Calling on Community Connections

In a small town like Sanford, the grapevine works quickly — maybe even in mysterious ways. When Felix Goodrich mentioned to a friend that his roof needed repair, a good Samaritan named Mary Gannaway was close enough to hear. Soon after, Mary approached Frank Daggett, CCM’s Parish Social Ministries director, who made a few calls. Next, the community network snapped into action.

“I called the Knights of Columbus first; they surveyed the house, trimmed some trees, and realized the scope of repairs was beyond what they could do alone. The outreach expanded from there,” Frank explained.

Mary approached Partners Bank, which led her to Cassie Mosher, who happens to be president of the Sanford-Springvale Rotary Club. This connection led to several more community organizations, churches, businesses, and even donors from other states, to pitch in with donations. Long story short: Felix Goodrich’s house has a new roof, a paint job, some tree work, and a few other repairs, for good measure.

Frank had a chance meeting with Felix at a recent Parish Social Ministry event. “Felix recalled praying for something to help him out of a hopeless place,” Frank said. “The day he saw a big line of cars and trucks carrying Knights of Columbus members with trimmers and chainsaws approach his house, he realized his prayers were answered. I’m heartened that CCM could be a part of this effort.”

For more on this story, visit ccmaine.org/goodrich.
A New Call to Service

In mid-July, CCM began a pilot program to contribute help and hope to Asylum Seeking families in Southern Maine. Recognizing our 40+ years of experience successfully resettling refugees here in Maine, the State and the city of Portland asked for our assistance with a unique project that places CCM staff on-site at a Saco hotel property that the State secured for asylum seekers to stay. Through a contract with the City of Portland, we are providing case management services, including assistance in enrolling in any public benefits for which they are eligible, adult and children’s school enrollment, support in filing documents to petition for asylum, arranging for transportation to access community services, connecting with health care services, etc.

Will You Be a Hope Keeper?

When you support CCM with an automatic monthly donation, you join a treasured circle of donors who are committed to providing consistent, reliable support for our 20+ programs statewide and to making our mission possible. Hope Keepers’ gifts help us save administrative costs and time, so the impact of your donation is truly maximized.

Interested? Visit our online giving page at ccmaine.org/give

Asylum Seekers have had a warm welcome in Saco.

“It is important that when called to serve, CCM answers to the best of our ability. This work is in keeping with Catholic social teachings to welcome the stranger and our Agency’s mission to provide help and hope to the most vulnerable among us. We are excited to welcome and serve these New Mainers with an open heart.” – Steve Letourneau

For more information, visit ccmaine.org/asylum-seekers-hotel-project

More Room for Recovery

We are pleased to announce that our St. Francis Recovery Center (SFRC) in Auburn was awarded a grant contract to provide service to priority populations facing alcohol and drug use disorders. This will allow St. Francis to increase its services and capacity from 16 to 28 recovery residents by year end.

“We are in a critical time of rising opioid overdoses in our state,” said Jeffrey Tiner, Chief Program Officer, Clinical Services at CCM. “SFRC’s decades of experience and this increased capacity will strengthen our mission to empower and strengthen individuals and families. Our treatment center does not turn clients away because they do not have the money to pay, and we are thrilled to be able to reach more people in need.”

Recovery has room to grow in Auburn.