



Mission Food Pantry Customers Double

CHERRYFIELD, ME - The Mission's Food Pantry served twice as many people in April, over 750, compared to January. The ongoing Senior Commodities and School Backpack delivery programs represented another 255 households served during the month. The Mission was able to add an extra day of operation each week at Cherryfield and also provided food to other Downeast pantries in Machias, Jonesport, and Woodland through our partnership with Healthy Acadia. Home deliveries have also been on the rise.

A combination of Mission Food Pantry staff, temporarily reassigned EdGE staff, and

volunteers are keeping pace with the increasing demand for food. Thankfully our pantry food supply sources, recognizing the increased demand, are keeping pace by adding food deliveries. With another local food pantry, we arranged two deliveries to Matinicus when the island's usual system was disrupted. We have worked with new partners to increase access to food, particularly hard-to-source items.

Currently our Mission food sources include [Good Shepherd Food Bank](#), [Ellsworth Walmart](#), [Ellsworth Shaw's](#), [Bayside Hannaford](#) in Milbridge, [Dennis Paper & Food Service](#), and [Eastern Area Agency on Aging](#). Generous donations from foundations, local businesses, and individuals have helped us respond to the growing need. We feel the sense of community daily and are profoundly grateful.

[Learn More](#)



Mission President Zavodny spoke about Project ReachOut with WABI-TV via Skype.

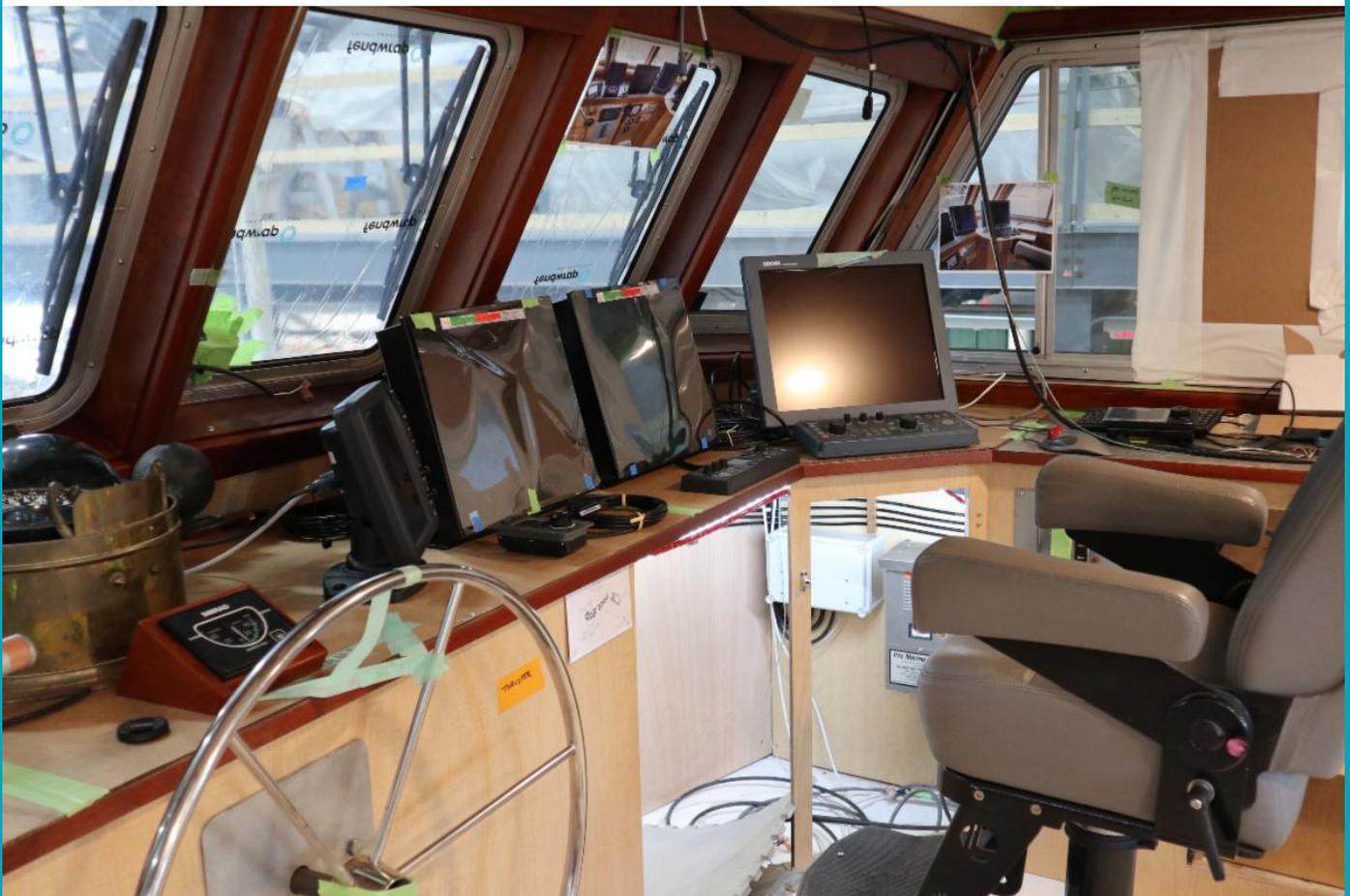
Update: *Project ReachOut*

BAR HARBOR, ME -- The Mission's *Project ReachOut* was highlighted in [WABI-TV's April 24 report](#). Our initiative is based on the idea that we are all better off when we connect. Through *Project ReachOut*, Mission staff and volunteers make phone-calls to families in the EdGE program, seniors, residents of the unbridged islands, and other households in the Mission service area.

In this moment of profound isolation, the calls offer anything from the hello of a familiar voice, to an antidote for loneliness, to the first step in getting food. As WABI-TV put it, "The Maine Seacoast Mission has found a way to still be a positive voice for members of the Downeast community."

As of May 1, *Project ReachOut's* 39 callers have touched base with over 400 families and individuals. The Mission is still training and adding volunteer callers so we can reach another 1,000 families that we work with through our various services. You can help. Please fill out and submit your volunteer application [online here](#). Or email resources@seacoastmission.org or call 207-546-5860 to request a volunteer application.

Learn More



A recent view of some modern electronics in the Sunbeam pilothouse.

Capt. Mike - *Sunbeam* is Essentially a New Boat

BELFAST, ME -- There is light at the end of the re-fit tunnel. After months of work on the *Sunbeam* systemic areas, the focus has transitioned to the main level and

pilot house. It is exciting to sit in my helm chair and envision pulling into Isle au Haut or Matinicus and having our island friends back aboard.

Front Street Shipyard continues working under Covid-19 restrictions. Front Street Shipyard craftsmen are at the top of their trade, always willing to communicate ideas and suggestions for improvement. Still, the distancing measures and other restrictions will delay the *Sunbeam's* launch - a day we await with great anticipation!

Despite these challenges I am impressed with the quality of the boat being returned to us. At the helm, modern electronics will offer more navigational security at sea, and a new diagnostic network will alert us via text message if a problem is detected while in port.

The *Sunbeam* is essentially a new boat with enormous improvements in crew comfort and safety.

[Learn More](#)



#GivingTuesday - Thanks for Helping the Mission

BAR HARBOR, ME -- May 5 is #GivingTuesday. While we know there is no shortage of good works deserving of your #GivingTuesday support, we respectfully ask you to support Maine Seacoast Mission's good works. Your gift will help us help the incredible Maine kids, families, and seniors we work with in Downeast coastal communities and on Maine unbridged islands. We play a key and unique role in supporting and strengthening these communities - for well over a century and now in this time of incredible disruption.

As an eNewsletter subscriber you are probably familiar with the Mission's work. If not, please [see for yourself](#).

And thank you for your help on #GivingTuesday.

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