



**Thousands of Maine Residents Cast Votes for Nonprofits in Community Matters More Charitable Giving Campaign**

*Community members identify eight \$5,000 grant winners and 60 \$1,000 grant winners to receive \$100,000 from the Bangor Savings Bank Foundation Statewide*

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For More Information:  
Carol Colson  
Senior Vice President  
(207) 944-1921  
[carol.colson@bangor.com](mailto:carol.colson@bangor.com)

**BANGOR, ME** - The Bangor Savings Bank Foundation and WLBZ-TV 2, WCSH-TV 6, WGAN 560 Newsradio, and Blueberry Broadcasting announced today that Maine residents cast nearly 82,000 votes for **1,900** different nonprofit organizations, for the unique Community Matters More program of charitable giving launched in mid-January. Bangor Savings Bank also announced it is giving a total of \$100,000 to local non-profits that were chosen by the community-wide vote, with eight top vote-getters receiving \$5,000 grants and 60 additional organizations receiving \$1,000 grants.

In addition to financial support, 48 organizations initially listed on the Community Matters More ballot have already received substantial exposure for their critical community missions from WGAN 560 Newsradio and Blueberry Broadcasting as part of the partnership.

**The \$5,000 grant winners are:**

The Ark  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kennebec Valley  
Maine Children Cancer Program  
Penobscot Valley Humane Society  
Habitat for Humanity  
Franklin County Animal Shelter  
Stone Soup Food Pantry  
Acadia Hospital Youth Suicide Program

The Foundation also will award \$1,000 to each of the 40 remaining organizations on the ballot, as well as to 20 organizations earning the most write-in votes in each of the eight regions from the public.

**The non-profits listed on the ballot receiving \$1,000 grants are:**

The Grand  
Schoodic Arts for All  
Special Children's Friends  
Ellsworth Historical Society  
Open Door Recovery  
Waterville Main Street  
Kennebec Valley Community Action Program (KVCAP)  
Pine Tree State Arboretum  
Pittsfield Food Bank  
Hartland Public Library  
Susan Curtis Foundation  
Greater Portland Landmarks  
Seniors Plus – Lewiston  
Iris Network  
Goodwill Industries  
Millinocket Historical Society  
Natural Resources Education Center  
Piscataquis Regional YMCA  
Field of Dreams  
Houlton Humane Society  
Belfast Area Child Care Services  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midcoast Maine  
New Hope for Women  
S.A.F.E.  
Unity Ambulance Corporation  
Skowhegan Free Public Library  
People Who Care Food Cupboard  
River Valley Healthy Community Coalition

Abused Women's Advocacy Project  
Tri-County Mental Health  
York Historical Society  
Sacopee Valley Health Center  
Dyer Library  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine  
West End House Camp for Girls  
Bangor Y  
Hammond Street Senior Center  
Community Care  
The River Coalition  
Amicus

**The 20 write-in winners are:**

Kennebec Messalonskee Trails, Waterville  
Autism Society Maine Chapter, Winthrop  
Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, Boothbay  
Humane Society of Knox County, Thomaston  
19<sup>th</sup> Century Willowbrook Village, Newfield  
The Fuller Center for Housing, Saco  
Women's Health Resource Library, Milbridge  
Jacob Brewer Home, Ellsworth  
Mill Pond After School Program, Hodgdon  
P.E.T.S. Prevent Euthanasia through Sterilization, Dover-Foxcroft  
Maine State Music Theatre, Brunswick  
WinterKids, Portland  
The Public Theatre, Lewiston  
Ruth's Reusable Resources, Portland  
Somerset Humane Society, Skowhegan  
Chisholm Ski Club, Rumford  
Penquis, Bangor  
Hampden VFW Auxiliary 4633  
Ronald McDonald House, Bangor  
Neighbors Supporting Neighbors Community Pantry, Hermon

Bangor Savings Bank President and CEO Jim Conlon said, "In these challenging times when many of our neighbors and community members are struggling, these grants apply resources to some of those most urgent needs as identified by community members themselves. We were pleased to be able to conduct this effort again as in past years as part of the Bank's commitment to giving back to the community now when it is needed more than ever."

Mark White, Director of Sales for Blueberry Broadcasting said, “This was such a fantastic partnership and opportunity to spread the word about the great work going on in our communities. Blueberry Broadcasting was extremely pleased to work with the non-profits to get their messages heard and mobilize the public to express their support for organizations that matter most to them.”

The statewide Community Matters More program was a partnership of the Bangor Savings Bank Foundation, WLBZ-TV 2, WCSH-TV 6, WGAN 560 Newsradio, and Blueberry Broadcasting.

Community Matters More is part of Bangor Savings Bank and the Bangor Savings Bank Foundation’s total commitment of more than a million dollars per year to the community in the form of nonprofit sponsorships, grants and partnership initiatives.

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