ANNUAL REPORT

New Beginnings

2026

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026



Letter from the Executive Director

This is my tenth year as Executive Director of New Beginnings. During my tenure, I have had the opportunity to help bring increased funding to New Beginnings and the statewide homeless youth response system, supported the passage of several new statutes to support youth in crisis, contributed to improvements in state and national policy, helped bring authentic youth voice to leadership tables across the state, and strengthened the agency's financial position. This all pales in comparison to the work of our staff.

In my decade of service with the agency, thousands of youth have been successfully served by New Beginnings, and the data supports that assertion; youth leave New Beginnings better off than when they arrived. As much as I would like to take credit for those outcomes, I cannot. The credit goes to our employees who meet children and teens at some of the darkest moments of their young lives. They provide them not only with the resources necessary to succeed (housing, food, clothing, access to education, and more) but also with hope.

What stands out most about our staff is their genuine belief in the ability of the youth we serve to navigate the challenges they face by relying on their inner wisdom and the resiliency they have already developed through extreme adversity in their lives.

For this and many other reasons, I am extremely grateful to our staff. Their dedication and compassion are what make it possible for youth to leave New Beginnings better off than when they arrived, equipped with the internal resources and community connections they need to continue on their path to success in adulthood.

All the best,



Board Members

Steven McDermott, President
Peggy McRae, Vice. President
Chelsea Amaio, Secretary
Melissa Ferinas, Treasurer
Sabrina Nadeau*
Michael Lacasse
Pat Ladd
Jagos Medenica
Tess Parks**

*Departed the Board in FY25
**Join the Board in FY25

Advisors

Darby Ray
Joseph Philippon
Eden Leighton
Youth Action Board / Youth Member
Kristina Therrien
Melissa McLeod
Molly Watson Shukie
Nancy Grenier

SUCCESS BY THE NUMBERS



49,685

Meals Provided

at the Shelter & Drop-In Center



458

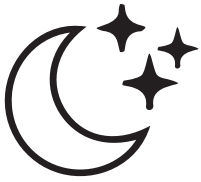
Youth & Families Served



84%

Youth Reunified

w/ family or acquired safe housing



13,583

Safe Nights

where youth were off the streets



6,617

Interactions

with urban & rural your through street outreach



50

Youth Gained Life Skills

at our Transitional Living Programs



500+

Hours

of participation by YAB members



9

Youth

graduated from high school



51

Teens

from across Maine stayed at our Shelter

About New Beginnings

Since 1980, New Beginnings has served runaway and homeless youth and families in crisis throughout Maine. Each year, we provide hundreds of young people with the safety, connection, and support they need to thrive.

New Beginnings provides a continuum of services designed to prevent youth homelessness, respond to crises, and help young people build stable, independent futures. Our programs include:

- Emergency Shelter & Crisis Services
- Street Outreach & Drop-In Services
- Supportive & Transitional Housing
- Family Mediation & Counseling

Our staff meet young people where they are, whether they need a safe place to stay, food and basic necessities, help finding housing, support navigating a crisis, or simply a caring adult they can trust. We build relationships that help youth move toward safety, connection, and growth.

New Beginnings uses a youth-centered, low-barrier approach that recognizes the unique experiences, strengths, cultures, and challenges of each young person. We believe that when youth feel safe, valued, and connected to caring adults, they are better equipped to create positive change in their lives.





From July 2025 to June 2026...

Street Outreach

... Outreach served 376 unduplicated young people through 6,617 interactions (on the streets, via phone/text/social media, and/or at Drop-In), 32,459 Drop-In Center meals, and 7,345 mobile food pantry meals and snacks. 123 unhoused young people worked individually with case managers to achieve their goals.

Emergency Shelter

... Marian's Place served 51 youth with over 2,650 nights off the streets and 9,881 meals. 79% of youth had safe exits, with 77% reunifying with family or exiting to stable housing.

Transitional Living

... the Transitional Living Program expanded housing options for youth referred through the Department of Corrections. 50 unduplicated youth lived at TLP for nearly 7,300 nights of housing and/or utilized aftercare. 80% were either pursuing education or working when they left TLP, and 80% exited to safe, stable housing.

Youth Action Board

... the YAB continued to offer youth paid leadership opportunities to consult, train providers, and advocate to ensure youth/young adult voice is valued and present when and where decisions are made that impact young Mainers. Over the year, YAB members attended 380 meetings. Currently, YAB Members sit on multiple boards across the state, including the Maine Continuum of Care Board of Directors.

MARIAN'S PLACE
YOUTH SHELTER

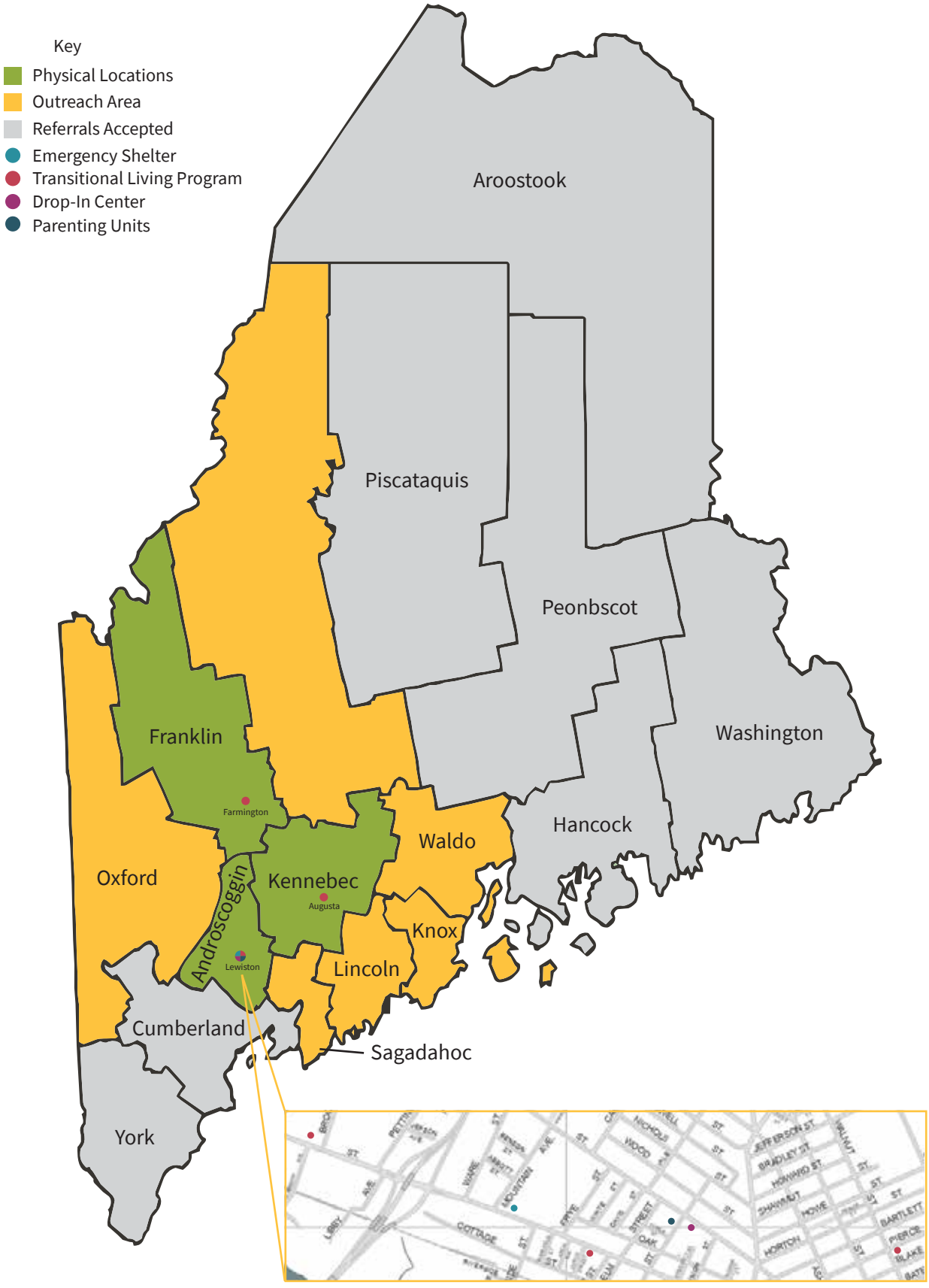
STREET OUTREACH | BASIC NEEDS

COUNSELING

PREVENTION EDUCATION | DROP-IN CENTER

HOUSING

Program Map


Key
Physical Locations
Outreach Area
Referrals Accepted
Emergency Shelter
Transitional Living Program
Drop-In Center
Parenting Units
Aroostook
Piscataquis
Peonbscot
Washington
Hancock
Franklin
Farmington
Waldo
Oxford
Kennebec
Augusta
Androscoggin
Lewiston
Knox
Lincoln
Cumberland
Sagadahoc
York

Congratulations, Graduates!



June is graduation season, and we're thrilled to celebrate nine remarkable young people who have called New Beginnings home and are graduating in 2026!

Their next adventures include college, the Air Force, and Job Corps, and we couldn't be prouder of everything they've accomplished.

Each diploma represents resilience, determination, and countless hours of hard work. With the stability of safe housing and the support of caring staff, these young adults have been able to focus on their education, set meaningful goals, and build bright futures. Along the way, they have learned to advocate for themselves, navigate challenges, and take important steps toward greater independence.

Graduation is more than a celebration of academic achievement, it is a moment to recognize how far these young people have come and to look ahead to where they are going. For each graduate, the road forward will look different, but all nine are leaving this chapter with new opportunities, goals, and possibilities ahead of them. Their accomplishments remind us of what can happen when young people are given the stability, encouragement, and resources they need to succeed.

Because of your generosity, these young adults have reached this important milestone and are taking confident steps toward independence, meaningful careers, and productive adulthood. We are grateful to everyone who has helped provide the housing, support, and opportunities that made this journey possible. Thank you for believing in young people and helping create the foundation for their next chapter.

Five Ways You Can Make A Difference

1. **Make a donation via our website or send a check to our mailing address**
2. **Secure your legacy through a bequest**
3. **Sign up to participate in a fundraising event**
4. **Volunteer your time and talent**
5. **Corporate volunteer opportunities**

New Beginnings

The Impact of Your Donation Can:



$75

Provides 67 meals & snacks at shelter.



$250

Provides one day of case management for 12 youth.



$500

Provides one person with 85 days of support & assistance, meals & case management.



$2,400

Provides one youth one month of stable housing, case management, education, employment, life skills, & mental & physical health support.



From Uncertainty to Hope

When one young person arrived at New Beginnings, the future felt uncertain. They had no place to live, no job, and lacked even some of the basic things they needed. Twenty-one months later, they left thinking about something very different: college, scholarships, goals, and the future.

In a letter written as they prepared to leave, they reflected not only on the practical support they received, but on something much harder to measure, the experience of knowing someone cared.

"What I will remember most is the way you cared about me. You listened to me, helped me when I needed it, and made me feel that I was not alone."

During their time at New Beginnings, this young person found stability and support, graduated, and began making plans for what would come next. Their letter is a reminder that safe housing is about much more than having a roof overhead. It can provide the stability and relationships young people need to begin imagining a future beyond the crisis they are experiencing.

As they prepared to move on, they wrote about carrying the people, memories, lessons, and kindness they found at New Beginnings with them. And then they summed up their journey in just two sentences:

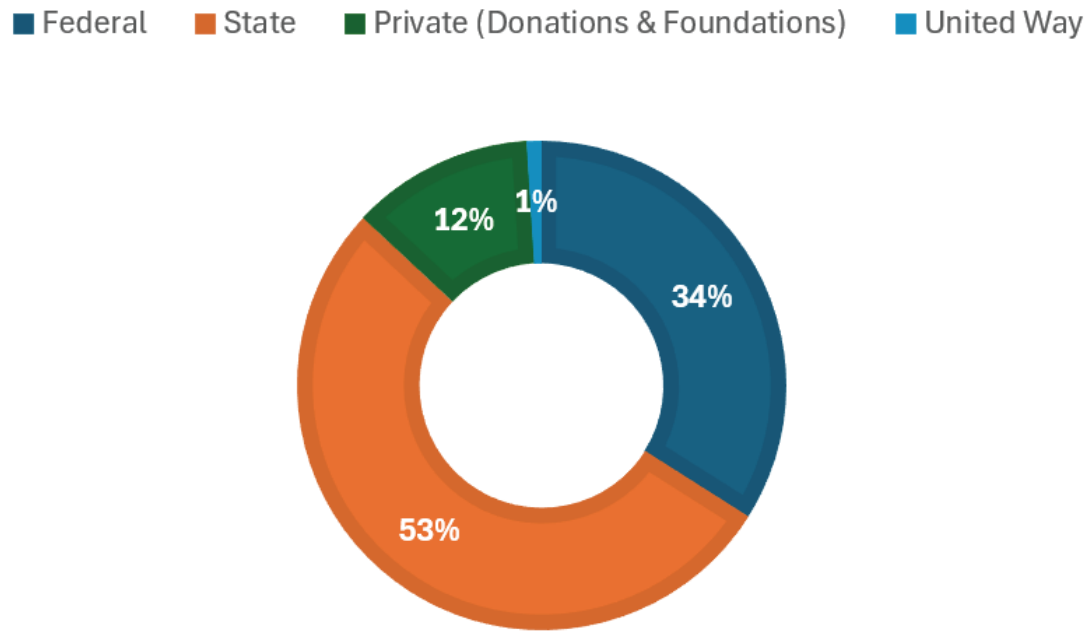
I came here with uncertainty.
I am leaving with hope.

That is the new beginning we want every young person who comes through our doors to have: the safety to get through today, the support to begin planning for tomorrow, and the opportunity to build a future of their own.

Financial Summary
July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

2026 Annual Budget - $4,211,133

REVENUE BY FUNDING SOURCE



INVESTMENT BY PROGRAM

