

## **JANUARY 2022**

Mission Stories of Outer Islands & Coastal Downeast Maine



The Mission food pantry in 2020 making specialty foods with Good Shepherd Food Bank, Mano en Mano, Vazquez Mexican Takeout Restaurant, and Downeast Community Partners.

### Mission Food Center Plans for 2022

CHERRYFIELD, ME - Imagine not having steady access to food in order to live a healthy, active life. That's what the U.S. Department of Agriculture calls "food insecurity." According to the nation's largest hunger relief organization, Feeding America, 12.4% of Maine's population is food insecure. In Washington County, home to the Mission's food pantry, the reported 5,200 food insecure people constitute 16.5% of the county population.

In Spring 2020, Covid-19 regulations forced an almost complete reinvention of how

the Mission food center functioned. Patrons placed their orders by phone, then drove to the pantry where Mission staff and volunteers loaded the pre-boxed orders into car trunks and truck beds. Staff and volunteers home delivered pantry orders to patrons living too far away, or who didn't feel safe leaving their homes...

Full Story



Mission Island Health personnel, island eldercare workers, and guests at a previous Mission Island ElderCare Conference.

#### The 2022 Island ElderCare Conference

NORTHEAST HARBOR, ME - One remarkable outcome ofIsland Health Director Sharon Daley's work among Maine islands is the dedicated, ongoing network of eldercare workers from ten unbridged islands. The group meets virtually throughout the year via Zoom or conference calls to share on-the-job information, answer questions, and offer professional camaraderie.

Each year the Mission hosts an ElderCare Conference at which the network eldercare health workers meet for two days to talk shop, learn from guest speakers, and to socialize in-person.

This year's ElderCare Conference, originally planned for January atNebo Lodge, an island inn and restaurant on North Haven island, will be rescheduled. The new itinerary will be announced though the Mission's social media as soon as possible. The original itinerary included plenty of time for eldercare workers to relax and recharge...

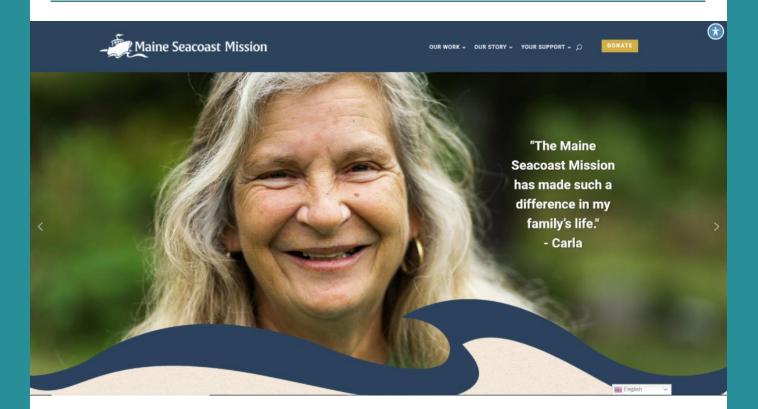
Full Story



# Wendy Takes on New Mission

From the desk of Melvin D. Adams, Downeast Director

CHERRYFIELD, ME - On December 31st, longtime educator, advocate, and community leader Wendy Harrington retired from the position of Director of Service Programs. She has taken a new role working with Downeast youth, and fortunately, she will not be far from the Downeast Campus. I am excited to announce that Wendy will continue as our Scholarship Program Coordinator. One can hear the enthusiasm in her voice as she works with our scholars, so it is thrilling to have her continue the Mission's important work...



## A New Look for the Mission's Website

NORTHEAST HARBOR, ME - Over the last several months, we worked with the Belfast-based design team Pica to reimagine the Mission's new website. We are delighted to share it with you today.

With deep gratitude to an anonymous donor who funded the project, our new site conveys the Mission's story and reflects Mission values. As our go-to digital destination, the site demonstrates the difference we make in people's lives...

Full Story





Director of Davis Maine Scholarship Christina Griffith and a sunrise over Penobscot Bay.

# People & Place - Christina Griffith

NORTHEAST HARBOR, ME - I joined Maine Seacoast Mission in August 2018 to design and implement our college readiness and Davis Maine Scholarship programs. I now work in close collaboration with our high school colleagues and college and community partners, with 27 Downeast juniors and seniors from Sumner Memorial High School and Narraguagus High School. It is an honor to learn from, and support, first-generation college bound students and their families persisting and planning toward their futures.

I feel gratitude each time I meet a Penobscot Bay sunrise. I have family on both sides of this beautiful bay. To begin a day here is a gift, connecting me to those I love, those who came before me, and it replenishes peace amid challenging times.

Davis Maine Scholarship

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