

## About United Way of Mid Coast Maine

United Way of Mid Coast Maine (United Way) improves lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities.

**Every year, we help more than 27,000 people throughout the Midcoast and support 50 local community programs and initiatives to give kids the best start, build financial stability, and help everyone live healthy and connected lives. By working together, we can help individuals and families thrive, not just survive.**

United Way has been a trusted community partner serving the towns of Brunswick and Harpswell, Sagadahoc and Lincoln Counties since 1956. As a locally governed and independently run non-profit organization led by a small staff and dozens of community volunteers, **United Way is in a unique position to bring people together—community partners, donors, and volunteers—to solve community challenges that not one organization can do on their own.** We help non-profit organizations, schools, municipalities, and employers respond to emerging and unmet community needs, meet their missions, and support their workforce. We are an advocate and advisor, connector and convener, funder and friend.

The **Community Fund** supports local non-profit organizations working to help our community:

- Access safe shelter, food, affordable healthcare, and high-quality childcare.
- Strengthen families, reduce homelessness, and prevent violence and abuse.
- Ensure vulnerable youth, adults, and seniors are supported and connected.

The **Community Response Initiative** supports community organizations working together to respond to emerging and unmet community needs:

- Sagadahoc County Working Communities Challenge Initiative: helps to increase youth hopefulness.
- Homeless Response System/Midcoast Service Hub: works to reduce and eliminate homelessness.
- Brunswick New Mainers Initiative: helps our newest neighbors access resources to thrive.
- Midcoast CA\$H: helps people make the most of their money through free tax preparation.
- VolunteerME: mobilizes the caring power of our community.

We work with United Ways across Maine to help Mainers thrive:

- 211 Maine: 24/7 help and resources by dialing 211, texting a zip code to 898-211, or visiting [www.211maine.org](http://www.211maine.org).
- Keep ME Warm: emergency fuel assistance for households through partner organizations.
- Advocacy: state and federal public policy to help our community thrive.

We envision a connected community where everyone belongs, has the resources they need, and can fulfill their potential. Join us! Investing in United Way is the best way to make a difference in the lives of individuals and families throughout the Midcoast. For more information, visit [www.uwmcm.org](http://www.uwmcm.org), follow us on social media, and sign up for our monthly newsletter.

## United Way of Mid Coast Maine Community Response Initiative

### **Sagadahoc County Working Communities Challenge – Increasing youth hopefulness.**

The Sagadahoc County Working Communities Challenge Initiative is working to increase youth hopefulness by focusing on vulnerable youth and their families, and supporting their future workforce development opportunities. The Initiative, led by United Way of Mid Coast Maine, includes partners from the Bath-Brunswick Regional Chamber, City of Bath, First Federal



Savings, Midcoast Maine Community Action, MaineHealth Mid Coast-Parkview Health, Midcoast Youth Center, and RSU 1. The work is supported by the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, State of Maine, national and local philanthropic organizations, and private sector employers.

### **Homeless Response System / Midcoast Service Hub – Reducing and eliminating adult and Veteran homelessness.**

United Way of Mid Coast Maine is the employer of record for the MaineHousing – Homeless Response System Midcoast Service Hub, which serves Brunswick, Harpswell, Sagadahoc, Lincoln, Knox, and Waldo counties. Thanks to the work of this statewide initiative, Hub partners, including Tedford Housing, The Gathering Place, municipalities, and individuals who have faced homelessness, there have been more than 628 housing placements for individuals and families experiencing homelessness across the State. Driven by quality data, Hub partners facilitate a more direct and coordinated path to housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.



## United Way of Mid Coast Maine Community Response Initiative

### **Brunswick New Mainers Initiative – Helping our newest neighbors thrive.**

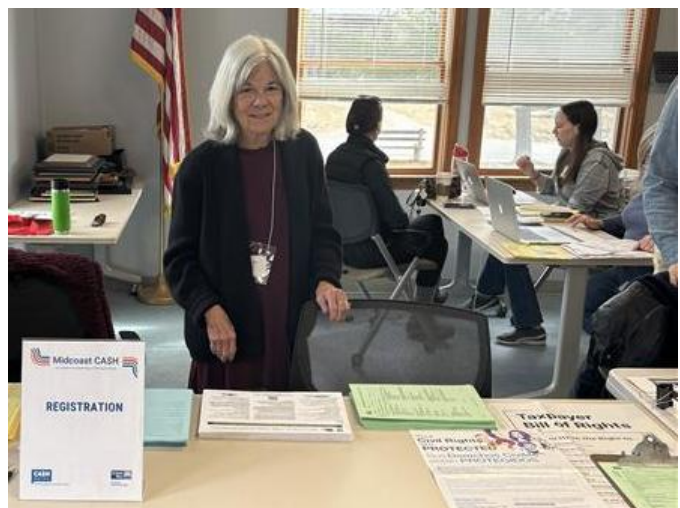
Led by the Town of Brunswick and Immigrant Resource Center of Maine, 30 community partners and dozens of volunteers are working together to help 60 asylum-seeking families (300 individuals) have access to the resources they need to be self-sufficient within two years. Projects include intensive English Language Learning and weekly conversational English



classes, job fairs, and volunteer bus ambassadors. Partners: Bath Area and Landing YMCA, Bath-Brunswick Regional Chamber, Bowdoin College, Brunswick Rotary Club, Brunswick School Department, Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI), Curtis Memorial Library, Developers Collaborative, Family Focus, Goodwill Industries of Northern New England, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Immigrant Resource Center of Maine, MaineHealth Access to Care, Merry Meeting Adult Education, Mid Coast Literacy, Mid Coast New Mainers Group, MaineHealth Mid Coast-Parkview Health, Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program, Midcoast Maine Community Action Program Head Start, Oasis Free Clinics, People Plus, Southern Midcoast CareerCenter – Brunswick, Spurwink, Tedford Housing, The Emergency Action Network (TEAN), Town of Brunswick, United Way of Mid Coast Maine, and Western Maine Transportation (Brunswick Link).

### **Midcoast CA\$H – Helps people make the most of their money through free tax preparation.**

Midcoast CA\$H provides free tax preparation by IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers to households earning up to \$67,000. Last year, \$1.08 million was returned to the community in federal and state income refunds. CA\$H Coalition members/sponsors: Age-Friendly Bowdoinham, Bath Savings Institution, Coastal Enterprise, Inc., Community Resource Council, Internal Revenue



Service, Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission, Midcoast Maine Community Action, New Ventures Maine, Retired volunteers, Town of Boothbay, and United Way of Mid Coast Maine.