

KV CAP Connector

Building Stronger Individuals,
Families and Communities

Kennebec Valley Community Action Program

Issue: Summer 2017

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Support for Public Transportation is Rising

How do you get to work when you don't own a car? Or to the grocery store, medical appointments, a hair salon, or the post office? Perhaps you ride the Kennebec or Somerset Explorer public bus system!

Thanks to our many donors and supporters, we raised over \$23,000 in the past three months, all to support public transportation. And because our private funding is matched dollar for dollar with federal funds, this brings an infusion of more than \$46,000 into our Explorer transit system!



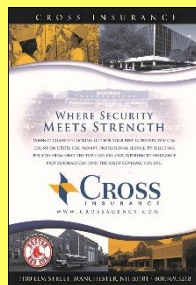
Bus driver Rhonda Watson on her afternoon route.

Our 3rd Annual "Tee-off for Transportation" Golf Tournament and Silent Auction was a great success again this year, and our event sponsors are largely responsible for this achievement. They recognize the value of public transportation, and the personal, economic, and environmental benefits that it can bring to our communities.

Now our Explorer system is expanding! The Somerset Explorer recently began offering rides in Jackman and down the Route 201 corridor to Bingham and Skowhegan. And in Vassalboro and China, riders can access locations in the area, including Waterville and Augusta, two days each week.

"In Maine we have an aging population of people who want to stay in their homes and remain independent, but they can no longer drive. We have young people who are struggling to make ends meet, forcing a choice between paying rent and buying a car. There are people with disabilities that prevent them from driving, but who have much to offer in the community," said Jim Wood, KVCAP's Transportation Director. "By offering public transportation, we are meeting our mission to help people overcome the barriers of poverty and build their economic and social stability, while positively impacting the overall economy."

Thank You to Our Generous Golf Tournament Sponsors!



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Waterville



What's Happening?

Mark your calendars!
The 2017 **South End
Neighborhood Festival**

is planned for Tuesday, August 1st, from 5-7pm at Green Street Park. This local event is part of National Night Out, which promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. Activities include live music, a free barbecue, demonstrations by local police and firefighters, children's activities and more! FMI, contact Ryan at 873-5621 or ryank@kvcap.org.



Our Child & Family Services Department is now taking **preschool applications** for the 2017/18 school year. To learn more, contact Jackie at 859-1599 or jackiel@kvcap.org.

It is hard to believe, but the heating season is right around the corner! **The LIHEAP program will begin taking applications for fuel assistance on August 28th.**

This year KVCAP is offering two new options to apply for assistance. Clients will be able to schedule their own appointment online at www.kvcap.org beginning on August 7th. Updated income guidelines will also be available at that time. In addition, we will also begin offering phone appointments as well as in-person appointments. For people without internet access who would like to schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-542-8227.



Over 600 People Attend Community Celebration!

KVCAP's 3rd Annual Community Celebration took place on Saturday, June 10th, at Educare Central Maine, and the smiles were everywhere!

Families dined on a traditional barbecue, children engaged in a wide variety of activities, and parents learned about all of the services KVCAP has to offer.

"This year's event was bigger and better than ever," said KVCAP's CEO, Suzanne Walsh. "It is so rewarding to see families in our community come together and engage in fun and enriching activities. For so many, trips to amusement parks and county fairs are beyond their financial means. Seeing the children's faces as they gaze at the princesses or meet their favorite superheroes is priceless!"

And thanks to our sponsors, everything was free, allowing families to participate in all of the event activities without worrying about the expense. Now that's Community Action in Action!



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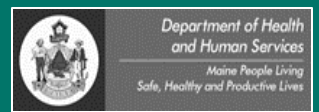
The Promise of Community Action

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

KVCAP is proud to be the Community Action Agency serving Central Maine and your support is a great vote of confidence in our mission!

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22 Armory Street, Augusta

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