



# Partnerships in Action

Kennebec Valley Community Action Program  
2016 Annual Report

*Building stronger communities  
for 51 years!*

## KVCAP Board of Directors

KVCAP is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of volunteers from our service area. KVCAP bylaws ensure that the Board represents the communities we serve and brings together caring, dedicated community members from diverse professions, income levels, and backgrounds to support KVCAP's mission. Board members serve on various subcommittees and volunteer hundreds of hours to KVCAP. Together their efforts benefit more than 20,000 people in Kennebec, Somerset, Lincoln and Sagadahoc counties.

### 2016 Board Members

Sheryl Gregory, President  
Dr. Richard Staples, Treasurer

Heather Merrow, Vice-President  
George Joseph, Secretary

Denver Brown  
Dwight Dogherty  
Debbie Knox  
Matthew Morgan  
Michele Pino  
Julie Redwine  
Pamela Thompson

Anna Court  
Jeff Johnson  
Michael Mitchell  
Christa Nielsen  
Tim Plossay  
Betty St. Hilaire



7 of the 17 KVCAP Board Members - front left to right: Anna Court, George Joseph, Sheryl Gregory  
back left to right: Julie Redwine, Richard Staples, Heather Merrow, Betty St. Hilaire

## KVCAP's Mission

*Our mission is to partner with area residents, organizations, and local, state and federal entities, creating solutions to the conditions of poverty in order to strengthen individuals, families and communities.*

Dear Friends and Community Members,

We are honored and proud to present the Kennebec Valley Community Action Program's Annual Report for 2016. This report highlights the services we provide along with amazing outcomes and results.

KVCAP creates solutions to the conditions of poverty by strengthening individuals, families and communities, and we do this through both direct service and partnerships with other organizations. We want everyone who lives in Central Maine to be financially stable, to be healthy, and to flourish. It is only then that our communities and our economy will also be strong in this ever changing and sometimes volatile environment.

During the past year, KVCAP helped more than 20,000 people enhance their capacity to thrive. Some examples include:

- Maine Families partnered with 312 new parents to promote positive parenting and the healthy development of their children.
- The Kennebec/Somerset Explorer bus provided nearly 98,000 rides to help people get to work, stores, medical appointments, and cultural events.
- Child & Family Services provided early care and education to 620 children (birth-5 years) and increased their readiness for school success.
- Energy & Housing ensured that 10,800 families were warmer in the winter and also repaired or replaced 270 furnaces.
- The Poverty Action Coalition, along with 209 Community Investors, helped 48 families with household stability through donations totaling \$7,000.
- The South End Teen Center had 82 members and 100% of their senior class graduated from high school.

Since our doors opened in 1965, KVCAP has grown and evolved to meet the changing needs of our communities. But we could never accomplish all that we do without our dedicated board members, community partners, local officials, funders, donors, and volunteers that have been with us every step of the way!

Many thanks to our partners for their ongoing support as we work together toward a shared vision of economic stability for all people living in Central Maine.

*Sheryl A. Gregory*  
KVCAP Board President



*Suzanne Walsh*  
KVCAP CEO



## **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.*

### Poverty Action Coalition—Partnership in Action!

The Poverty Action Coalition (PAC) is a group of concerned individuals and organizations who work together to address the barriers to prosperity in Waterville. More than 85 people strong, its membership includes KVCAP and other social service agencies, the City of Waterville, AOS #92, the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter, faith leaders, local hospitals, and individuals who either live in poverty or are concerned about how the issue impacts our collective community. **The PAC's mission is to promote opportunity through partnership, awareness, access, and advocacy.**

Since the first meeting was convened by Mayor Karen Heck in January 2014, members have worked collaboratively to begin addressing the high poverty rates in Waterville.

- Its poverty rate is nearly 22%, compared with 12.5% for Kennebec County and 13.6% for the state.
- Nearly 70% of Waterville's children under the age of five live in poverty.
- 2 out of every 3 students in the Waterville school district qualify for free or reduced lunch.
- A family of four lives at 100% of poverty if they earn \$24,300 or less annually, based on 2016 Federal Guidelines.

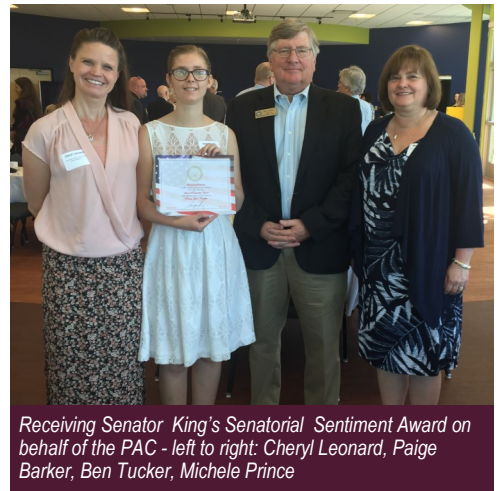
One of the major challenges identified is the lack of resources for people living just above the poverty line. In response, the PAC launched its first project in March 2015. **The Community Investors Initiative is intended to help Waterville residents achieve or maintain financial stability when no other resources exist.** Each application is reviewed by a committee; once approved it is e-mailed to a list of over 200 community members, called "Community Investors." The Investors helped to address these challenges through financial contributions and donations of items. In 2016, they contributed more than \$7,000, helping 48 families avoid a financial crisis.

Some requests that were filled include:

- Purchasing purple trash bags for a young mother who was facing eviction because she could not afford to buy them
- Buying eyeglasses for a young woman whose insurance paid for an eye exam but not for the glasses she needed
- Helping a father without a vehicle obtain a stroller so that he could run errands in town
- Assisting an elderly couple with a security deposit so they could move out of the homeless shelter before the wife began treatment for cancer

"This is genuine partnership in action," said Michele Prince, KVCAP's Chief Operating Officer. "We cannot solve the issue of poverty alone. It takes a community effort to raise up all of its residents. We are thrilled with this level of collaboration!"

If you are interested in becoming a Community Investor, please send an e-mail to [communityinvestors@kvcap.org](mailto:communityinvestors@kvcap.org).



Receiving Senator King's Senatorial Sentiment Award on behalf of the PAC - left to right: Cheryl Leonard, Paige Barker, Ben Tucker, Michele Prince



Poverty Action Coalition members and guests at a coalition meeting in April, 2016.

## KVCAP's 2nd Annual Community Celebration

On a warm Saturday afternoon in September 2016, KVCAP hosted its 2nd Annual Community Celebration at Educare Central Maine in Waterville. It was wildly successful with over 350 people in attendance. The Celebration offered many fun and enriching activities for children and families. There was live music by Matt Loosigian, an award-winning children's singer and songwriter. At lunchtime the barbecue featured hotdogs, hamburgers, fresh fruit, and cookies.



Throughout the day children enjoyed the bounce house, a climbing wall, a balloon twister, games, face painting and temporary tattoos, a story walk, fresh popcorn, a photo booth, and vehicle tours with police officers, fire fighters, and paramedics. Children even had the opportunity to visit with some of their favorite superheroes, princesses, and story book characters!

In addition to the festivities, this event also informed the adults about the variety of services KVCAP offers. Each department staffed a table with program information along with a child-friendly activity so that staff could talk with parents as the children played.

**And thanks to our generous business sponsors, all activities were free, including the barbecue!** KVCAP is grateful for their financial support, allowing everyone to fully participate in this enjoyable, entertaining, and family-focused experience. We hope you join us in 2017!

## Lanelle Freeman Receives Professional Advocate Award

On October 28, 2015 KVCAP's Social Services Director, Lanelle Freeman, was presented with the Professional Advocate Award by the Maine Children's Trust for her outstanding work and her advocacy efforts for the prevention of child abuse and neglect in Central Maine and throughout the State.

The KVCAP Family Enrichment Councils in Somerset and Kennebec Counties have flourished under Lanelle's leadership. She has formed strong partnerships with schools, law enforcement, health and social service providers, and community members, all working together to increase awareness and develop strategies to keep children safe. In addition, she has developed a strong Maine Families home visiting program that provides high quality services, support and education to hundreds of families with young children throughout Central Maine.

According to Jan Clarkin, Maine Children's Trust Executive Director, KVCAP is "most fortunate to have Lanelle as an employee, and we are most fortunate that you not only allow her to provide outstanding CAN prevention programs in your service area, but support all of the work that she and KVCAP contribute to the Children's Trust and the statewide work that is ongoing. I know you know how skilled and talented she is."

**Congratulations Lanelle, on this truly deserved recognition!** Your work on behalf of children and families is a strong example of the national mission of Community Action – "Helping people, changing lives".



*Left to right: Charlie Solton, - Maine Children's Trust Board President, Lanelle Freeman - KVCAP Social Services Director.*

Transportation

### Kenebec and Somerset Explorer

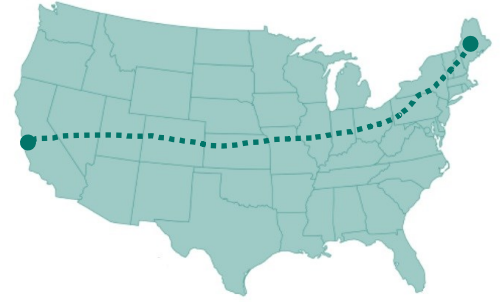
public bus system gave **97,803** rides, helping people get to work, to retail shops, attend cultural events and more.



That's a **120% increase** in riders in 5 years!

**KV Van & volunteer drivers** made **332,991** trips bringing people to medical appointments.

They drove nearly **6 million** miles.



That equals more than **1,800** round trips from **Waterville to Los Angeles!**

Community Initiatives

### Employment Services

helped **89** people **build job skills** through 1-on-1 support and WorkReady classes.



KVCAP and local partners organized **50** job fairs & workshops, reaching more than **1,500** people.

### The South End Teen Center



- Has **82** members.
- 99%** completed the school year.
- 100%** of seniors graduated.
- 10** members worked part-time.
- 35%** volunteered.

Social Services

**Family Enrichment Council** works to **prevent child abuse and neglect** in **Kennebec and Somerset** counties.



**4,811** kids took part in **Personal Body Safety** classes.

**Maine Families Home Visiting** partners with expecting and new parents of babies and toddlers to ensure safe home environments and promote healthy growth and development.

**312** families were connected with a home visitor.



- 90%** of children had up-to-date vaccines.
- 95%** of pregnant moms received adequate prenatal care.



Children received **513,680** hours of quality early care and education services.

**620** children (birth - 5) increased their readiness for school success.

**106** families had help finding affordable housing.

**102,395** healthy meals and snacks were served.

**588** parents improved their parenting skills.



*“Investing in our most vulnerable residents makes our entire community stronger!”*

The **Poverty Action Coalition** is a group of local individuals and organizations that work to address the barriers to prosperity in Waterville.

The PAC's **209 Community Investors** contributed over **\$7,000** helping **48 families** become financially stable when there were **NO other resources!**

**Health Navigator's** educated **2,060** people on the Affordable Care Act.



**271** uninsured people bought health insurance through the Marketplace.

**Resource Navigator's** connected **186 families** to a variety of services, helping them become financially stable!



**10,800** homes were warmer last winter because of our **Fuel Assistance Program**.

**Health & safety risks** were repaired in **50** homes.

**270** people had their furnaces serviced or replaced.

**77** homes were **weatherized** saving homeowners money!



We helped **79** people **purchase a home**

and **85** homeowners **avoid foreclosure.**



### Raymond Richard (1934—2016)

Raymond F. Richard, KVCAP's founding director, passed away in January of 2016 at the age of 81.

For over 42 years, Ray was the pillar of KVCAP. From his early days as KVCAP's first Executive Director until his retirement in 2008, Ray provided the foundation that our organization is built on today. Under his leadership and vision, KVCAP services became diverse, comprehensive and easy to access, especially for the most disadvantaged.

He was compassionate about making sure our services were "client driven" and that a better life for people living in poverty was always the end result. We honored Ray in November 2015 at KVCAP's Annual Meeting.



### Dwight Dogherty (1937—2016)

This past March, Board member Dwight Dogherty, passed away. Dwight was appointed to the KVCAP Board of Director's in January 2011 and served on the Executive Committee since 2015. He was passionate about the work of KVCAP and reducing the impact of poverty on people's lives. He would often share articles and ideas about how KVCAP could bring in more resources to serve more people. Dwight also looked for ways to save the Agency money, like picking up his Board packet in person rather than have it mailed to his home in order to save on postage. Dwight always had a big smile on his face when arriving to Board meetings or when talking to staff. He clearly enjoyed his time at KVCAP meetings.

Prior to serving on the KVCAP Board, Dwight, as the Pittsfield Town Manager, worked closely with KVCAP on a variety of housing projects in the Somerset County area, including the Pittsfield and Hartland Transitional Housing Projects (aimed at providing housing and case management services for homeless families) and the Somerset County Home Replacement Program.

## Community Services Block Grant – Core Funding for Community Action

Across the nation, over 1,000 Community Action Agencies (CAAs) work with individuals and communities to address poverty issues on the local level, with a goal to promote family stability and help people on their journey toward greater economic security. The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) provides core, flexible funding to CAAs to help fill gaps in services and resources.

In 2016 KVCAP's CSBG dollars supported a wide range of prevention and intervention activities that benefit infants to seniors in Kennebec and Somerset Counties, including:

- Employment services
- Home-ownership and foreclosure prevention
- Financial capability counseling
- Connecting families to resources
- Parent supports
- Child abuse and neglect prevention activities
- Childcare resources
- South End Teen Center operations

CSBG funding also advanced community level goals, working in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders focused on a shared purpose, including:

- Expanding public and volunteer transportation options
- Supporting public health initiatives
- Facilitating the Poverty Action Coalition
- Overseeing the Community Investors initiative





## Revenue & Expenses (Based on Audited Fiscal Year 2015 Financial Statements)

### Revenue Breakdown by Department

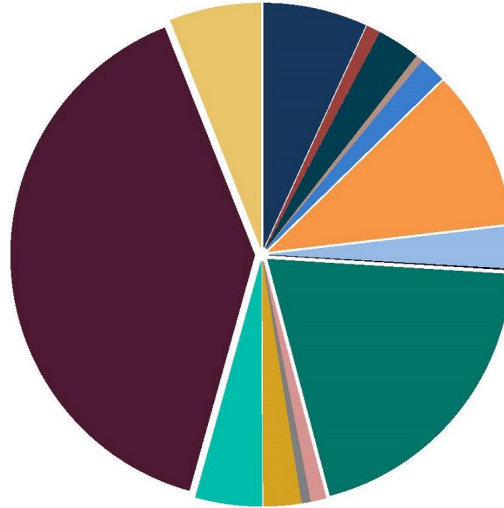
Total Revenue = \$20,770,151



- Agency - 0.41%
- Child & Family Services - 36.36%
- Community Services - 49.66%
- Energy & Housing - 13.57%

### Expense Breakdown by Service Area

Total Expenses = \$20,844,174



- Administration - 6.86%
- Child Care - 2.80%
- CSBG - 1.70%
- Fuel Assistance - 2.76%
- Head Start - 19.90%
- Other Child & Family Services - 0.57%
- Social Services - 4.38%
- Weatherization - 6.02%
- Agency Other - 0.89%
- Community Initiatives—0.46%
- Educare - 10.44%
- Fundraising - 0.07%
- Housing - 1.02%
- Rehab Loan Programs - 2.47%
- Transportation - 39.66%

## Government funding Sources

- Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection
- Maine Department of Economic & Community Development
- Maine Department of Environmental Protection
- Maine Department of Health & Human Services
- Maine Department of Transportation
- Maine Judicial Branch
- Maine State Housing Authority
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services – Administration of Children & Families
- U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
- U.S. Department of Transportation
- U.S. Department of Treasury



*We are grateful for all our funders and donors...*

## Community Partners

Alfond Youth Center / Boys & Girls Club	Kennebec Behavioral Health	Project PEDS	Town of Oakland
AOS #92 - Kennebec Valley Consolidated Schools	Kennebec Valley Community College	Redington-Fairview General Hospital	Town of Palmyra
Augusta Boys & Girls Club	Maine Children's Trust	Southwest Human Development	Town of Randolph
Central Maine Power Co.	Maine Department of Education	The Buffett Early Childhood Fund	Town of St. Albans
Child Development Services	Maine Department of Labor	Town of Albion	Town of Skowhegan
City of Augusta	MaineGeneral Health	Town of Anson	Town of Smithfield
City of Gardiner	Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers	Town of Athens	Town of Solon
City of Hallowell	Maine Early Learning Investment Group	Town of Benton	Town of Starks
City of Rockland	Maine Rural School Unit #19	Town of Bingham	Town of Winslow
City of Waterville	Maine Rural School Unit #49	Town of Canaan	TracFone/Safelink
Community Concepts Inc.	Maine Rural School Unit #54	Town of China	Two Rivers
Darlings Foundation	Maine Rural School Unit #74	Town of Clinton	United Way Coastal Fairfield County
Early Learning Network	Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce	Town of Detroit	United Way of Greater Portland
Educare Central Maine	Mid State Machine Foundation	Town of Fairfield	United Way of Kennebec Valley
Efficiency Maine	NeighborWorks Association	Town of Farmingdale	United Way of Mid-Maine
Goodwill	Ounce of Prevention Fund	Town of Hartland	University of Maine Augusta
Greater Somerset Public Health Collaborative	Penquis Community Action Program	Town of Jackman	University of Southern Maine
Healthy Northern Kennebec	People's United Community Foundation	Town of Madison	Waterville Creates
Highland Plantation	Prince Family Foundation	Town of Manchester	Western Maine Community Action
Inland Hospital		Town of Monmouth	
John T. Gorman Foundation		Town of Norridgewock	

## Business & Organization Support

Aaron's	Franklin-Somerset FCU	Mainely Brews	Skowhegan Family Medicine
Advance 1 Cleaning Service	Fred's Coffee	Mainely Escapes	Skowhegan NAPA Auto Parts
Ameritas	GHM Insurance	McCormack Building Supply Inc.	Skowhegan Rotary Club
Arica's Art	Gibson LeClair LLC	Meridians	Skowhegan Savings
Bangor Savings Bank	Governor's Restaurant	Molina Medicaid Solutions	Somerset Sports & Fitness Center
Beeline Cable	Grand Central Café	Moose Run Farm	South End Neighborhood Assn.
Bob's Cash Fuel	Group Dynamic, Inc.	Motor Supply Company	Sprague & Curtis
Boy Locksmith	Heritage House Restaurant	New Balance	Standard Waterproofing
Campbell's Agway True Value	Heritage House Restaurant	New Balance Factory Store	Stratham Tire
Cappza's Pizza	Hammond Lumber Co.	Northeast Bank	Suburban Propane
Central Maine Disposal	Hannaford Supermarket	O'Connor Auto Park	Sutherland Weston
Central Maine Motors Auto Group	Harry J. Smith Co.	Pad Thai Too	T&B's Celebration Center
Clinton Lions Club	Healey & Associates	People's United Bank	Taconnet FCU
Crisis & Counseling Centers	Heritage House Restaurant	Poland Springs	Taylor's Drug Store
Cross Insurance	Hight Chevrolet, Buick, GMC	Pride Manufacturing	The Bankery
Dahl Chase	Houles Plumbing & Heating	Quest Diagnostics	Toast Express
Darlings Ice Cream Truck for a Cause	J&S Oil Company	Quirk Auto Group	Transco Business Technologies
Dead River Co.	J&R Trading	Railroad Square Cinema	Uncle Dean's Good Groceries
Downeast Energy	Johnny's Selected Seeds	Randy's Full Service Auto	United Bikers of Maine
Doyle & Nelson	Joka's Discount Beverages	Ray Haskell Ford	Waterville Country Club
Dunkin Donuts - Skowhegan	Joseph's Sporting Goods	SAPPI North America	Waterville Elks Lodge #905
Eaton Peabody	Kennebec Eye Care	Scotty's Pizza & Variety	Waterville Housing Authority
Eric's Restaurant	Kennebec Savings Bank	Sebasticook Family Doctors	Waterville Masonic Lodge #33
Fireside Inn and Suites	Kyes Carpenter Insurance Co.	Servpro of Augusta/Waterville	Waterville Rotary Clubs
Flagship Cinema	Lakewood Golf Course	Silver Street Tavern	Weeks & Sons Well Drilling
Fortin's Home Furnishings	Laureate Zeta Beta Sigma Phi	Sisters of St. Joseph Province Center	Winslow Firefighters Assn.
Franklin Savings Bank	Madison Animal Hospital		York County Community Action Corporation
	Maine Energy Pros Inc.		
	Maine Paper & Janitorial Products		

*...we couldn't do it without you!*

## Individual Donors (10/1/2015—9/30/2016)

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Karlene Additon-Strout  
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Matthew Walters  
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Sen. Rodney Whittemore  
Andrea Williams  
Nancy Williams  
Jim & Linda Wood



## Directory of Services



**For all services call toll-free: 1-800-542-8227 or visit [www.kvcap.org](http://www.kvcap.org)**

**Waterville 859-1500 ▪ Skowhegan 474-8487 ▪ Augusta: 622-4761 ▪ Wiscasset 859-1500**

### **Childcare - Early Head Start - Head Start - Family Child Care**

Home Visiting or Family Child Care (HomeStart) 649-7152  
Educare Central Maine 680-7211  
Fairfield & Clinton 314-8949  
Anson, Solon 649-2347  
Hartland 938-2043  
MSAD# 54 Infant & Toddlers (Skowhegan) 858-1450  
MSAD# 54 Preschool (Canaan, Norridgewock, Skowhegan) 491-3976

### **Community Initiatives**

Employment Services 859-1584  
Families in Transition 859-1547 or 859-1542  
Health/Resource Navigator 859-1567 or 859-1547  
South End Teen Center 873-5621  
Youth Outreach 616-1007

### **Energy & Housing Services**

Energy & Fuel Assistance 1-800-542-8227  
Home Repair 859-1684 or 859-1544  
Homeownership 859-1622  
Financial Counseling/Education 859-1622

### **Social Services**

Family Enrichment Council - Kennebec County 859-1514 or 859-1580  
Family Enrichment Council - Somerset County 859-2520  
Maine Families 859-2537 or 859-8508

**Transportation Services - All locations 1-800-542-8227**

