



November 17, 2010

Building on Higher Ground

PO Box 492, Saco, ME 04072 Phone: 283-3205

Newsletter Title Contest! E-mail or phone in your recommendations for a title for the new SMFCAH newsletter.

Welcome to Southern Maine Fuller Center for Housing's first newsletter. In summary our historical beginnings need to be addressed. Formed in the fall of 2008, the Board of Directors' initial task was to apply itself to all the laws and legal regulations necessary for the purpose of repairing or renovating homes for the needy who could not acquire a conventional loan due to their financial predicaments. Our status was established when we were recognized in the spring of 2009 with a 501 (c) 3 certification for a non-profit organization. Later in the same year, we initiated our first initiative located in the town of Dayton. This project, which was an entire home renovation, was completed and the home was dedicated on the 29th of August of this year. It was a joyful occasion for all concerned.

The completion of this home could not have been realized without the volunteers and the generosity from the community that the Fuller Center received for the work that had to be done. The home had been found to be unsafe and unhealthy for anyone to be living in. The family was comprised of a single mom and her two girls. They are presently adapting very nicely to their new environment.

At this time we wish to recognize all the angels of mercy that made this all possible.

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Introducing Ourselves To The Community—Outreach Meeting

Patricia Frechette - President

Carolyn Noble - Vice President

James Audiffred - Secretary

Dana Lane - Treasurer

Southern Maine Fuller Center for Housing is open to anyone in need. Our first informal meeting to introduce ourselves into the community will be November 22, 2010 at the Unitarian Church on School in Saco. Anyone interested in finding out if they qualify for an interest free loan to repair their home is welcomed. This educational session will be held at 7 pm in the church meeting room.

Thanks to our Contributors and Volunteers on the Dayton Project

Anonymous Donor	Pat Frechette, President of Southern Maine Fuller Center	Vinnie Martorano, Patriot Subaru
CD Armstrong, Deering Lumber, Biddeford	Jim Godbout, Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	James McAvoy
Eric Aube, Aube & Plamondon Electrical	Elizabeth Gotthelf	Rev. Merle Mitchell, Assembly of God, OOB
James & Margo Audiffred, Board Member	Nathan Grant	Jason Morton
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Beaupre Fuels	Tiffany Hampton, Century 21, Board Member	Gail Nason, Biddeford
Kenny Blow, BBI	Hannaford's bottle drive, Biddeford	Carolyn Noble, Board Member
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Virgil Bourgoine, BDS	Alexis Heald	Panera Bread, Biddeford
Jacqueline Bouthot	Annika Heald	Paquin & Carroll Insurance
Douglas & Sue Burgess, Swampscott Mission Project Forman	Ann Hemenway, DEP	Ted Poirier, Excavation
Mel Cannella	Home Depot, Biddeford	Andrew Powers
John Caylor *** Exceptional Volunteer	Robert & Priscilla Huot	Bill Powers
Jordan Caylor	Philip Hussey's Electrical	Silena Preston
Rev. David Chandler, Family's UUC Minister	Journal Tribune	Richard Putney
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Chia Sen, Scarborough	Jacob Koch, President of NOVA Fuller Center, Virginia	ReStore, Habitat for Humanity
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Richard Courtois, Cabinetmaker	Ron Landman	Jeff StLaurent, Saco Biddeford Savings
Hannah Courtois	Dana Lane, CPA, Board Member	Swampscott, MA, UCC Congregational
Dayton Sand & Gravel	Dale LaPlante, Masonery	Michele Tanguay, Bangor Savings, Biddeford
Louis D'Angelo	Michael Lapointe, Mike Lapointe's Construction	Target, Biddeford
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Doreen Dicienzo	Diane LeBlanc, Prudential	John & Elaine Thibault
Bertho Dube, Drywall & Mudding	Lowes, Biddeford	Sharon Thomas
Vic Dube, Dube's Drywall Supply Co.	Bruce & Paulette Libby	Mike Souliere, Tree Specialist
Ray Dusseault, Masonery	Lumber Liquidators	Steve's Electrical Service
ECAC, General Dynamics	Lowes, Biddeford	Mark & Karyn Swazey
Esther Residence	Jack Mace	Bart Tucker, President of Fuller Center, Texas
Peter Eremita, DEP	Marie Joseph Spiritual Center	John Turner
Janet Fischer, Swampscott Mission Leader	Marie Rivier Associates	Don Viger, Small Jobs Unlimited
Jerry Frechette *** Exceptional Volunteer		Walmart, Biddeford
Joe Frechette		Scott Wescott

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

In the pursuit of sustainability, we believe that balancing our culture, our philosophy, our Christian principles, our desire to help eliminate poverty housing, and our love for children, and who they can become, under the right circumstances is, fundamental. We cultivate this belief through our approach known as “love thy neighbor” utilizing the technique of recycling homes and money. Southern Maine Fuller Center observes practices allowing for the stretching of our dollars by fundraising, cash and in-kind donations, the strategy of volunteer labor, sweat equity and a return of our expenses by our clients in repaying their interest free loans. The loan amount being that sum of which is the ‘dollar amount’ used in their project, importantly, enabling them to retain their dignity as human beings.

Our quality management system is ever-changing and striving for excellence. We are trying to enhance the quality of our services for the enrichment of others by providing a proactive and responsive approach to our business. Our goal is to provide all our clients with an exceptional experience for a remarkable outcome.

Our environmental management system is essential for eco-green building solutions thus reducing the negative impact on our surroundings and enhancing the health and safety perspective we value. As such, we are assessing all areas of our operation for risks and opportunities so that we can implement set standards and guidelines to protect our environment and educate our clients in ways they can lessen their impact. We encourage annual auditing of our practices to ensure continual improvements for not only our environment but for our clients also.

We culminate all our efforts with the desire to partner with other organizations that have similar missions within our community to provide safe and healthy living conditions especially for our community’s children who will be tomorrow’s leaders and educators. To focus on this partnering concept, we have recently unrolled our “Bridge of Hope” program to enlist more partnerships in our efforts.

Southern Maine Fuller Center Stewardship Annual Report for 2009-2010

As we come to the end of an extraordinary and rewarding year, we give thanks for all the blessings we have received.

The world is full of pain and suffering. Many people are finding it difficult to provide for themselves and their families let alone think about making some needed repairs to make life safer or healthier. Some feel this pain more than others do. If you are one of the fortunate ones who have survived these uncertain times with few changes in your life, you have many reasons to give thanks.

Meanwhile, the reality of our weakened economy takes a toll on the gifts and donations that help sustain the lives of so many needy people.

We, too, have found it necessary to “tighten our belts” as much as possible. However, we are not deterred from trying as we can and your generosity and support have enabled us to continue our work.

For this we say THANK YOU. People need to know and feel supported in prayers and volunteer efforts. We are prepared to reach out and touch the lives of more families and create an impact on their lives too. Can we count on you to commit some good will?

With our heartfelt thanks, we ask for your support and prayers for these needy families. Know that when they pray they also give thanks to you, their benefactors.

Send your donations to: Southern Maine Fuller Center for Housing

PO Box 492. Saco, Maine 04072

What is volunteerism and what for?

To volunteer is to do something	Are you bored?
To volunteer is to give of yourself	Do you have a void to fill?
To volunteer is to care about the less fortunate	Have you compassion?
To volunteer is to be productive	Do you have time on your hands?
To volunteer is to love	Do you want to reach out?
To volunteer is an expression of gratefulness	Are you satisfied?
To volunteer is to help others	Do you feel useful?
Light up someone else's life	Feel the warmth of giving
Bring meaning and love to someone	Companionship will follow
Keep someone's hope alive	Show your faith in God
Defuse loneliness and despair	Light up someone's darkest corner
Ease the suffering	Help people take the first step to rebuild their lives
If nothing else: pray	And someone will be there for you

**All types of services both manual and administrative are needed. Won't you lend a hand to keep hope alive?
Call Pat at 207-283-3205 or send your request to join our effort to eliminate poverty housing to SMFC4H at
PO Box 492, Saco, ME 04072**

DO YOU FEEL USEFUL?

Seeking a responsible , organized individual to oversee our volunteer program and hours.

Seeking an office manager to man our phones and e-mails.

Can be done at home.

