

A LEGACY

of giving



Heart of Maine
UNITED WAY



A LEGACY

of giving

Dear friends,

The **legacy of giving** at **Heart of Maine United Way** began 88 years ago with the Bangor Brewer Community Chest. Today, we've grown to serve six counties – and one in three people in our region benefit from this shared generosity.

I'm inspired when I see the smiles on the faces of volunteers and donors on the photos on these pages, knowing they are part of something bigger than themselves. These stories of families, volunteers, and partners are a living history of generosity in the Heart of Maine.

But what does legacy mean to you? For some, the word can feel big or far off. Yet I believe we all have a legacy, and it looks different for each of us. It might be years of payroll contributions at your workplace. It might be afternoons spent coaching youth sports or volunteering at a food pantry. It might be the example you've set for your children, or the steady support you've given to a nonprofit that matters to you. Every act is part of a much bigger story, one that has been building for generations.



I saw legacy in my grandfather's military service, my grandmother's decades in the classroom, and in my own life through Girl Scouts and student leadership. I also know what it feels like to be on the receiving end of generosity. Today, as a leader and a parent, I'm mindful of passing that spirit forward to the next generation.

As you turn these pages, I hope you'll reflect on your own legacy of giving, in all the ways you contribute. Every gift of time, talent, or treasure adds to the fabric of this community. Together, we honor the traditions of the past while making room for the next generation of philanthropists who will shape our future. That is the true power of legacy.

-Shirar Patterson
PRESIDENT & CEO
Heart of Maine United Way



PASSING THE TORCH:

A Family's Legacy of Giving

An Interview with Campaign Co-Chairs Nate and Molly Briggs, with their daughter Addison

United Way: Nate, your family has a deep history with United Way. How does that shape your role today?

Nate: "My grandfather was a campaign chair decades ago. My father carried those same values, and now it's my turn. It's humbling to think about the example they set. For me, this isn't just a volunteer role – it's a continuation of something bigger than me."

United Way: Molly, you've been involved in so many community efforts. What drew you to volunteering?

Molly: "For me, volunteering has always been about connection. I wanted to feel more deeply rooted here. Whether serving on boards, co-chairing the Friends of the Cross Gala, or showing up for local events, I've always believed that being present matters. I often brought Addison with me – she's set tables, folded menus, even tagged along to Bangor Fusion events. I wanted her to see that giving time is just as valuable as giving money."

United Way: Addison, what did those experiences mean to you?

Addison: "They definitely shaped me. Watching my parents, I learned that helping doesn't have to be big to matter. Even folding napkins or setting up tables counts. Now, as president of the Junior Classical League, I help lead service projects like school supply drives and care bags. That's what I love about Maine – we're tight-knit, and we take care of each other."

United Way: Nate, you've also spoken about collections as a way to give. Why do you see them as important?

Nate: "Collections are such a simple, powerful way to get people involved. Whether it's food, school supplies, or winter coats, everyone can contribute something. It builds community pride and often sparks people to stay engaged and keep giving back."

United Way: Molly, what excites you most about chairing the campaign as a family?

Molly: "That we get to do this together. Nate and I both feel strongly about giving back, but having Addison alongside us makes it even more meaningful. She's experiencing firsthand what it means to be part of something bigger than ourselves – and that's the legacy we want to pass on."

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WHEN YOUR WORKPLACE

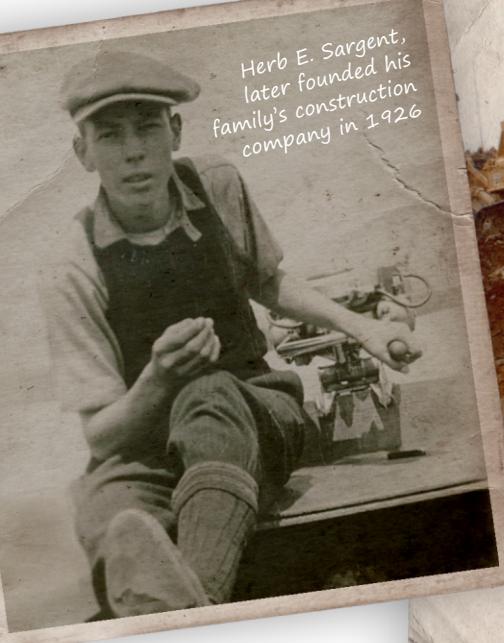
Champions Giving

For many, the first time they donate to a cause or volunteer in the community isn't through a personal initiative – it's through work. When a company champions giving, generosity becomes part of the culture – not just a personal choice. It becomes something you see every day, and something you can't help but want to be part of.

The most inspiring examples come from organizations where this commitment has been passed down from one leader to the next, from seasoned employees to new hires. A legacy of giving isn't built in a day; it's passed down from leaders to teams, and from one generation of employees to the next. It's a way of doing business that values people and community as much as productivity and profit.

We see this often among our corporate partners – companies that carry a founder's spirit of giving forward through new leadership and growth.





Herb R. Sargent (left) receives field guidance from his grandfather, Herb E. Sargent (right). Herb R. later purchases the company his grandfather began, ready to carry on the Sargent construction legacy.

Sargent Corporation is one example: now 100% employee-owned, they continue to encourage not only financial giving but also volunteering, collections, and board service, extending their tradition of generosity well beyond the workplace.

Many of our corporate partners share similar stories – leaders setting the tone, teams rolling up their sleeves, and workplaces where generosity is valued alongside productivity. When companies make space for community engagement, they create pride and purpose that ripple far beyond the office, into homes, neighborhoods, and the next generation.





THE VALUE OF *Volunteerism*

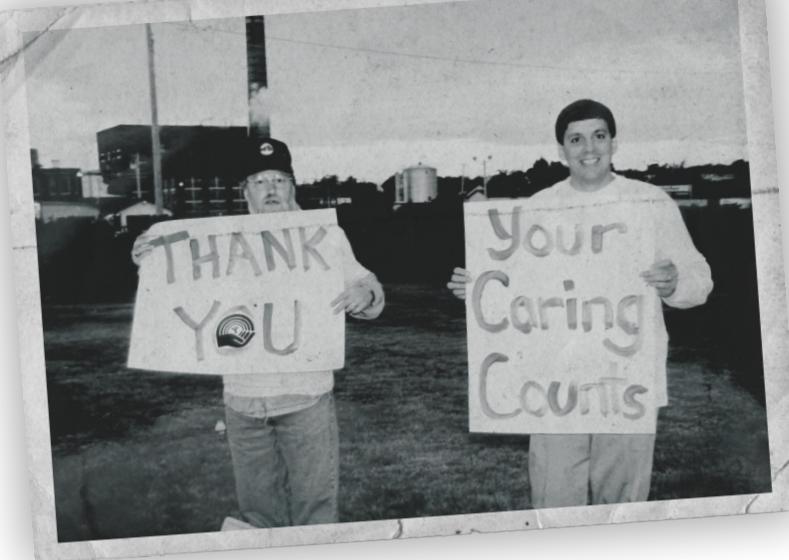
When time is as valuable as treasure.

At Heart of Maine United Way, we know this much is true: time itself is a legacy. Every meal packed, every book read, every hand extended leaves an imprint on this community – one that will outlast all of us.

In 2024, economists estimated the value of one volunteer hour to equal \$34.79.

That means when you spend an afternoon reading to a child, packing food boxes, or mentoring a student, you're giving back more than time – you're giving the equivalent of hundreds of dollars in support. And yet, the true impact goes far beyond the numbers.

We are especially grateful to our Leaders' Circle donors, many of whom give twice: once with their resources, and again with their time. Your commitment multiplies impact. Dollars sustain the programs, but volunteer hours bring them to life. When workplaces encourage their teams to serve together, one person's hour becomes a ripple of kindness, and a team's day becomes a wave of change.



VolunteerME

Heart of Maine

When you volunteer, you create connections that money alone can't buy. You remind someone that they matter. You lighten the load for a neighbor who's struggling. You model generosity for the next generation, showing that giving isn't just about wealth – it's about willingness.

That's why we created **VolunteerME**, our easy-to-use volunteer portal that connects individuals, families, and workplaces to meaningful opportunities across our six-county region. Whether you're looking to give back for a day or commit to something ongoing, VolunteerME helps match your skills and passions with the community's greatest needs.





THE CLIF EAMES LEADERS' CIRCLE

Excellence Award

Clif Eames' contributions have shaped countless organizations and lives across our region. A longtime volunteer with Heart of Maine United Way, he served as both Campaign Chair and Board Chair, always leading with humility and transparency. Clif never sought the spotlight, but he was famous for his honesty—often reminding us that during his campaign chair year, right after the closure of Dow Air Force Base, he didn't reach the goal. Instead of discouragement, he used that challenge to teach perseverance: **adapt, keep going, and encourage others to do the same.**

That was Clif's gift. He led with a smile, inspired with optimism, and believed in the power of community. He showed us that leadership is not about perfection, but about resilience, generosity, and lifting others up along the way.

In 2017, Clif lit the first sparkler at our "Spark Change" kickoff, symbolizing the spirit he carried into every role. To honor that enduring legacy, we created the **Leaders' Circle Excellence Award**—an annual recognition of a donor whose generosity and leadership reflect Clif's own.





1980's Campaign Rally, Bangor Civic Center

We were deeply moved to present the very first award in Clif's memory, with his family joining us to accept it on his behalf. Their presence was a reminder that one person's commitment can ripple outward, inspiring a community and creating lasting change.

Through this award, Clif's legacy lives on. Each year, as we recognize a Leaders' Circle donor who embodies his spirit, we are reminded of the joy, resilience, and leadership he brought to Heart of Maine United Way—and to all of us.



1980's Campaign Loaned Executives



LEADERS' *Circle*

Thank you to our Heart of Maine United Way Leaders' Circle donors. Your combined generosity contributed more than %50 to the United Way Campaign last year, which will make a difference in the lives of 134,242 community members in need! Support from Leaders' Circle donors goes beyond resources, and also includes gifts of time and talent as board members, advisors, and volunteers. Leaders' Circle giving creates hope for so many in our community when they need it most. Your gift assists with providing meals and housing, support for those fighting substance use disorder, and resources for children and their families.

We are grateful to the **263 Leaders' Circle donors**
who contributed to last year's campaign.

Thank you!



TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY

\$10,000+

Renee Bishop & Duane Graves
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Bailey & Zach Means

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Francis & Louise Nichols Foundation
Deb & Jeff Sanford
Warren & Evelyn Silver

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14 Anonymous Donors

CHARLES BRAGG

2nd Society

Charles F. Bragg 2nd was a tireless volunteer who lived a life of advancing the common good through service to public education and countless organizations, including what is today the Heart of Maine United Way. His very name conveys a sense of permanence and trust that will endure. The Charles F. Bragg 2nd Society was created in honor of his memory.

ENDOWMENT & PLANNED GIVING

Endowed funds, created with a minimum \$5,000 gift, are long-term investments with a small portion of annual growth used to support the mission. Donors may choose to create an endowed fund with a major gift, or leave a legacy with a planned gift from their will.

If you have already included United Way in your will and would like your name added to the Charles F. Bragg 2nd Society, contact President & CEO Shirar Patterson directly at (207) 262-6940.

Making or updating your will is easier than you might imagine. Heart of Maine United Way has partnered with FreeWill.com to give you a free, uncomplicated way to write your will in about 20 minutes. All you will need to do is have it notarized. Visit FreeWill.com/unitedway to get started today.



CURRENT *Members*

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Carol and Steve Colson
Andy and Patty Hamilton
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Tracy Harding and Aimee Smith
John Kuropchak
John Lord
Harris and Judy Madson

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Norman Minsky
Jeff and Kara O' Sullivan
Glen Porter
Nancy Roberts
Jeff and Deb Sanford
Mike and Nancy Shea
Molly and Patrick Stevens
Suzanne Tyler
Jeff and Lisa Wahlstrom

NAMED ENDOWED *Funds*

Charles F. Bragg 2nd Fund
Katherine Dolley Fund
The Eames Family Fund
Irene Gray Fund
Sidney Kuropchak Fund
John and Maida Marquis Fund

The Means Family Fund
NH Bragg & Sons' Family Fund
Herbert E. Sargent Fund
Ruth Souweine Fund
Jeff Wahlstrom Fund
G. Peirce Webber Fund

LEADERS' CIRCLE

by company

Bangor Publishing Company	1	Maine State Employees Combined Charitable Appeal	2
Bangor Savings Bank	21	New Reach Financial	1
Bankers Life & Casualty Co	1	Northern Light Health	44
Bath Iron Works	1	Old Town Dentistry	1
BerryDunn	7	Penobscot Community Health Care	1
Brookings-Smith	1	Penquis	2
Bucksport Regional Health Center	4	Performance Foodservice Center	1
Caterpillar	1	Prentiss and Carlisle Co., Inc.	1
City of Bangor Inc	2	R.H. Foster Energy	1
Cross Insurance	1	RBC Wealth Management	1
Dahl-Chase Diagnostics Services	1	Rezel	3
Darling's	5	Rockwell Automation	1
Eastern Area Agency on Aging	2	Rudman Winchell	1
Eaton Peabody	1	Sappi North America	3
Galen Cole Family Foundation	2	Sargent Corporation	14
Gross, Minsky & Mogul, P.A.	1	Seaboard Federal Credit Union	1
Haley Ward, Inc.	10	Skowhegan Savings Bank	1
Hannaford	4	Somerset County Government	1
Heart of Maine United Way	7	SSR LLC	1
Katahdin Trust Company	1	Tradewinds Market	1
Literacy Volunteers of Bangor	1	Tyler Technologies	1
Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry	1	United Insurance	1
Machias Savings Bank	2	University of Maine System	14
Maine Savings Federal Credit Union	1	Versant Power	35
MaineHealth	1	WBRC Architects-Engineers	1
Means Wealth Management	4		

CELEBRATING

our Community Champions

Heart of Maine United Way proudly recognizes our top-performing campaigns! Platinum and Gold Awards honor organizations that go above and beyond, bringing creativity and dedication to raising funds – and making a powerful difference in our community.

PLATINUM WINNER: Darling's Auto Group

GOLD WINNERS: Bankers Life & Casualty Co., Christine B. Foundation, Eastern Area Agency on Aging, Empeople Credit Union, Galen Cole Family Foundation, Good Samaritan Agency, Haley Ward, Inc., RBC Wealth Management, Sargent Corporation



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PLATINUM winner

L-R: Shirar Patterson, HoMEUW, with Lynne Darling and Selden Wheeler of Darling's Auto Group.

GOLD winner

L-R: Jessica Ward, HoMEUW, with Employee Manager of the year, Allyson Dougherty of Sargent Corporation.



CORPORATE

Giving and Sponsorship

Corporate giving to Heart of Maine United Way can come from generous gifts above and beyond a campaign. Examples of additional support include direct gifts from an organization, matching gifts from employee giving, or through the foundation arm of a business.

Heart of Maine United Way offers a number of sponsorship opportunities throughout the year, often coinciding with special events. Sponsorships provide companies partnership exposure and branding with United Way's international nonprofit brand while also decreasing costs, ensuring that gifts are used to help people in our community.

Thank you to our Corporate Giving and Sponsorship Partners who made contributions during our previous campaign (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025).



THANK YOU TO OUR

Corporate Donors

Versant Power
Bangor Savings Bank
Hannaford
Caterpillar Employees/Retirees and the Caterpillar Foundation
Darling's
Epstein Commercial Real Estate
L.L. Bean
Sappi North America, Somerset Operations
ABM Mechanical, Inc.
General Electric Vernova
Haley Ward, Inc.
Harnum Holdings
Hollywood Casino
Maine Savings
Means Family Foundation
Maine Distributors
Skowhegan Savings Bank
Rotary Club of Bangor
AAA Northern New England
Pike Industries
RBC Wealth Management
Machias Savings Bank
Maine Savings Amphitheater
Marden's
Key Bank of Maine



CORNERSTONES

Together, these ten companies and their employees have raised more than half of the Heart of Maine United Way Campaign. They are the foundation and support that our mission is built upon. **Thank you** for all of your dedicated and generous efforts!



You matter more.



MANY WAYS

To Give

Gifts to Heart of Maine United Way help fund critical initiatives and support nonprofit programs throughout our six-county region in Maine. All agency allocations are made through a competitive grant process administered by a committee of nearly 70 community volunteers. HoMEUW is a 501c3 and gifts may be tax deductible.

Your personal 2025 Campaign Pledge Card can be found with this publication or online at: homeunitedway.org/donate.

PAYROLL DEDUCTION – If your company runs a United Way campaign, you can fill out a pledge card. You can choose any amount to donate that will be automatically deducted each pay period to help benefit our local funded programs and initiatives.

CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD – You can make a one time or recurring credit or debit card payment on our website at: www.homeunitedway.org/donate or by calling our offices at: (207) 941-2800. If you choose a recurring payment, it allows the gift to continue until you change or cancel it.

CHECK – You can mail a check along with your completed pledge card.

GIFTS OF STOCK, IRA DISTRIBUTIONS AND DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS – Heart of Maine United Way also gratefully accepts gifts of stock, IRA distributions including required minimum distributions (RMD), or payments from donor-advised funds. If making a gift in this fashion, thank you, and please reach out to us to let us know it is on its way.

If you have questions please contact us at:

Heart of Maine United Way
700 Mount Hope Ave, Suite 101
Bangor, ME 04401
info@homitedway.org
207-941-2800





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To our Leaders' Circle Booklet Sponsor:

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Heart of Maine United Way

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