2017
Mainers Feeding Mainers
Program Report
Program Overview

Mainers Feeding Mainers is a partnership between Good Shepherd Bank and Maine farms, dairies, fisheries, and other local producers to eliminate hunger in Maine.

Good Shepherd Food Bank is working to get fresh, local food out to the Mainers who need it most – those who struggle with food insecurity and have limited access to nutritious food. We do this by forming agreements with local farms, dairies, fisheries and creating safe and efficient distribution channels for local food.

2017 Accomplishments

Through Mainers Feeding Mainers partnerships, 2.1 million pounds of fresh and nutritious Maine fruits, vegetables, seafood, dairy and other local products were distributed to Maine families in need during 2017. Through collaborations with others within Good Shepherd as well as within Maine communities, we were able to ensure that some of the most vulnerable people in Maine received nutritious food grown or processed in Maine. Here are few highlights from 2017:

“Milk2MyPlate” - We participated in the Milk2MyPlate Program which is a partnership between Feeding America food banks and their local milk processors that provides a constant supply of fresh milk to food banks and their agency partners at an affordable price. Through a collaboration with the Maine Dairy Promotion Board and Oakhurst Dairy, we provided half-gallons of milk to ten school pantries. More than 300 students were served through this program.

“Backpack Program” - In the fall of 2017, Mainers Feeding Mainers provided over 4,500 lbs. of fresh Maine apples to students enrolled in our backpack program.

“School Pantries” – More than 15,000 lbs. of fresh farm produce was distributed directly from the farm partners to school pantries during 2017.

Good Shepherd Food Bank serves more than 350 food pantries, shelters and meal sites. Over 160 of our member agencies received produce directly from a farm partner in 2017. More than $595,000 was invested in the Maine agricultural economy in 2017.
Since Mainers Feeding Mainers was launched, the program has brought about a fundamental change in the nutritional quality of the food we distribute. The Food Bank has steadily increased the pounds of healthy produce distributed to food insecure Mainers—from 2 million lbs. in 2010 to 9.7 million pounds in 2017. The percentage of healthy fruits and vegetables distributed to hunger relief programs in our network has increased from 19% in 2010 to 44% in 2017.

Through purchase agreements and donations, more than 60 Maine farms, dairies, fisheries and other local producers located in all 16 counties have partnered with Good Shepherd’s Mainers Feeding Mainers Program in 2017.

### Androscoggin County
- Belanger Farm
- Bell Farms
- Berry Fruit Farm
- Chipman Farm
- Cultivating Community
- Hillandale Farms
- Little Ridge Farm
- New Roots
- Ricker Hill Farms
- River Rise Farm

### Aroostook County
- Farm4ME/Catholic Charities
- Friends of Aroostook
- Irving Farms
- Pineland Farms Potato Company
- Smith Farms

### Cumberland County
- Carlin Family Farm
- Cozy Harbor Seafood
- Jordan’s Farm
- Mayberry Farm
- Oakhurst Dairy
- Replenoa Farm
- Somali Bantu Community
- Wolfe’s Neck Farm

### Franklin County
- Riverweb Farm
- Sandy River Farms

### Hancock County
- Beech Hill Farm
- East West Farm
- Horsepower Farm
- King Hill Farm

### Kennebec County
- County Fair Farm
- Emery Farm
- Field of Greens
- Highmore Farms
- Knox County
- Erickson Field Preserve

### Lincoln County
- Goranson Farm
- Spear Farm
- Twin Villages Foodbank Farm

### Oxford County
- Cooper Farms
- Weston Farm

### Penobscot County
- Charleston Correctional Facility
- Gardiner Farms
- Greg Jordan Farm
- Lakeside Family Farm
- Rowe Orchards
- The Lion’s Farm
- Treworgy Farm

### Piscataquis County
- Checkerberry Farm

### Sagadahoc County
- Turning Wheel Farm

### Somerset County
- Backyard Farms
- Maine Grains
- Moodytown Gardens
- Moore Farm
- Sherie Otis/Dasher Farm
- Sweet Land Farm

### Waldo County
- Chase Stream Farm LLC
- Fisher Farm
- North Branch Farm
- Songbird Farm
- True North Farm
- Veggies 4 All/MFT
- Wild Miller Farm

### Washington County
- Cherryfield Foods
- Folklore Farm
- Lynch Hill Farms
- Tide Mill Organic Farm
- Wyman’s Food Inc

### York County
- Anderson Farm
- Spiller Farm
2018 Priorities

Future plans for the Mainers Feeding Mainers program include a continued focus on an annual goal of acquiring 2 million pounds of fresh Maine farm product (about 50% purchased and 50% donated) on behalf of food insecure Maine families. We are also committed to expanding our capacity to safely store and distribute nutritious farm produce through the winter and spring, as well as exploring ways to process and preserve fresh food product for year-round distribution through our Auburn facility.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Finance Authority of Maine in 2016, Mainers Feeding Mainers will expand even further in 2018 and beyond. In the next year we plan to strategically increase the number of farm partners, which will allow us to increase the amount of local food we source. In addition, we will begin construction on a cutting-edge produce storage and distribution facility at our recently purchased Bangor region warehouse. Once constructed, this facility will help us increase distribution of nutritious, local food, as well as field test new techniques for improved processing and storage of local fruits and vegetables.

Program Support

Mainers Feeding Mainers is sustained through a generous major funding collaborative that includes the following donors:

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Sam L. Cohen Foundation
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New Balance Foundation
Betterment Fund
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Next Generation Charitable Foundation
Hannaford

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