

Tedford Housing

INITIATIVES TO END HOMELESSNESS

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

JIMMY: A TEDFORD SUCCESS STORY

“It’s a good place to be.”

Before coming to Tedford Housing, Jimmy was homeless and living in a camper in Bowdoin. When it got too cold for the camper, he went to Tedford’s emergency adult shelter on 49 Cumberland Street in Brunswick.



Jimmy says he’d never sleep outside and doesn’t think anyone else should either. The shelter is there to help people. All you have to do is follow the rules. You could always count on Jimmy to take out the trash when he was at the shelter.

With the help of his case manager at Sweetser, Holly, and Tedford’s adult shelter manager, Kay, Jimmy took steps to find himself permanent housing. He worked on a budget and got a job cleaning at the local T.J. Maxx store. After a few months, he was able to move into Tedford’s supportive housing unit on Everett Street in Brunswick.

Jimmy is going on 3 years at his job. He’s recently moved on to a spacious apartment outside of Tedford’s services that has 4 rooms and allows him to have pets. He adopted a cat to keep him company. He also has a ‘91 Cadillac and a scooter.

Jimmy’s advice for those struggling with homelessness? Go to the shelter and get help. “They’ll fix you right up,” he says, and help you get a place to live. But, he warns, “you have to put the effort into it.”

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Too many individuals and families in Midcoast Maine face challenges similar to Jimmy’s. Happily, Jimmy’s successes that Tedford Housing helped make possible are also repeated for many of those fortunate enough to have found space in the adult or family shelter. Last fiscal year, Tedford’s **Federal Street family residence** served 19 households with 71 members,

including children, while the **adult shelter on Cumberland Street** housed 121 guests during the year. However, approximately 20 individuals and 24 families had to be turned away each month because the shelters were full.

At the same time, Tedford’s **37 units of supported housing** provided living accommodations on a longer-term basis to 85 tenants, significantly increasing their housing stability. To help **prevent homelessness**, Tedford assisted 164 families with rent payments and case management in the Midcoast from Brunswick to Damariscotta/Newcastle. With strong volunteer support, the **Warm Thy Neighbor program** provided heating fuel assistance totaling nearly \$50,000 to 165 households with 373 family members living in nine Midcoast towns.

Tedford remains a strong organization, doing wonderful and essential work in our communities. A diverse and committed board and excellent, dedicated staff ensure the continuing provision of high quality service that helps individuals and families to maintain or find permanent housing and to rebuild their lives.

But Tedford also faces serious challenges. Its two shelters are barely adequate, reside in old and deteriorating frame buildings and cannot fully meet the needs of our homeless Midcoast neighbors. As part of a strategic plan developed last year with the leadership of then-Board President Nancy Carleton, Tedford’s staff and board are examining the feasibility of combining and replacing these shelters. Balancing the budget each year also poses real challenges with uncertain and varying revenue from 35 different public and private funding sources. **The generous donations of community members make the difference in achieving Tedford’s mission of finding lasting solutions to the challenges of homelessness.**

The board and staff thank you for your vital, continuing financial support of Tedford Housing’s mission as well as for your volunteer time and in-kind donations. We simply could not do our work without you.

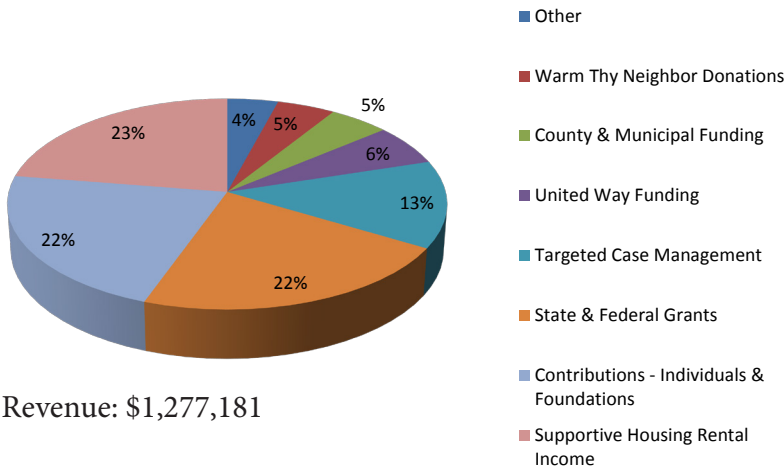
Craig A. McEwen

Our Mission:
Tedford Housing works together with people in their communities to find lasting solutions to the challenges of homelessness.

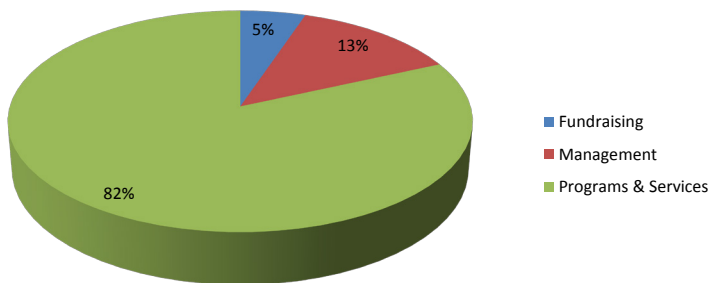
We provide shelter, housing, and services that empower adults, children and families in need.

LOOKING BACK AT FISCAL YEAR 2015

Tedford Housing served 834 people in 33 towns in northern Cumberland County and all of Sagadahoc and Lincoln Counties, with the support of over 600 individual donors and 9 foundations.



Revenue: \$1,277,181



Expenses: \$1,382,286
(includes \$150,476 of depreciation expense)

MERRYMEETING HOMELESS YOUTH PROJECT (MHYP)

115 students identified as being homeless in the school districts serving Brunswick, Topsham, Bath, West Bath, Harpswell and Woolwich

30 students served by Tedford's MHYP case manager

93% of MHYP students graduated or progressed to the next grade level

EMERGENCY HOUSING IN BRUNSWICK, ME

78% male

22% female

67% of shelter guests enter with a disability

54% of shelter guests enter with a mental health illness

31% of shelter guests enter with a chronic substance abuse problem

For more information on financials and annual reporting, visit tedfordhousing.org/about-us/financials

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