

Maine Seacoast Mission is committed to working with people's strengths and honoring the capacity of individuals to choose their own course in life.



Maine Seacoast Mission
Lighting the Way by Land and Sea

December 2019

Mission Stories of Outer Islands & Coastal Downeast Maine Towns

**#GivingTuesday
Thank You for Including Mission Communities**



BAR HARBOR, ME -- Thank you for including the Mission's Downeast and unbridged island communities this #GivingTuesday.

Each year at Christmas time, the Mission distributes holiday gifts to children, families, elderly, and nursing home residents. The tradition of Mission Christmas presents began more than 100 years ago when the Mission brought gifts to island residents and lighthouse keepers.

Last year, thanks to generous donors we helped with gifts for over 1,500 children and elderly in need. Our Christmas Program Wish List 2019 with shipping instructions is [available for downloading here](#) and on the Mission web site. For the first time, we are also providing a wish list on Amazon which can be accessed by [this link](#).

This morning we were given an Wish List update from Tara, one of the staff running the Christmas Program. Tara said, "Some items currently needed for the Christmas Program are gifts for teens, younger kids (especially girls), babies and we could really use boys and girls clothing sizes 4-8."

Crew *Sunbeam V* Members Do Their Work Absent the *Sunbeam V*



Steward Jillian in the galley aboard the Sunbeam V. (Photo by Tristan Spinski)

CHERRYFIELD, ME — Sunbeam V Steward Jillian, and Island Health Services Director Sharon Daley, RN, both shared what their work looks like without the *Sunbeam*.

"As *Sunbeam* Steward my job is to feed the crew and guests and keep things tidy," said Jillian. "Also, I work with Island Health Services Director Sharon and Island Outreach Director Douglas to extend our hospitality so it works in conjunction with the many additional programs and gatherings offered on and off the *Sunbeam*. Providing all-island-breakfasts, bingo snacks, care packages, holiday dinners, lots of cookies," she said.

"It has been interesting to figure out how to provide these services alternatively. Life without the beloved *Sunbeam* has been a lot of things, many of which had to unfold outside of planning. How many times in my life will I decommission a boat?" said Jillian.

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Island Health Services Director Sharon Daley, RN, shown here, said, "Getting to the islands without the *Sunbeam V* has been a challenge in many ways. We have met those challenges with a lot of help from many people. This includes help with

transportation (boats, planes or cars), and with places to stay, phones, internet use, and numerous other things.

"How I worked flu clinics recently on six islands is a good example. The flu clinics happen when people get there, not by appointment," said Director Sharon Daley



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Downeast Maine Tiny House Project Foundation Completed



CHERRYFIELD, ME -- Mission Housing Rehabilitation Director Scott Shaw has good news. "The Downeast Maine Tiny House Project foundation in Milbridge is complete," Scott Shaw said. "John Goodwin is amazing and has gone above and beyond for all of the site work and working with the other contractor timelines. Now, the foundation needs to be protected from the foul weather until the Tiny House home is delivered. A carpenter will arrive this weekend and enclose the exposed foundation. The future military veteran homeowner agreed to keep the foundation clear of snow."

Scott Shaw said, "I will keep the property plowed out and clear for when the crane and

trailer arrive. This pilot project was way above our original scope. We have learned so much from the process. The next one will be a piece of cake.".

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