



Good Shepherd
FOOD BANK OF MAINE

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

Helios Horsepower Farm
Ripley 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:

Sandy River Charitable Foundation
Elmina B. Sewall Foundation
Sam L. Cohen Foundation
John Merck Fund
New Balance Foundation
Betterment Fund
Walmart Foundation

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F.A.M.E. / Fund for a Healthy ME
Next Generation Charitable Foundation
Hannaford