 developed and emerging markets.

Financial Summary

From inception through 2024, MaineCF's primary investment portfolio has gained an annualized 8.0 percent while our benchmark index for the same period is 7.2 percent. Our overall strategy remains the same: to balance risk in order to preserve and grow capital for charitable purposes. The following chart provides financial figures as of Dec. 31, 2024, with comparative information for the preceding year.

Building Investments in Maine

Assets

	2024	2023
Donor-advised funds	300,609,608	261,141,822
Endowment funds held for nonprofit organizations	154,990,525	148,015,914
Funds designated for specific organization	141,139,309	126,846,053
Field-of-interest funds	109,337,857	106,790,978
Scholarship funds	66,407,362	60,913,731
Unrestricted	23,599,934	21,056,644
Supporting organizations	11,086,861	10,052,355
Charitable gift annuities and other planned gifts	6,903,678	6,132,721
Special initiatives	4,564,112	1,740,708
Total Assets	818,639,246	742,690,925

Gifts

	2024	2023
Donor-advised funds	63,299,153	33,164,528
Endowment funds held for nonprofit organizations	4,376,019	11,378,118
Funds designated for specific organization	3,567,882	9,197,550
Field-of-interest funds	3,668,146	6,772,653
Scholarship funds	2,448,814	583,557
Unrestricted	1,033,813	293,362
Supporting organizations	2,894,057	-
Special initiatives	3,088,859	980,766
Total Gifts	84,376,742	62,370,534

Grants

	2024	2023
Donor-advised funds	48,306,511	44,959,811
Endowment funds held for nonprofit organizations	14,954,281	5,602,459
Funds designated for specific organization	4,533,317	4,286,809
Field-of-interest funds	12,159,663	4,493,378
Scholarship funds	3,436,391	3,039,124
Unrestricted	192,520	220,172
Supporting organizations	423,930	304,843
Special initiatives	422,346	1,993,130
Total Grants	84,428,959	64,899,725

Responsible Investing

Maine Community Foundation is committed to ensuring that Maine is a safe, welcoming, and accepting place for everyone. This commitment extends to management of the community foundation's investment assets through work with investment managers who demonstrate a shared commitment to MaineCF values.



Visit www.mainecef.org to view audited financial statements, tax returns, and to learn more about the community foundation's investment program.



MaineCF Board of Directors

Ben Sprague, Bangor, **Chair**
Amber Lambke, Skowhegan, **Vice Chair**
Sarah Chappell Armentrout, Lyman
Brian Bernatchez, Belgrade
Scot Draeger, Falmouth
Deborah Ellwood, Somesville, **ex officio**
Michelle Hayes, Scarborough
Mark Howard, Boothbay
Ingrid Kiefer, Boothbay Harbor
Julie Mallett, Dover-Foxcroft
John Bear Mitchell, Penobscot Nation
Adilah Muhammad, Lewiston
Brooke Parish, Castine
Lili Pew, Seal Harbor
Alistair Raymond, Yarmouth
Raymond Rice, Presque Isle
Charles Rudelitch, Harrington
Claude Rwaganje, Portland
Shawn Yardley, Bowerbank

Our Vision

Maine is a vibrant and equitable place where people and communities thrive.

Our Mission

The Maine Community Foundation brings people and resources together to build a better Maine.

2024-2025 Annual Report

Writing/Editing: Taylor Mace
Digital Production/Design: Alecia Sudmeyer
Printer: Penmore Lithographers

Cover Photos from left to right: Alan Day Community Center Greenhouse photo. Friends of Congress Street Park photo. Palaver Strings photo. Millinocket, Maine, Josh Linscott photo. Maine State Capitol, Quintin Soloviev photo. Scholarship Student, Tailwind Media photo. Scholarship Student, Tailwind Media photo. Wabanaki Public Health and Wellness photo. Waldo County Bounty photo. Blueberry Fields Cooperative, Tailwind Media photo.

Maine Community Foundation is fortunate to welcome three new community leaders to its Board of Directors, providing diverse backgrounds and experiences from different corners of the state as we work to build a better Maine.



Michelle Hayes

Michelle Hayes worked for 25 years in executive leadership at Hannaford Supermarkets and co-founded the human resources consulting firm Smith, Kjelgaard & Hayes. She is past chair of the Good Shepherd Food Bank's Board of Directors and served as an Olympia Snowe leadership advisor. She has served as a board member for the Portland Symphony Orchestra, Cumberland County YMCA, Kids First Center and Ketcha Outdoors.



John Bear Mitchell

John Bear Mitchell is a citizen of the Penobscot Nation of Indian Island. He is the UMaine System office Native American waiver and educational program coordinator, University of Maine's (UMO) Wabanaki Center outreach and student development coordinator, and a lecturer of Wabanaki and multicultural studies. He has served on numerous museum and educational boards throughout the state with missions based on Maine's Wabanaki people. Mitchell is also a singer and storyteller and has been featured on PBS and HBO.



Charles Rudelitch

Charles Rudelitch has served as executive director of the Sunrise County Economic Council since 2014 and was previously staff attorney for Pine Tree Legal Assistance in Hancock and Washington counties. Rudelitch currently serves on the boards of Coastal Enterprises, Inc., The Maine Space Corporation and Pine Tree Legal Assistance. He has a B.S. in applied history from Carnegie Mellon University, a M.S. in resource economics and policy from the University of Maine and a J.D. from the University of Maine School of Law.



Maine
Community Foundation

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MaineCF: Built for the Big Stuff



Donor generosity helps MaineCF to build a better Maine.

Down East Magazine / Dave Waddell photo

More ways you can support our work:

For Donors

Support solutions to the issues you care about most

For Advisors

Plan for your clients' philanthropic legacies

For Nonprofits

Partner on opportunities that advance your mission

For Maine People

Engage more fully in your community

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