

Connector

Issue: Winter 2016

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Molina Medicaid Solutions partners with KVCAP

Molina Medicaid Solutions of Maine recently partnered with KVCAP to distribute 500 pairs of New Balance shoes to children and teens in need. Molina employees participated in the distribution as part of the company's employee volunteer program, Helping Hands. This program allows employees to receive paid time off to get involved in their community through organizations, such as homeless shelters, food pantries and afterschool programs.

The shoes were distributed through KVCAP's Head Start programs, Educare Central Maine, the Maine Families Home Visiting program, and the South End Teen Center. Students from the Waterville Junior and Senior High Schools, and the Laura E. Richards Elementary School in Gardiner also received shoes. The kids were so happy to receive new footwear and the teachers were amazed and grateful.

"We have many kids who come to school with shoes that do not fit them and are worn out," shared one teacher. "We also have parents that can't afford to buy their children with new shoes."

According to the latest KIDS COUNT report, 1 in 5 of Maine's children live in poverty. Sadly, this can impact their school attendance because they can't afford basic supplies, like shoes.

"I witnessed the smiles on the kid's faces, and the hesitation as they didn't believe the shoes were for them," said Monica Grady, KVCAP Director of Energy and Housing. "The joy in their eyes told me everything. It warmed my heart."

Thank you Molina for bringing so much joy to 500 deserving children and teens!



Battle of the Badges to Benefit the South End Teen Center



Join us for the 8th annual Battle of the Badges basketball tournament, featuring the Waterville Police Department taking on the Waterville Fire Department! All proceeds will benefit the South End Teen Center. We hope to see you there!

When: Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00pm

Where: Alford Youth Center, North Street, Waterville

Cost: Tickets are \$4.00 – children under 10 free



Weatherization Works!

If you received LIHEAP fuel assistance this year, you may qualify for our Weatherization Assistance Program.

Have our experienced staff perform a full energy audit on your home to determine the best way to upgrade your home's energy efficiency and comfort.



Improvements may include:

- Attic, wall and basement insulation
- Caulking and spray foam
- Weather-stripping & door sweeps
- Chimney bypasses

What are some of the benefits?

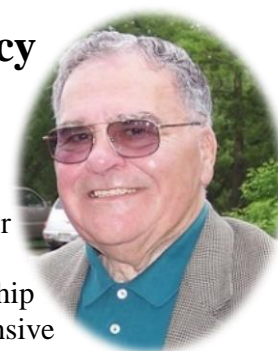
- Saving money on your utility bills
- Staying warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer
- Improving the indoor air quality and occupant health
- Helping to protect the environment



Interested? Contact Joanna at 207-859-1684 or joannav@kvcap.org

Founding Director Leaves His Legacy

It is with a heavy heart that we acknowledge the passing of our founding Director, Raymond Richard.



Ray was the pillar of KVCAP for more than 42 years. From his early days as KVCAP's first Executive Director until his retirement in 2008, he 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 passionate about making sure our services were client-driven and created a better life for people living in poverty.

Ray's legacy lives on through KVCAP's efforts each day. We know that would make him proud. Ray will be missed by his loving family, friends, colleagues and his KVCAP family.



Helping People Navigate the Marketplace

KVCAP's Health Navigator Program recently ended the third year of open enrollment – November 1, 2015 through January 31, 2016. Our two Health Navigators and one volunteer helped 227 people successfully apply and secure health insurance through the online Marketplace. Another 104 people were helped in person, with either filing for exemptions from tax penalties, or with a referral to Care Partners or MaineCare.

The Health Navigators will remain available throughout the year to help those who have a special qualifying event outside of the enrollment period. Examples of Special Qualifying Events include loss of work-based insurance, marriage, divorce, gaining or losing a dependent, or moving.

Maine has the second highest enrollment rate in the nation for the online insurance Marketplace. In 2014, the first year the Marketplace opened, 44,000 Maine people enrolled, which was triple the goal of 15,000. In 2015, the number enrolled grew to nearly 75,000 people. So far in 2016, approximately 80,000 have enrolled. Yet despite this incredible number, between 10-15% of Mainers remain uninsured.

"The various cuts with our MaineCare program have resulted in fewer people being served by that insurance," says Barbara Leonard, vice president for programs at the Maine Health Access Foundation.

The tax penalty for not having health insurance in 2016 is \$695 per person or 2.5% of their income, whichever is greater, with a family maximum of \$2085.

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