

Catholic Charities Maine making every penny count

PHILANTHROPY UPDATE

WINTER 2020

A Gift of Warmth, Straight from the Heart

Catholic Charities Maine's *Wall of Warmth* took the chill off a cold Friday in December by offering up 100+ gift bags with donated handmade winter hats and scarves on the iron fence at CCM Central Services in Portland, free for the taking to anyone in need.

For Chief Communications and Development Officer Judy Katzel, the event was a simple, "no questions asked" way to help others: "We want to try to help folks stay warm and safe this winter by inviting them to come by and take what they need."

Thanks to the Nifty Needlers in Richmond, Virginia and Boomer Loomers in The Villages, Florida for making the scarves and hats and to all the Catholic Charities volunteers and staff who sorted and labeled the donations. Your generosity really warms our hearts!

The Gift of Giving

"Do all the good you can
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can."

— John Wesley



Grants of Note

Since July 2019, we've been awarded a number of grants to support the work we do. Here are a few of note!

- **\$35,000 from the Sewall Foundation** — for our Counseling Services program to provide more assistance to persons affected by substance use disorder.
- **\$67,000 from multiple foundations/donors (Betterment, Sewall, Maine Community Foundation, CCUSA, USCCB)** — for emergency response and helping with cultural orientations, navigating community resources, language translation/interpretation, and connections to community groups.
- **\$80,000 for Fikiria from multiple members of the Alford Family** — to help female immigrants learn about entrepreneurship and acquire stitching skills that will help them earn income with Maine textile manufacturers or independently.
- **\$25,000 for SEARCH project (Ladd Foundation, Maine Community Foundation)** — to help with training and recruiting volunteers to provide assistance to isolated seniors with social companionship, transportation, and other community services; Funds also support outreach to isolated seniors with a “matching” process that pairs volunteers based on mutual interests, compatible needs/skills, and a shared desire to form meaningful relationships.

Celebrate 2020 with a New Calendar!

On December 6, CCM's Office of Refugee Services and Portland-based nonprofit Chance To Advance, held a party to launch the 2020 Celebrating Diversity in Maine calendar! This special calendar features 12 stories of immigrants who settled in Maine to rebuild their lives in the United States. The calendar is being sent to schools throughout Maine as a teaching tool and reminder of the importance of equity, diversity and inclusion at all levels in our communities.

You can watch their stories in video on our YouTube channel.



Together we 'kin do it!

Our Director of Hunger & Relief Services Dixie Shaw was thrilled to receive a \$5,000 donation from the Dunkin Joy in Childhood Foundation to help our efforts to Feed the County. A month long food drive and donation collection was also held at six Dunkin locations in November in celebration of the new Caribou Dunkin location. We appreciate the support of local businesses in growing stronger communities!