

# Woodfords' World

The Newsletter of Woodfords Family Services Vol 20. Issue 1 Summer 2019

## New Southern Maine Office Expands Services in York County

With the help of the Kennebunk-Kennebunkport-Arundel Chamber of Commerce, consumers, families and friends, Woodfords officially cut the ribbon to open a new office in Kennebunk on June 11. The new location will serve as a York County hub, expanding case management and

community supports programs for adults, as well as our behavioral health homes for children. The agency is also launching a new EnRICHment program, named after Woodfords' founder Alan Rich, which will provide summer and afterschool programming for school age children.



## Donor Spotlight

**Kennebunk Savings Bank** (\$10,000) and the **Allagash Brewing Community Grant Program** (\$7,500) awarded Woodfords' Expeditions Community Support Program's newly opened Southern Maine location a combined total of \$17,500 to support the purchase of its new passenger van. Expeditions provides adults with special needs community-oriented activities that foster the development of lifelong healthy habits.

# Awards, Grants, Of Note



**People's United Bank Community Foundation** awarded Woodfords a \$2,500 grant to support our Sibshops program. Sibshops is a monthly activity club and peer support group for siblings of children with special needs. We also thank **People's United Bank employees** at 26 branches across the state for going "casual for the cause," wearing jeans on April 12 to raise autism awareness and funds for the agency.

- ▶ The **Marcia Brady Tucker Foundation** awarded Woodfords \$20,000 to support our Therapeutic Foster Care program. As part of the grant, the agency will offer foster families monthly respite opportunities that provide brief periods of relief from the challenges of caring for foster children and is critical to retaining families.
- ▶ Woodfords' annual March **Employee Giving Campaign** raised more than \$22,500 to support the agency's programs and services. In total, 419 employees participated, an amazing 88% participation rate! Employees have contributed more than \$120,000 since 2011.
- ▶ **Paige Brown**, Behavioral Health Professional, Home & Community-Based Treatment Program, received an award for "Outstanding Direct Service Provider" from the Child and Family Provider Network.
- ▶ **Lauren Archambault**, Marketing & Recruitment Associate, Development, has been appointed to the Mental Health and Human Services Program Advisory Board at the University of Maine, Augusta.

- ▶ Welcome to our new members of the Board of Trustees: **Morgan Cramer**, Unum; **Robert Fairbrother**, Consumer Advocate; **Sean Grant**, Consumer Advocate; **Barbara Redmond**, Retired State Official; **Brooke Woodbury**, Camden National Bank; **Maureen Zemrak**, Locations Real Estate Group.

- ▶ Congratulations to Woodfords staff who received a 2018 Director's Award: **Tori Blood**, Senior Lead Teacher, Westbrook Preschool; **Brandon Doughty**, Field Supervisor In Home Support & School Based Services, Central Maine; **Eileen Dugan**, Case Manager, Therapeutic Foster Care; **Kathy Hill**, Senior Lead Teacher, Pineland Preschool; **Gayle Janes**, BHP, Behavioral Health Homes for Children; **Meaghan Kantrowitz**, Behavior Analyst, In Home Support & School Based Services, Southern Maine; **Stephanie Morin**, Senior Lead Teacher, Waterville Preschool; **Melissa Nguyen**, DSP, Residential Program; **Sue Perkolidis**, Eligibility Specialist, Intake & Utilization Management.
- ▶ Michèle Gasco, Board of Trustees President, chose the following President's Award recipients from of field of 60 nominees for their distinguished service: **Christina Ainsworth**, House Manager, Residential Program; **Robin Shepard**, Administrative Assistant, Therapeutic Foster Care; **Suzanna Underwood**, DSP, Residential Program.



*Karen Dehetre, LSW*

Announcing the newest members of our growing Management Team: **Karen Dehetre, LSW**, Director of Intake & Utilization Management; **Renée Freudenberger**, Director of Training and Professional Development; **Lori Griffiths**, Director of In Home Support & School Based Services, Central Maine; **Dennis Libby**, Director of Facilities.



*Renée Freudenberger*



*Lori Griffiths*



*Dennis Libby*

## Save the Date!

Woodfords Auction Gala  
Saturday, September 21,  
6 to 10 p.m.  
Portland Sheraton at  
Sable Oaks, South Portland

*FMI, to donate an Auction item or to purchase tickets, visit [woodfords.org](http://woodfords.org).*



## SeaChange Brings Yoga Practice to Woodfords

Woodfords has partnered with SeaChange Yoga of Maine to offer trauma-informed yoga sessions for children with special needs and their parents. Yoga practice promotes mindfulness, maximizes tolerance, strengthens sense of empowerment, and cultivates a more positive relationship with the body. Participants gain skills to regulate emotions, reduce stress and anxiety, and increase physical and mental health in a safe trauma-informed environment.

*Thank you to SeaChange Yoga, the United Way of Greater Portland, the Maine Community Foundation, the Rines Thompson Fund, and the many staff who have made this program possible.*



## Peer Support Group and Activity Club for Siblings of Children with Special Needs Now Enrolling

Sibshops is enrolling for the October to June year and is offered 5 to 7 p.m. in Westbrook, the first Friday of the month, and in Manchester, on the last Friday of each month. An activity club and peer-support group for siblings of children with special needs, the program is offered at no cost to children ages 6 to 13.

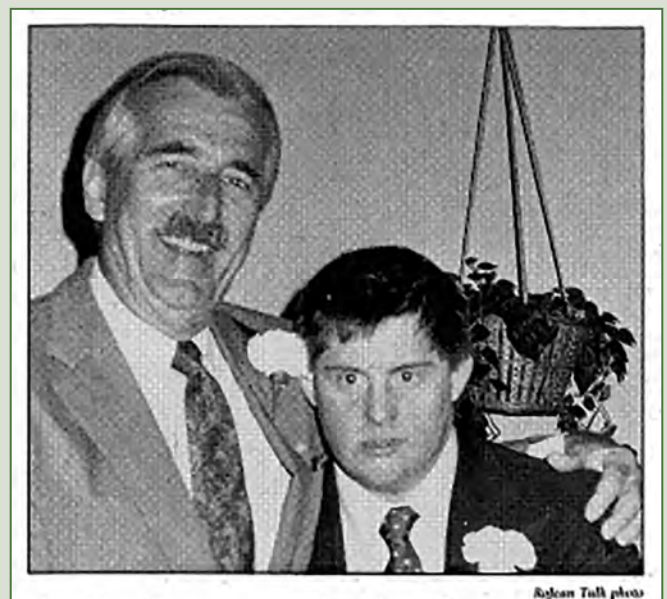
Hands-on, discussion-based, and group-oriented activities pertaining to the shared attribute of living with and caring for a sibling with a special need are the heart of the program.

*FMI or to enroll, contact Joan Mansfield, LCSW, Program Coordinator, at (207) 200-0177, or [jmansfield@woodfords.org](mailto:jmansfield@woodfords.org).*

## In Memoriam

Woodfords' founder Alan Rich passed away in February 2019. In 1967, Alan, who sought after better more specialized support for his son Jimmy, took out a \$3,000 personal loan to start the Woodfords School for Trainable Children in the basement of Woodfords Congregational Church in Portland.

Alan believed in his son Jimmy's potential when others didn't. He and his wife Katrina recruited four other families and countless volunteers to open and then grow the school to serve more than 200 students. His vision for a better life for his son and other kids with special needs marked the beginning of a journey that continues every day through the work of Woodfords' more than 570 staff.



# Thank You 2019 Corporate Sponsors

We appreciate your continued support of Woodfords events throughout the year!



J.B. BROWN & SONS



FMI about sponsorship opportunities, contact Kerry de Bree, Director of Development & Strategic Planning Initiatives, at (207) 878-9663, x 4135, or [kdebree@woodfords.org](mailto:kdebree@woodfords.org).

## Our Mission

Woodfords Family Services is committed to the support and inclusion of people with special needs and their families in Maine communities.



Woodfords Family Services is accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA), whose program of quality improvement is designed to identify providers that have met high performance standards and have made a commitment to their stakeholders to deliver the very best quality services.



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**Woodfords  
FAMILY SERVICES**  
**SUPERHERO 5K**  
*I am a hero for people with special needs!*

## Superheroes on the Run for People with Special Needs

On June 1, superheroes gathered at Pineland Farms to champion kids and adults with special needs and super abilities. The energy was empowering, the course was challenging and the costumes were dazzling. The event raised \$20,000 for consumer programs! Registration for the 2020 Superhero 5K will go live January 1, 2020.

*Thanks to Super Sponsors: Clark Insurance, Cross Insurance, Cumberland Title, Dunkin', Harvard Pilgrim HealthCare, J.B. Brown & Sons, Locations Real Estate Group, Machias Savings Bank and People's United Bank.*

