

Charting Our Future

2019 Annual Report

New Ventures Maine, 40th Anniversary 1978 - 2019

New Ventures Maine creates an empowering environment for Mainers to define and achieve their goals. Through classes and individual coaching, we help people find good jobs, further their education, launch small businesses, manage their money and build their assets.

Program Areas

STARTING BUSINESSES

NVME helps entrepreneurs start on a strong footing. Business planning classes and individual advising services provide the opportunity to create a plan for success, develop business management tools and practice entrepreneurial skills like problem solving and innovation.

Summary

- Served 531 new and aspiring entrepreneurs
- Enrolled 31 in Venturing Forth: Business Planning for Entrepreneurs
- Awarded 11 marketing mini-grants to spur growth
- Provided AARP's Work for Yourself @50+ workshops to 18 encore entrepreneurs

Ros M. (NORTHERN REGION)

As a talented photographer, Ros knew that she could turn her passion into profit. After taking Venturing Forth, Ros completed a business plan and is now self-employed as the owner of RosWerks Design & Photography. Ros advises, "Take advantage of the resources that are available to you. Understand that nothing is written in stone-you will need to be flexible." Ros sees NVME as the "catalyst" that inspired her to "light a fire." Now she sparks others with her powerful images.

BUILDING CAREERS

NVME's career classes and individual coaching provide the information needed to choose a career path, access resources, create an action plan and stay motivated. Each person's plan is unique and may include exploring local growth industries, enrolling in post-secondary education or workforce training, engaging in a job search or a combination of these strategies.

Summary

- Served 295 individuals with training and individual assistance
- Offered *My Next Career Move* both online and in person to 85 individuals
- Hosted 6 Totally Trades Conferences offering Hands-on workshops to 632 girls in grades 8-12
- Awarded 2 Gilda E. Nardone UMA Scholarships to our graduates

Meghan H. (SOUTHERN REGION)

When Meghan came to NVME she was interested in changing careers but was not sure where to begin. Through individual coaching and completing *My Next Career Move* online, she explored options and

identified an interest in a nursing career. Meghan is now in the nursing program at Southern Maine Community College. Pursuing her nursing degree was a great decision and she is “not looking back!”

MANAGING MONEY

NVME helps individuals manage their current resources and prepare for the future through classes and individual coaching. Financial capability and a personal financial plan contribute to success in higher education, employment and small business ownership. Matched savings programs encourage saving for major purchases and unexpected expenses.

Summary

- Served 644 individuals with training and individual assistance
- Offered *My Money Works* to 207 individuals
- Completed our 5th year of partnership with CA\$H Maine, bringing information and assistance to nearly 4,000 tax filers
- Supported 145 Family Development Account holders and 101 Rainy Day Savings Account holders

Donna D. (*Southern Region*)

Donna completed My Money Works offered in partnership with the Caleb Group. Eager to focus on her financial goals, Donna identified owning a home and saving for emergency expenses as priorities. She started saving, and her goal of becoming a homeowner became a reality for Donna and her son in October 2018. Donna says, “With the right motivation and tools, there is nothing that can’t be accomplished.”

DEVELOPING LEADERS

NVME supports the leadership development of our graduates who want to hone their skills, give back and pay it forward to our organization, their communities and our state.

Summary

- Compiled and shared 40 Stories for 40 Years which showcases program graduates over the past four decades
- Hosted our biennial Reception for Legislators and Funders to share the impact of our services statewide
- Increased awareness of the Earned Income Tax Credit and CA\$H Maine through EITC Day at the State House
- Continued to serve as Co-Coordinator of UMA’s Civic Engagement activities

Natalie S. P. (*MIDCOAST REGION*)

Business, career and financial education graduate Natalie says, “NVME is a cheerleader for folks who need an extra push to awaken the potential within them. The program helped me say, *her is my goal, this is how I can achieve my goal and this is my roadmap*. I couldn’t have gotten where I am today without the strength and support of NVME.” Natalie now helps pay it forward by serving as an ambassador and advocate for NVME.

1978 – 1988

First Decade

Our Roots 1975 – 1977

1975

Displaced Homemakers Movement launched by Tish Sommers and Laurie Shields with the motto “Don’t Agonize, Organize”; first state legislation passed in California

1977

An Act Concerning Displaced Homemakers, introduced by Freshman Representatives Merle Nelson and Barbara Trafton, passed in the 108th Maine Legislature with a \$15,000 appropriation.

1978

Pilot Displaced Homemakers Program began at University of Maine at Augusta serving mid-life and older homemakers needing to re-enter the paid workforce after widowhood, divorce, or the disability of their spouse. Focus on building self-confidence, career and education planning, and transferring homemaking and community volunteer skills to the workplace.

1985

New Ventures Entrepreneurship training launched to provide aspiring entrepreneurs with the skills and connections to start successful small businesses.

Five-year VISTA Volunteer Rural Community Resource Project initiated to increase DHP’s statewide presence in rural communities across the state.

1988 10th Anniversary!

Second Decade

1989-1998

1989

Expanded women’s advocacy and leadership roles at the state, New England regional, and national level, advocating for a fair share of the economic pie and expanded program funding.

Increased skills and expanded roles for women in business and community economic development, including developing Finding Your Place in the Local Economy class and hosting New England Institute on Women and Economic Development.

1993 15th Anniversary!

1994 Name change to Maine Centers for Women, Work, and Community to reflect and expanded and more positive focus for services.

Expanded collaborative workforce and business pathways out of poverty towards economic security for individuals receiving public benefits.

1998 20th Anniversary!

Third Decade

1999 – 2008

1999

International exchange of ideas with women entrepreneurs and community leaders from Slovakia, the Balkans, and other countries visiting with Maine business owners and policymakers.

Helping women and girls explore careers in trade and technical fields through first Totally Trades! Conference for middle and high school girls and guides for job seekers and employers.

Maine Women's Economic Security Project created a statewide blueprint for inter-related policies needed for women to achieve economic security.

Financing Your Future (My Money Works) financial education class developed; first matched savings provided through Maine Family Development Account program to help low-income families build assets.

2003 25th Anniversary!

Published Small Steps, Big Changes: 25 Women in the Maine Economy.

Outreach, training and technology support to different entrepreneur sectors, including artists in the creative economy, gourmet and specialty food producers, farmers, and growers.

2008 30th Anniversary!

Creating the Future: 30 Stories from the Maine Economy

Fourth Decade

2009 – 2019

2009

Expanded access and digital literacy through distance learning with workforce and business classes offered online and in blended format.

Ambassador program expanded statewide to build community leadership skills of program graduates.

2015

Name change to New Ventures Maine to reflect expanded target populations and scope of services.

Expanded role with CA\$H Maine/VITA to provide free tax assistance and asset building resources to tax filers.

Leadership role with MaineSpark Adult Promise with focus on supporting student success and increasing college degrees and workforce credentials for a diverse Maine workforce.

Financial education, coaching, and matched savings adapted to meet the needs of diverse populations – people who are incarcerated, survivors of domestic violence, people with disabilities, New Mainers, Maine Native Americans, and college students of all ages.

2019

40th Anniversary!

Cheers to 40 Years!

Program Summary

In fiscal year 2019, we provided training and/or individual assistance to 1382 Mainers, reaching people in all 16 counties.

Services Provided

There were 966 training attendees.

There were 561 persons receiving individual assistance.

There were 632 girls attending totally trades conferences.

Demographic Profile of Participants

65% of participants were from households at or below 150% of HHS poverty, while 35% were from households above 150% of HHS poverty.

73% percent of participants were women; and 27% men.

36% of participants were under the age of 35. 45% were between the ages of 35 and 54. 19% were ages 55 and up.

10% of participants did not complete high school. 45% had a high school diploma, high school equivalency test, or a general education diploma. 8% had an associates degree. 7% had a trade school degree. 30% had a bachelors degree or higher.

37% of participants were unemployed, while 59% were employed or self-employed, and 4% were retired.

For 2020 our goals are to: prepare a diverse and skilled workforce, grow successful small businesses, advance economic security for Maine families, develop community leaders across the state, and strengthen partnerships across sectors to build a stronger Maine economy.

Financial Summary

Our 2019 fiscal year budget of \$1,962,105 was sourced as follows: \$929,274 came from state funding, \$620,438 came from grants, \$229,751 came from federal funding, and \$182,642 came from other sources. The budget was allocated as follows: \$1,251,197 of funding went towards staffing, \$437,627 went towards grants or cash forward, \$98,982 went towards supportive services or grants, \$84,339 went towards communications, facilities equipment, and supplies, \$53,601 went towards indirect costs, and \$36,359 went towards travel and staff development.

Major Supporters (Fiscal Year 2019)

We are deeply grateful to our major contributors, sponsors, and donors from all sectors whose generous financial and in-kind resources have supported and sustained NVME's services over the past 50 years!

Public Agencies

Maine State Legislature
Maine Community College System
Maine Department of Education, Career and Technical Education
Maine Department of Transportation
University of Maine at Augusta Campuses and Centers
University of Maine System
U. S. Department of Agriculture

Foundations, Corporations, and Organizations,

AARP Foundation
Alfred M. Senter Fund
Association for Enterprise Opportunity
Bill and Joan Alford Foundation
Davenport Trust Fund
Doree Taylor Charitable Foundation
Frances Hollis Brain Foundation
Fedcap Rehabilitation Services, Inc.
Hope and Justice Project
John T. Gorman Foundation
Maine Center for Economic Policy
Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence
Maine Community Foundation – Amy Rossborough Helping Others Fund, Barbara and Richard Trafton Fund, Celia Lipton Farris and Victor W. Farris Foundation Home Community, Cynthia McMullin Fund for Women, David W. Worthington Fund, King Cummings Penobscot County Fund
Maine Family Development Coalition
Maine Women’s Fund
MaineShare
Portland Housing Authority
Sam L. Cohen Foundation
The Caleb Group
The Cosmopolitan Club of Bath
Wicklow Fund of the Saint Paul Foundation
Worthington Scholarship Foundation

Donors and Sponsors (Fiscal Year 2019)

Individual Donors

Karin Anderson
Peaches Bass
Janet Blevins
Valerie Bradley and Lewis Sargentich, in memory Susan Allein
Lynn Bromley
Bets Brown

Sandra Butler
Mary Cathcart, in honor of Eloise Vitelli
Sara Davis
Janice De Lima
Kathleen Demers
Jean Dempster
Kathleen Dexter
Jenn Dobransky and Aria Eee
Alyra Donisvitch
Laura and John Dorrer
Elaine Dunton
Mary Dyer
Tina Ellis
Patricia Eltman
Josephine Ewing
Susan Farnsworth
Taffy and Eliot Field
Sheri and Paul Fraser
Eleanor Goldberg
Betty and John Gundersdorf
Sarah Halpin
Shirley Hamilton, in honor Henry Hamilton, Maria Harris, Mary J. Herman
Diana Higgins
Vivianne Holmes
Sarah Hutchins
Libby Hyatt
Christine LeGore
Daniel Mansuri
Robert Marks
Brenda McAleer
Larinda Meade and Sara Davis
Gail Michael
Robert Mosenfelder
Gilda Nardone, in memory of Susan Allein
Merle and Leonard Neslon, in honor of Eloise Vitelli
Molly O'Connell
Carol O'Donnell
Lian Oyerbides
Kathleen Patrick
Jan Phillips
Susan Pinette
Clara Porter
Cyndi Prince
Julie and David Projansky

Paul Royte
Candace and Dwane Sanborn
Mary Jane Searles, in memory of Cynthia Searles Clifford
Nancy Sherin
Judith and Mark Silver, in memory of Susan Allein
Laurie Small
Janet Smith
Marianne and Robert Steinhacker
Annee Tara
Ellen Thayer, in honor of Gigi Guyton
Heidi Welch and Patricia Tierney
Cheryl Timberlake, in honor of Eloise Vitelli
Genevieve Vaillancourt
Eloise Vitelli
Donald Mansius and Lilly Vitelli
Mary Lee Ward
Carol Warren, in honor of Eloise Vitelli
Katherin White
Joanne Zafonte, in memory of Catherine Fischer
Anne Zill

Program and Event Sponsors

AARP Maine
Acadia Federal Credit Union
Bangor Savings Bank Foundation
Bangor SCORE Chapter 314
Cary Medical Center
Cassidy Orthodontics, LLC
Charter Communications
City of Portland
Coffee by Design
Darling's
Felch & Company, LLC
Gigi Guyton
Hardypond Construction
I Care Pharmacy
Irish Setter Pub
Suzanne Jandreau
Katahdin Trust Company
Penny Kern
KPEL Industrial Services
Machias Savings Bank
Maine Community Foundation
Kellie Miller

MMG Insurance Company
Muriel Mosher
North Country Animal Hospital
Norway Savings Bank
Kathryn Olmstead
Jordan Ouellette
Betty Rinehart
S.W.Collins Co., Inc.
Salmon Brook Valley
Sarah McLean Counseling
Pam Scheppele
Linda Senechal
Soderberg Co, Inc.
Tempo, Inc.
The County Federal Credit Union
The Cubby
Cheryl Timberlake
Washington Community College
Wells Fargo Educational Matching Gift Program
Woodland Pulp, LLC

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information Contributions made after June 30, 2019 will be included in our FY 20 Annual Report. Please contact Gilda Nardone at 207-621-3437 or nardone@maine.edu with any questions or corrections or to discuss giving options. Visit newventuresmaine.org to donate online.

Advisory Council

Sarah Halpin, Chair
Back Cove Financial
Karin Anderson
Goodwill Industries of Northern New England
Mary Cathcart
Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, University of Maine (Retired)
Karen Garland-Kidder
Healthy Community of greater Franklin County
Maria Hinteregger
United Way of Coastal Maine
Larinda Meade
Artist/Printmaker
Muriel Mosher
Maine MEP (Retired)
James Page
University of Maine System (Ex Officio)
Andreea Paine
Pemberton & Associates

Sarah Ruef-Lindquist
Allen Insurance and Financial
Candace Sanborn
Radiant Image
Cheryl Timberlake
Capitol Insights
Deirdre Wadsworth
Hardypond Construction
Laura Warner
Biddeford Savings
Michael Young
Unum

New Ventures Maine 40th Anniversary 1978 – 2019
University of Maine at Augusta

New Ventures Maine is a statewide program of the University of Maine at Augusta, University of Maine System, an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

NVME/UMA, 46 University Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330

Newventuresmaine.org