

"Most adults have no idea what it is like to be a teenager trying to make it on your own. New Beginnings Outreach Program is really the only place that would help me. I hope they can help even more youth at the new building."

-Susan, age 20



"My wife and I feel good about New Beginnings' work because we can see the results: young people in need are getting help from genuine, caring professionals who can support them through rough times without judgment. We're giving to this campaign because we believe in the contribution New Beginnings is making to the community."

- Ed Desgrosseilliers, Board Vice President



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Frequently Asked Questions

How will the building benefit the community?

The Center at 134 College Street has a rich history as a place in Lewiston where children, youth, and families came together to find support, learn, play, and celebrate. The renovation will build on this history and help more than 400 at-risk youth each year to find stable housing, improve their education, learn new skills, and find jobs. The renovation will also help to revitalize the College Street neighborhood, increase our connections with Bates College, and allow for community use of the classrooms, meeting spaces, and gymnasium.

How much do you need to raise?

The campaign total is \$1.25 million and includes replacing the roof; retrofitting and updating the heating and electrical systems; renovating the upper and lower levels to expand the Youth Drop-In Center and relocate New Beginnings' administrative offices; installing an elevator; and upgrading the street-level classrooms for New Beginnings' increased educational programs and community collaborations. The Board of Directors has moved forward with this building campaign and has already secured over \$1,000,000 through generous contributions from businesses, private foundations, individuals, and pledges from our staff, Board of Directors, and Advisory Board.

What is the timeline?

Campaign fundraising launched in 2013, and the Board is seeking to secure three-year pledges toward the remaining fundraising goal of \$60,000 by the end of 2015. Renovations began in 2013 with the installation of a new roof. The gymnasium floor was also refinished in 2013, with financial support from the Bates Dance Festival which uses the space each summer. Heating system upgrades and the Drop-In Center renovation began at the end of 2014, and a groundbreaking ceremony took place in February 2015. The Drop-In Center will relocate to the new space in the spring of 2015. The remaining renovations described above and relocation of the administrative offices will be completed by summer 2015. New Beginnings will be seeking business and philanthropic partners interested in investing in upgrades to the gymnasium and stage in future years.

New Beginnings, Inc.

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Updated 5/2015



New Beginnings

Campaign for a New Beginning

Helping youth and families in crisis gain stability, get off the streets, and grow toward productive lives



For 35 years, New Beginnings has provided an essential safety net for adolescents, young adults, and families.

We believe every young person in Maine deserves safety, respect, and the chance to grow into a healthy future.

New Beginnings: 35 Years of Success

Community volunteers, police, and social workers founded New Beginnings in 1977 to address the fact that no agency existed to meet the needs of adolescents who could no longer live at home. In 1980, we opened a 10-bed emergency shelter for homeless and runaway youth from all over the state of Maine. Ours is the only youth shelter in the state licensed to provide 24-hour care.

New Beginnings grew steadily over the years, with a focus on serving the whole person through skill-building and individual support. We expanded to include transitional living, outreach, and prevention education programs for youth, and housing referrals for both youth and adults. Today, we provide 15,000 safe nights off the streets to 700 of Maine's most vulnerable children, young adults, and families every year.

The Need to Expand

New Beginnings opened the Outreach Drop-In Center in 1997 as a safe place to engage youth at risk of homelessness. Youth get their basic needs met with hygiene supplies, a hot shower, food, and a place to stay warm and dry. The 1200 square foot storefront is now bursting at the seams, accommodating 40 youth daily in a space designed for twenty. The center is bustling with activities competing for limited space: a single computer and phone to use for homework, job search, and communicating with family; interactions between teen parents and their toddlers; mail services; recreation activities; and conversations between staff and youth. The exposed outdoor staircase at the rear of the building leads to the upper level with one bathroom, a tiny kitchen where 125 meals are prepared each week, staff offices, and one small room used for group meetings and private conversations. Despite the limits of the space, 85% of homeless youth in the program successfully found housing last year.



Before I came to New Beginnings, I had no stability. I came here for a place to live and help getting things done. Now I have housing, go to school, have a job and I am getting things accomplished. New Beginnings has been a big help to me.

-Michael, age 17

A New Beginning through a new building.

In late 2011, New Beginnings purchased a 17,000 square foot former community center at 134 College Street in Lewiston, ME. **With your help, we are bringing the building back to life** as a safe haven for vulnerable youth, and a permanent home for our Youth Drop-In Center, Outreach Program, agency administrative offices, and increased educational programming.

Campaign for a New Beginning TOTAL = \$1,250,000

Renovation project includes a new roof, relocating outreach and admin offices, expanding the Youth Drop-In Center and educational support programs, upgrades to heating & electrical systems, elevator, and updating interiors and classrooms for future programs and community collaboration.



Expanded Youth Drop-In Center to accommodate 60+ youth per day with food, recreation, groups, counseling, and Outreach staff all on one level



Commercial grade kitchen to teach youth healthy cooking and serve over 6,000 meals per year



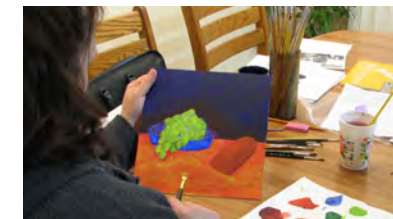
Toddler play area for teen parents to connect with their children in a safe learning environment



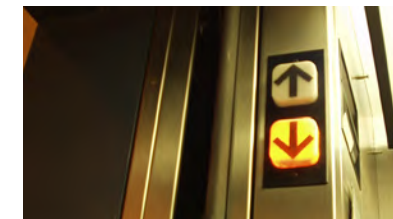
Education Program Learning Lab and classrooms to re-engage youth with learning, improve literacy, and offer training needed for future employment



Multi-use gymnasium to encourage physical exercise, positive interaction skills, and connect with other agencies through shared use or event rentals



Performance stage and Art Room to support therapeutic expression and creativity



Elevator and improvements to make all levels of the building fully accessible and welcoming



Consolidated program space and agency offices will save \$30,000+ per year in rental costs