



***The Drop-in Center affirms the worth and dignity of every person. We are a safe, low-barrier place where people experiencing homelessness and those in need can access resources, rest, rejuvenate, and replenish.***

The Drop-in Center opened in February of 2022 as a temporary day shelter for our unhoused neighbors at the First Universalist Church of Auburn. We became a 501c3 non-profit corporation in the spring of 2023 under the name *The Drop-in Center*. In February of 2025, we moved to the Auburn Resource Center at 121 Mill Street, Auburn.

We are currently operated by one part-time employee and approximately 65 very dedicated volunteers. We are open every Wednesday and Saturday from 9am-1pm. We average about 1200 visits per month, equating to approximately 2,400 meals served.

Our “free store” provides clothing, hygiene & first aid items, undergarments, and other outdoor survival gear such as tents, sleeping bags, tarps, blankets, flashlights, hats, gloves, etc. We are the only facility in the twin cities that provides free showers to the unhoused.

Our Wednesday Moving Forward Program gives guests the opportunity to meet with one of the many service providers who are present at the center. Some of these providers include:

- Andwell Health Partners
- Spurwink’s Harm Reduction team
- Project Support You
- Kennebec Behavioral Health’s PATH Program
- Disability Rights Maine
- Better Life Partners
- StrengthenLA
- SAPARS
- MaineGeneral Health
- Preble Street
- Veterans Affairs
- Recovery Connections of Maine

The Health on Wheels mobile medical unit comes monthly to provide reproductive and sexual health care, wound care, and more. Several times per year, nursing students from the Maine College of Health Professions come and administer a Foot Care Clinic.

We have several volunteers who have been trained on the Coordinated Entry Program. The CE application is required for most housing programs. Many of our guests have completed this application and several have been successful in obtaining housing.

Some of our major business and community supporters include DaVinci's Restaurant, Bates College, John F. Murphy Homes, Poland Spring Bottling, Rooper's Beverage, Bangor Savings Bank, The City of Auburn, the Seventh Day Adventist Church Food Pantry, the Leeds Food Pantry, St. Michael's Episcopal Parish, and the Auburn Housing Authority.

We have received several generous grants from foundations including:

- The Elmina V. Sewall Foundation
- The Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust
- Biddeford Mechanic Savings Foundation
- The Maine Community Foundation
- The John T. Gorman Foundation
- Daddy-O's Act of Kindness Foundation

#### **Looking back at 2025:**

#### **Total Number of Guests and New Guests**

