

# making every penny count

PHILANTHROPY REPORT | AUGUST 2021



**What can we say?**  
**When the need was greater than we've ever known, you answered our prayers:**  
**\$213,479 in total gifts!**

The numbers are in from our 2021 Spring Appeal — and they prove that you really went above and beyond to help us offer critical support to struggling neighbors during one of the most traumatic years in recent memory!

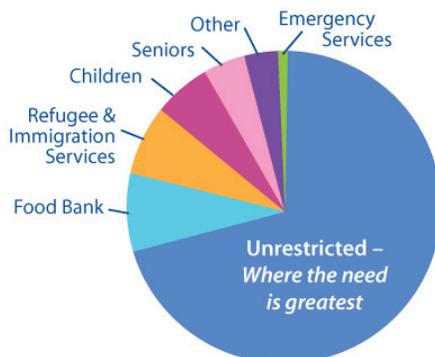
What more can we say? One look at how much you gave, and how much we are now able to do, and there's nothing left to say, but THANK YOU and God bless you!

**Funds raised increased by 2.5% over 2020**

**Total number of gifts grew by 7.6%**

**Number of donors increased by 2.4%**

**We welcomed 122 first time donors!**



**High fashion finds for pennies?** Only one place could land such a miraculous treasure trove — our very own *Threads of Hope* thrift store!

When COVID forced a friend to permanently close their high-end women's boutique in Sturbridge, Massachusetts, more than 700 items (still on store racks with price tags attached) plus 10 boxes of sweaters and purses ended up in Maine, in the basement of Amy and Glenn Jajliardo. A retired military man, Glenn created an inventory sheet to catalog the items — when all the price tags were added up, the total came out to nearly \$70,000, not counting the items in all the boxes!

Not needing a boutique's worth of ladies' fashions, Glenn and Amy contacted Catholic Charities' Bill Wood, who knew a great thrift store donation when he saw one. He loaded up the racks, boxes, and all and took it straight to the Sanford *Threads of Hope* thrift store, at 1364 Main Street, where it will soon be retagged and ready for sale — be sure to swing by to find your very own deal of the century!

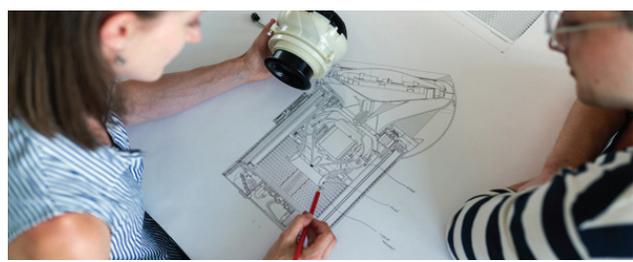


When just a few weeks of groceries are a lifesaver, Hunger & Relief Services director Dixie Shaw answers the call, or in this case, the text. "Having donations that we can use to buy grocery gift cards for someone going through a rough patch is a Godsend," notes Shaw. "To a family whose work hours were cut during the pandemic – who may need diapers or formula or has a family member with special dietary requirements – this help means the world to people in need."

According to Feeding America, approximately 85,000 Mainers experience very low food security, up 10 percent from pre-pandemic levels.

Thanks to you, our neighbors in need always have someone to turn to!

I hate having to ask. I start a job only getting 5-10 hrs a week for first few weeks. I can't get ebt back until I get my first 2 pay stubs and get paid bi weekly so I was wondering if you possible could help with some food/ groceries to help with the next month and then should be golden and have stamps again



Being able to find smart solutions to complex problems is essential if you're a nonprofit — or a student of Dr. Ivan Most, Adjunct Professor of Engineering at the University of Southern Maine.

For the past several years, Dr. Most's students have used their math, science, and engineering skills to help Catholic Charities tackle a number of infrastructure issues, including the installation of two natural gas boilers at our Auburn campus, infrared heating units at a warehouse and

thrift store, and currently in the planning stages are overhead fans and a special floor treatment solution for a sweating slab in the Monticello Food Bank.

This year's project saw four USM Engineering students log 60 hours of service to research, estimate and calculate annual savings before presenting their solution to CCM's Chief Financial Officer, Dan Bazemore, who then consulted with Energy Audits, Ltd. to implement their recommendations. "Over the course of our work with USM, I estimate we've saved thousands of dollars in our buildings' operational costs, and that's not including the savings on if we'd had to hire professional consultants to review and recommend solutions. In addition, we have become more energy efficient and provided a safer and more comfortable working environment for our staff," says Bazemore. As a non-profit, any savings cannot be understated, as it means more money goes toward providing services to the most vulnerable populations here in Maine.

It's just another way we're making every penny count — while paying forward the RICHES of community service!

Catholic Charities + Community Partners = LASTING IMPACT

Simply the best! Thanks to all our 2021 Community Partners — your support is critical to our ability to provide help and create hope here in Maine.

<p><b>PLATINUM</b></p>   			<p><b>CRYSTAL</b></p>  		<p><b>CRUSADER</b></p> 
<p><b>CHAMPION</b></p>  		<p><b>CATALYST</b></p>   			

Help us go green and make your donation dollars go further

by emailing development@ccmaine.org with "subscribe" in the subject line to receive future newsletters via email.