

PRO BONO & COMMUNITY SERVICE OVERVIEW 2016



Dear Clients and Friends,

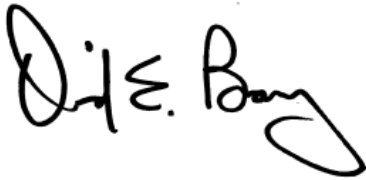
We are pleased to share highlights of Pierce Atwood's pro bono and community service efforts in our annual Pro Bono & Community Service Overview.

An ethic of public service is deeply rooted in Pierce Atwood's history and culture. We are proud that our attorneys and staff continue to honor that tradition by embracing our collective responsibility to reach out to those who need assistance.

We recognize the barriers, financial and otherwise, that exist between so many in our communities and access to the legal system. We are proud of the important role our firm plays assisting those in need to overcome those barriers and to gain access to justice. We also embrace our responsibility to support nonprofit and charitable organizations that are doing important work in our communities and beyond.

We invite you to take a moment to review our 2016 Pro Bono & Community Service Overview and share in our accomplishments over the last year.

Sincerely,



David E. Barry, Managing Partner



2016 By the Numbers

- 6911** | Pro bono legal services hours served
- 59** | Number of organizations served
- 102** | Number of attorneys who provided pro bono legal services
- 42** | Number of attorneys who provided more than 50 hours of pro bono legal services
- 75** | Number of attorneys who provided more than 50 hours of pro bono legal & community service combined

\$4.5 Million

Dollar value of our pro bono & community service hours in 2016

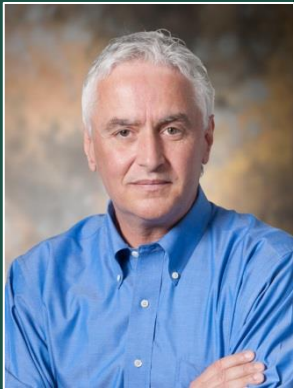


THIRD ANNUAL PRO BONO & COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

Among the ways we work to encourage pro bono and community service as part of our firm culture is to recognize those in our firm who have made outstanding contributions to our communities and our firm. Our Third Annual Pro Bono & Community Service Awards Ceremony, held on January 25, 2017, recognized the efforts of our attorneys and staff in 2016.

McKusick Community Impact Award

Named after Vincent Lee McKusick, former Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court and Pierce Atwood friend and lawyer for more than 50 years, the McKusick Community Impact Award recognizes one attorney and one staff member annually who have made significant, positive impacts in their communities through pro bono and/or community service. Award recipients select a charitable organization to receive a monetary donation made on their behalf by Pierce Atwood.



Tony Derosby, partner in the Immigration Practice Group in Pierce Atwood's Portland office, was honored for his work with Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP), his ongoing mentoring of ILAP volunteer attorneys and for offering immigration workshops. Pierce Atwood has a long-standing relationship with ILAP, which provides affordable legal services and collaborates with service providers, policymakers, and the public concerning legal issues unique to immigrants, to ensure immigrants can effectively navigate Maine's legal system. ILAP helps immigrants gain or improve their legal status, unites families, improves educational and employment opportunities, and helps them contribute fully to their new communities in Maine.

Karen Bean, a legal assistant in the Portland office, was recognized for her work with Girls on the Run. Girls on the Run works with girls ages 8-13 to inspire them to be "joyful, healthy, and confident, using a fun, experience-based curriculum that creatively integrates running."



Scribner Firm Impact Award

Named after long-time former partner Fred Scribner, whose legacy endures through the firm's commitment to the community, its employees, and the law, this award is given annually to one attorney and one staff member who work to keep pro bono and community service top of mind throughout the firm.

Ron LaRocca, a litigation associate in the Providence, RI office, was selected for his ongoing work with Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) and the Rhode Island Volunteer Lawyers Project (RI VLP), as well as his tireless dedication to providing legal assistance to the family of a Pierce Atwood employee who lost her life under tragic circumstances.



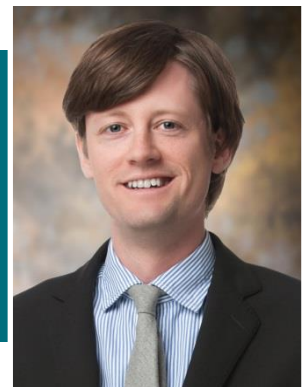
Mary Clifford, a legal assistant in the Portland office, has been the "heart and soul" behind the Portland office's annual Day of Community Service since 2010. Each year, Mary contacts potential organizations to determine if they have a need for our volunteers. As participation has grown, this involves finding multiple organizations and a mutually convenient date, ensuring a variety of work of varying physical requirements to accommodate the broadest number of participants, forming the work groups for each location, and finding a leader for each group.

Firm colleagues recognized Mary for "always giving her best, wanting things to be perfect, and caring from her heart!"

Pro Bono Attorney of the Year

This award is presented to the attorney who has contributed the highest number of pro bono hours in a year.

Griff Leschefske, a Trusts & Estates associate in the Portland office, completed 313 hours of pro bono service in 2016, providing assistance to Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Maine VLP, and several individuals, families, and nonprofit organizations.



Pro Bono

Pro Bono Fairs

As part of the firm's ongoing efforts to promote pro bono service, Pierce Atwood was pleased to host, in our Portland and Boston offices, an array of area organizations who shared information about their work and the opportunities for attorneys to provide their clients with much-needed legal assistance.

Portland Pro Bono Fair – October 18, 2016

- Campaign for Justice
- Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD)
- Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP)
- Legal Food Hub (Conservation Law Foundation)
- Maine Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
- Maine Homeless Legal Project



Boston Pro Bono Fair – October 20, 2016

- Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD)
- Justice Resource Institute (JRI) Health Law Institute
- Lawyers Clearinghouse
- Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Economic Justice
- Legal Food Hub (Conservation Law Foundation)
- Political Asylum and Immigration Representation Project (PAIR)
- Pro Bono Collaborative
- Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts of Massachusetts
- Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP)
- Women's Bar Foundation



“The firm has done a tremendous job of reinvigorating its pro bono program, and I can now speak as a member of the legal aid community when I say it has not gone unnoticed. Thank you!”

Sara Benjamin (pictured at left)
Staff Attorney, JRI Health Law Institute
(and Pierce Atwood alumna)

Pro Bono Successes

Citizenship Workshops

The **Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP)** partnered with Pierce Atwood to offer Citizenship Workshops at our Portland office in May and November.



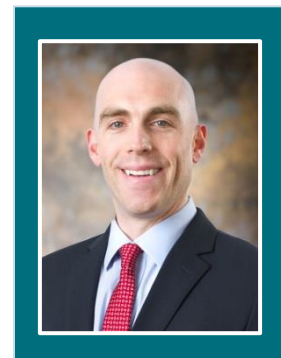
Each workshop started with a one-hour orientation and training program for participating Pierce Atwood attorneys, covering the basic eligibility requirements for citizenship, the application and forms, and the required supporting documentation for the citizenship application. As the ILAP clients began to arrive, the Pierce Atwood attorneys were paired with applicants and, with the support of ILAP attorneys and staff, helped the ILAP clients prepare applications for naturalized citizenship and related supporting documents. The ILAP clients all are low-income lawful permanent residents who meet the legal requirements to become citizens of the United States but require assistance with preparing an application for naturalized citizenship. The goal of the workshops is to help these applicants finalize the necessary paperwork for filing with United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Over the course of these two workshops, 24 Pierce Atwood attorneys and paralegals worked together to help 21 ILAP clients complete applications for naturalized citizenship.

Bar Leadership Recognition

Pierce Atwood associate Nick Brown was selected for the **Boston Bar Association's Public Interest Leadership Program (PILP)**, a 14-month program that "promotes civic engagement and public service by advancing the leadership role of lawyers in service to their community, their profession and the Commonwealth."

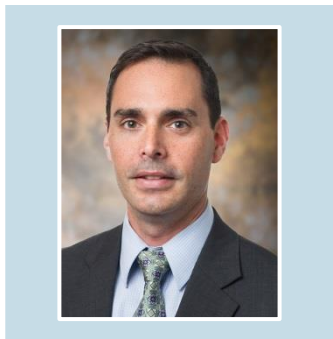
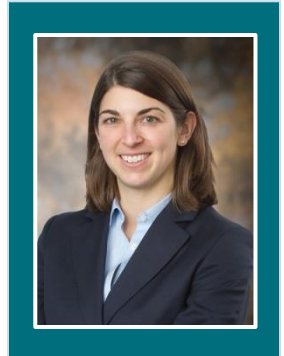
With the goal of getting younger lawyers to become more engaged as community leaders earlier in their careers, the selective program brings together lawyers from a variety of law firms and practice settings who have demonstrated a commitment to public service and pro bono work. The participants learn from judges and other community leaders in the Boston area, working together on a public interest project of their choosing, and developing relationships that will benefit them throughout their careers.



Pro Bono Successes

Helping to Pave the Way

Working with staff counsel from Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD), Pierce Atwood attorneys **Mike Daly** and **Katie Kohm** played a key role in convincing the Rhode Island Family Court to recognize the non-biological mother in a same-sex relationship as the parent of a child conceived through in vitro fertilization (IVF) using sperm donated by an anonymous donor. The case began as an adoption petition, but the court clerk refused to schedule hearing on the petition without our client first publishing notice in a newspaper in Virginia, where the sperm was donated. We were originally asked to work with GLAD to help develop a strategy and argument to convince the court to dispense with this unnecessary, cumbersome and expensive publication requirement.



In making the argument, we went a step farther and asked the court to declare the non-biological mother to be a de facto parent, which would make the adoption unnecessary and the publication issue moot. The judge agreed. This is the first time the Family Court has applied the “de facto parent” concept to allow a same-sex couple to establish parentage for the non-biological parent of a child conceived through IVF. Previously, the concept had been applied to same-sex couples only in the context of disputes over custody following a divorce or break-up. This decision will help pave the way for same-sex couples looking to start a family in Rhode Island.

Help in a Time of Need

The Pierce Atwood team of **Ben Jenkins, Barbara Wheaton, and Jackie Kurz** (*below, left to right*) received a heartfelt note of thanks after helping a Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP) client recover property improperly confiscated by a sibling through undue influence prior to their mother’s death.



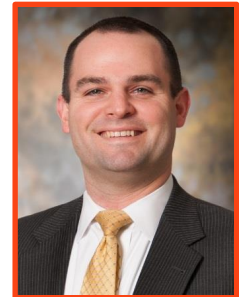
“From the very bottom of our hearts, my sister and I thank you for all that you have so unselfishly done for us. We are blessed in so many ways.”

– VLP client

Pro Bono Successes

Securing Home & Family

After nearly a year of work on a guardianship and eviction case, Pierce Atwood attorney **Ron LaRocca** was able to secure housing for VLP client "A" and guardianship for her niece "K" following a hearing in Pawtucket, Rhode Island Probate Court. Twelve-year old K's mother died in 2013, and she had never known her father. Without anywhere to live, A took K into her home in public housing rather than see her niece go into state custody. The Pawtucket Housing Authority threatened to evict A and her family because she did not have any legal authority over K's care. The Rhode Island Volunteer Lawyer Program asked Ron to step in to protect A's housing and assist her in obtaining guardianship over K.



The case took a variety of twists and turns. After obtaining A's appointment as temporary guardian, it was necessary to learn the identity and location of K's father (unknown to A and K), in order to secure his agreement to the appointment of a permanent guardian. It was found he had passed away in 2015. With no biological parent living, this cleared the way for the Probate Court to appoint A as K's permanent guardian. A's home is now secure and K finally has an adult legally responsible for her care and upbringing.

Fundraising Successes



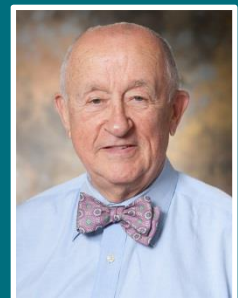
Meg LePage served as the **2016 Chair of The Maine Justice Foundation's Campaign for Justice**, which raises funds for six of the state's civil legal aid providers – Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project, Maine Volunteer Lawyers Project, Pine Tree Legal Assistance, Maine Equal Justice Partners, Legal Services for the Elderly, and the Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic of the University of Maine School of Law. Meg was responsible for leading the campaign of about 100 volunteer attorneys statewide.

The total raised in 2016 under Meg's leadership: a record-breaking **\$602,357!**

Jack Sanders serves as **Chair of the Leadership Council of the Campaign for Legal Services**, the fundraising arm for New Hampshire Legal Assistance and the Legal Advice and Referral Center, both of which provide civil legal services to the poor.

2016 marked two important anniversaries: the 45th year since New Hampshire Legal Assistance was formed from the merger of two smaller organizations, and the 20th year since the formation of the Legal Advice and Referral Center.

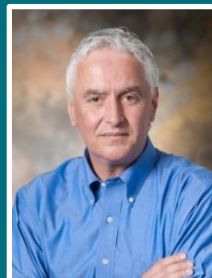
Under Jack's leadership, the 2016 Campaign for Legal Services raised a total of **\$294,000** – 107% of their \$275,000 goal.



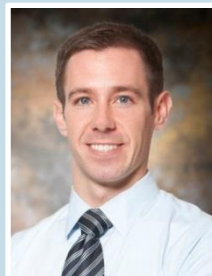
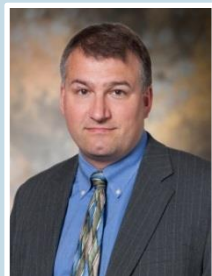
Community Recognition

The **Katahdin Counsel Recognition Program** was launched in 2012 by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court to recognize those Maine lawyers who have dedicated 50 or more hours in a reporting year to providing pro bono legal services.

In the year ending June 30, 2016, 14 Pierce Atwood attorneys (pictured below) earned distinction as Katahdin Counsel.



John J. Aromando
Sarah H. Beard
Andrew S. Davis
Anthony R. Derosby



Jared S. des Rosiers
Kaitlyn M. Husar
Ryan F. Kelley



Ralph I. Lancaster, Jr.
Griffin Leschefske
Jana Magnuson



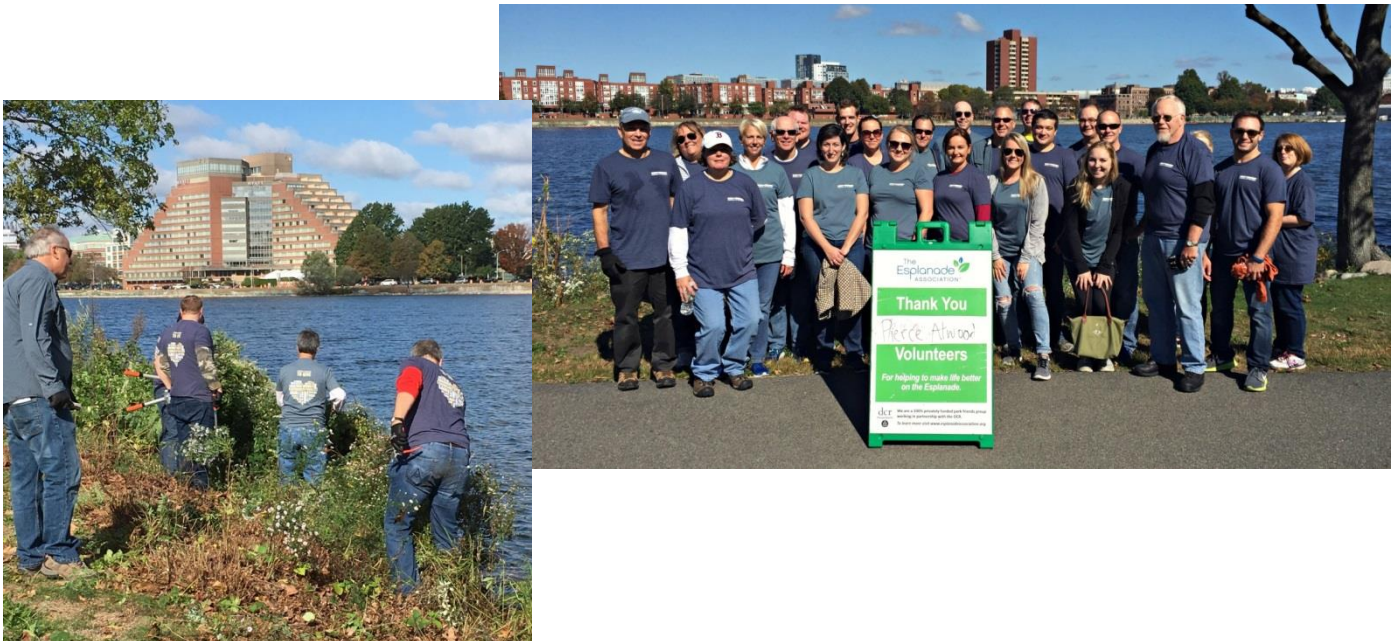
Liam J. Paskvan
Nolan L. Reichl
Barbara K. Wheaton
Esther S. Yoo

Community Service

As a firm, we hold an annual **Day of Community Service**. Since 2004, our attorneys and staff leave the office together to work on service projects for deserving charitable organizations. Our 2016 projects included:

Boston Day of Community Service – October 5, 2016

Our Boston office team volunteered with **The Esplanade Association**, which, in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation, works to restore and enhance Boston's Charles River Esplanade. Wielding large loppers and hand-sized trimmers, attorneys and staff spent the morning removing non-native invasive plants and bushes from about a quarter-mile stretch of riverbank.



Through our **Janet D. Eustis Memorial Staff Volunteer Time-Off Program**, launched in 2014, staff members are given one paid day off each year to volunteer for a nonprofit organization of their choice.

In 2016, 18 staff members participated in the program, volunteering approximately 86 hours of their time in their communities.

Portland Day of Community Service – September 28, 2016



At the **Maine Society for the Protection of Animals**, our volunteers assisted with various barnyard chores, including cleaning the horse stalls and other barnyard areas.

Another Pierce Atwood team at **Westbrook Community Center Trails** spent the day raking, hauling, limbing, filling and planting, while additional projects were completed at the Westbrook Community Center.



Charitable Giving

In 2016, our Charitable Giving Committee chose the **Travis Roy Foundation** to benefit from our collaborative fundraising efforts.

Travis grew up in Yarmouth, Maine and started his freshman year at Boston University in 1995. He was eleven seconds into his first collegiate hockey game when he crashed into the boards the wrong way and was left paralyzed from the neck down. The foundation he created following his injury is focused on empowering spinal cord injury survivors through adaptive equipment grants, and also provides funding for spinal cord injury research. Today, along with his Foundation work, Travis is a popular motivational speaker and makes frequent appearances in and around New England and across the country.

Our firm-wide fundraising efforts in support of the Travis Roy Foundation included:

- “Jeans Fridays” on the first of each month, when, in exchange for a \$5 donation, Pierce Atwood employees are allowed to wear jeans to work
- A Pierce Atwood Trivia & Pizza lunch
- Creation of an all-new Pierce Atwood Cookbook of favorite recipes, with sales proceeds to benefit the foundation

Ending our year on a special note, Travis paid a visit to Pierce Atwood in December. In front of a packed house in our Portland office (and via videoconference to our other offices), Travis discussed growing up in Maine, why and how he started the Travis Roy Foundation, and the impact it has had on his life and others.



During the holiday season, we supported kids and families through organizations including:

- Barbara Bush Children’s Hospital
- Frosty’s Friends
- New England Center for Homeless Veterans
- Portland Boys & Girls Club



Washington, DC Spotlight

Attorneys, staff and spouses in our Washington, DC office participated in a number of fundraising activities to benefit community organizations.

On March 14, we fielded a team of bakers for the 16th annual **Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs Cooking for Kids Bake Sale and Taste-Off**. We raised \$125 to support the team from Patterson Elementary School in the next District-wide GeoPlunge Tournament.

On June 7, we held a year-end celebration at our office for the **Patterson Elementary School GeoPlunge Team**. Pierce Atwood sponsors and trains the students in GeoPlunge, a geography game that is played in the largest District-wide tournament in the DC Public Schools. Using funds from our bake sale, each team member received a goody bag and members of the winning team in the Patterson GeoPlunge Challenge received additional prizes. The students truly appreciated the party.



Maeve Tibbetts, Julia Weller, Natalie Huddleston, and Randy Rich (left to right) participated in the "Lawyers Have Heart 5K Walk" on June 11 in Georgetown. The walk raised money for the **American Heart Association**.

As winter approached, we held a successful winter coat drive for our new DC Public School-Law Firm Partnership school, **H.D. Cooke Elementary**. According to our contact at the school, there are homeless families with children who attend Cooke and all of the coats, hats and gloves will be extremely appreciated as winter falls on DC.

Partner Organizations

PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE PARTNERS

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD)
Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP)
Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)
Legal Advice and Referral Center (LARC)
Legal Food Hub, A Project of Conservation Law Foundation

Maine Homeless Legal Project
Maine Volunteer Lawyers Project (MVLV)
New Hampshire Legal Assistance
Political Asylum and Immigration Representation Project (PAIR)

PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE RECIPIENTS

2020 Women on Boards
ACLU of Maine Foundation
African Indian Alliance: A Siddi Partnership, Inc.
Alzheimer's Association, Maine Chapter
American Immigration Lawyers Association
Animal Legal Defense Fund
Animal Welfare Institute
Animal Welfare Society
Augusta Food Bank
AVESTA Housing Development Corporation
Brixham Montessori Friends School
Campaign for Legal Services
Cancer Community Center
Carlo Pittore Foundation
Chaplaincy Institute of Maine
Children's Museum and Theatre of Maine
Davis Family Foundation
Dirigo Outdoor Programs
Elsie & William Viles Foundation
Falmouth Memorial Library Association
Family Crisis Services
A Far Cry Inc.
Friends of the Bourne Rail Trail, Inc.
Friends of Casco Bay
Grassroots International

Hale Reservation
Harvard Club of Maine
Maine Assistance Program for Lawyers
Maine Athletic Center
Maine Labor Relations Board
Mercy Hospital
New Roots Farm Cooperative
North Shore Rovers
Nutmeg Senior Rides, Inc.
Olympia Snowe Women's Leadership Institute
Plummer Home
Portsmouth Public Television, Inc.
Presumpscot Regional Land Trust
The R.O.S.E. Fund
SaveOhno, Inc.
Snow Pond Arts Academy
Spina Bifida Association
Strawbery Banke, Inc.
Supreme Court Historical Society
The Thomas Memorial Library Foundation
Tides Family Services
University of Maine
University of New England
The Vineyard Church

Partner Organizations

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS & SPONSORSHIPS

The 603 Initiative	Friends of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)	New Hampshire Bar Foundation
ALS Knights	Frosty's Friends	New Hampshire Campaign for Legal Services
Alzheimer's Association	Full Plates Full Potential	New Heights Portsmouth
American Bar Foundation	The Groden Center	North Yarmouth Academy
Aquidneck Land Trust	Humble ISD Education Foundation	Olympia Snowe Women's Leadership Institute
Artbarn Community Theater	Huntington Theatre Company	PALS Animal Shelter
Attleboro Area Bar Association	Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP)	Pan Mass Challenge
Barbara Bush Children's Hospital	International Myeloma Foundation	Pleasant View Center Activities Fund
Baystate Financial Charitable Foundation	Junior Achievement of Maine	Poland Fire Rescue B.A.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern ME	LARK Society for Chamber Music	Political Asylum Immigration Representation (PAIR)
Boston Bar Association	Lithgow Public Library	Portsmouth Public Media, Inc.
Boston Bar Foundation	Maine Cancer Foundation	The Pro Bono Collaborative
Boy Scouts of America Daniel Webster Council	Maine Community Foundation	Rhode Island Community Food Bank
Boys & Girls Club of Greater Portland	Maine Historical Society	Rippleffect Inc.
Boys & Girls Club of Southern Maine	Maine Justice Foundation	Roger Williams University
Campaign for Justice	Maine Law Foundation	Roman Catholic Bishop of Portland
Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation	Maine Society for the Protection of Animals	Royal River Conservation Trust
Cardinal Cushing Centers	Maine Women's Fund	Saint Joseph's College
Center for Grieving Children	MaineGeneral Health	Sisters of Mercy
Charitable Foundation of the Energy Bar Association	Maranacook Community High School	St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine	Mary's Shelter	Travis Roy Foundation
Contractors Children's Fund	Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association	Tufts Lawyers Association
The Cromwell Center For Disabilities Awareness	Meals on Wheels	United Way of Greater Portland
East Boston Savings Bank Charitable Foundation	Mercy Healthcare Foundation	University of New Hampshire Foundation
The Esplanade Association	Michael Jon Rush Foundation for Children	Volunteer NH
Farnsworth Art Museum	The Mitchell Institute	Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs
Foundation for Maines Community Colleges	Muskie Fund for Legal Services	Westbrook Community Center Trails
Freeport Middle School	The Nature Conservancy	Women's Bar Foundation
	New England Center for Homeless Veterans	Woodard & Curran Foundation
	New England Legal Foundation	
	New England Voices in Harmony	