



L-R: President Zavodny with nurses Peggy Akers, Sharon Daley, Maureen Giffin.

President Zavodny - Reflections on the Small Moments

NORTHEAST HARBOR, ME – As we work to tell the big picture story of the Mission’s Covid-19 vaccination effort, we also want to make sure to capture the small moments. These are the moments that will bring texture and life to this historic initiative now and as we remember them. Here are some of the moments I will always remember from the first few vaccination trips.

I’ll think of Tammy, Swan’s Island EMT, managing parking in her bright yellow jacket and handing out carnations to all those who came to be vaccinated. A big smile and “thank you” from Tammy for a warm cup of tea on that wonderful windy first clinic day.

I won’t forget a Kubota 4x4 ride on Monhegan. Me in the front with Jess the EMT driving. Peggy, Sharon, and Maureen – our medical team – in the back. Bumps and laughter and racing back to the dock and the *Laura B* where crew and passengers waited patiently for us to finish every vaccination.

I will remember Barb on Islesford dancing from registration to waiting room to vaccine administration and back to waiting. Then finally gracefully gliding right out the door of the Neighborhood House. Victory sign waving, enormous smile beaming.

[Full Story](#)



Dylan Taplin, University of Maine Orono

Students Talk about Resilience

CHERRYFIELD, ME -- The Mission's Winter 2021 *The Bulletin* features several compelling stories including one called *Students Talk About Resilience*. Here's what Dylan Taplin had to say about resilience in *The Bulletin*.

I like to simply define resilience as one's ability to bounce back. When bent out of shape, stuck in the gutter, or lost on your way. Resilience is the ability to follow one's intuition in difficult times to do not what is easy, but what is right.

The Seacoast Mission and UMO's student outreach and support organizations have been huge during this pandemic time because they help me remember that even if I make mistakes or am feeling low, I have a support system. When you are at a low point, reach out to the people that you know have your back. When you're at a high point, establish relationships with people you trust so they're there for your lows! Having a support system is huge, and Seacoast Mission has been there for me through these trying times. For that, I'm grateful!

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Gone in 90 Minutes - 500 Boxes of Food

CHERRYFIELD, ME -- Distributing to community members 500 boxes of food and an equal number of gallons of milk in 90 minutes. That's what Mission Family Food Center Food Programs Coordinator Stephanie Moores and seven others did recently at the Farmers to Families Program at Narraguagus High School in Harrington, ME.

"Washington County Foods Program Manager Regina Grabovac from Healthy Acadia and I worked with Native Maine to organize the event," said Stephanie Moores. "The truck was two hours late. Cars were waiting as far as the eye could see. But people were patient and calm. I spoke with some of our patrons from the food pantry. I also connected with people who don't use our pantry, but who may use it now. It was a great way to reach out," Stephanie said.

The food boxes included apples, oranges, potatoes, meat, shredded cheese, sour cream, and cottage cheese. Wendy Harrington, Mission Director of Service Programs added, "This is one of the most popular things that happened since the pandemic. People just love these boxes. Anybody can take one, and it just removes all the barriers."

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Project ReachOut #2 - Focus on Seniors

CHERRYFIELD, ME – Launched in early April 2020 in response to our community Covid-19 shut ins, our *Project ReachOut* was based on a simple idea: A kind word and a simple “how can we help?” can make all the difference.

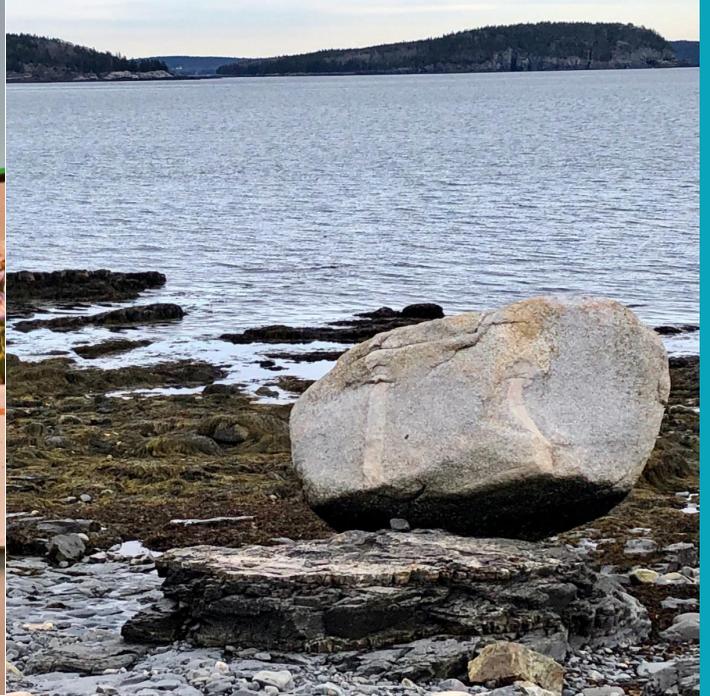
And it did make a difference. To date our 3,108 calls have reached 1,149 local families, some needing help in several ways including: food assistance, home repairs, fuel assistance, rent/mortgage assistance, car repairs, electric bills, and appliance repairs.

That’s why, as Mission Director of Service Programs Wendy Harrington tells us, *Project ReachOut* is reborn as twin projects.

“I’m calling it *Project ReachOut #2*,” said Wendy Harrington. We’re collaborating with EdGE staffers, focusing more on seniors needing weekly conversation or resources. We’ll reach out to the folks who come to our food pantry and access our food commodity program. We’re asking if anyone interested in getting the Covid-19 vaccination needs help.

“Also,” said Wendy, “original *Project ReachOut* volunteers are starting again. They will focus more on friendly chats, and offering information about resources or upcoming events,” she said.

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EdGE/Downeast Campus Administrative Assistant Maria Wight and Bar Harbor.

Mission People & Places - Maria Wight

CHERRYFIELD, ME -- Maria Wight, EdGE/Downeast Campus Administrative Assistant, is March's featured Mission staffer, sharing with us their favorite Maine places.

"I just finished my 15th year at the Mission," said Maria. "My favorite Maine spots are Acadia National Park's [Sand Beach](#) and the views from [Cadillac Mountain](#), which is also in Acadia National Park. But, I love all of Bar Harbor. It's my favorite place.

"Bar Harbor may be a tourist destination for some, but it's my happy place," continued Maria. "I've enjoyed many trips to beautiful Sand Beach, and I have seen many breathtaking views from atop Cadillac Mountain. I started going to these places when I was in high school. They've been my favorite places ever since," Maria said.

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