



building Resilience

2024 Annual Report



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Marcia Rogers

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Elected Sector

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Dear DCP Friends and Neighbors,

As we reflect on the past year, one word stands out: resilience.

Downeast Community Partners (DCP) has resolved organizational challenges, while observing the remarkable strength of our communities, our staff, and the many individuals and families we serve. Working alongside stakeholders, we strive to improve the quality of life and reduce the impact of poverty in Downeast communities.

Throughout Washington and Hancock Counties, indeed all of Maine, costs continue to increase, putting more pressure on our most vulnerable community members. With new leadership at DCP Board and staff levels, we are delivering a whole family approach to increase integration between our varied programs and streamline access to resources. The frontline team supports those navigating the eligibility process to gain valuable and critical resources.

Resilience is not just about bouncing back; it's about adapting, learning, and emerging stronger. Our work reflects our values: dignity, compassion, and possibility. We are committed to finding solutions that make an impact for our clients, through innovation, persistence, and collaboration with state and local partners. Supporters, donors, foundations, municipalities, and the state continue to give as generously as they are able. Many individuals volunteer their time, skills, and enthusiasm – without which we would not be as effective.

We know the road ahead will offer new challenges, but with our collective strength, we are prepared to navigate it—one step, one day, and one person at a time. Our work is truly a shared effort. Thank you for your continued support, partnership, and trust. Together, we are building a more resilient Downeast Maine.

With gratitude,

Rota L. Knott
Chief Executive Officer

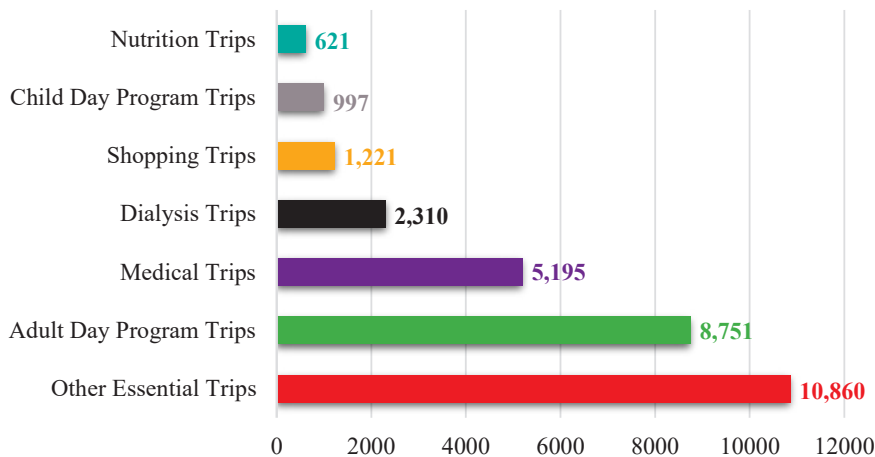
Rep. Anne Perry
Board President, effective October 2024

Transportation

DCP's Transportation Services build resilience by helping our neighbors access healthcare and other essential community resources.



FY 24 Transportation Trips by Type



Examples of other essential trips include:

- Trips to the bank
- Trips to physical therapy
- Trips to visit a nursing home
- Trips related to probation or child visitation



"Thank you all so much for these rides. And, as always, thanks for the great conversations along the way."

411 food boxes delivered to neighbors in cancer treatment through our partnership with the Christine B. Foundation.

2,562 rides provided to non-ambulatory neighbors.

Transportation Services included **24** employees and

2 volunteers.

"This is a wonderful service! I was pretty desperate last week, wondering why I moved to a town with no bus service to the places I'll be working, but then I found DCP. Helpful beyond belief!"



5,000 miles per day, on average, were traveled by the DCP transportation fleet.

DCP Volunteer Driver **Bradley Lowell** was honored for his service in 2024 by being included in the Maine Volunteer Honor Roll, part of the Governor's Awards for Service and Volunteerism.

Last year, Brad completed **1,600** trips, volunteering **2,335** hours to transport our neighbors.

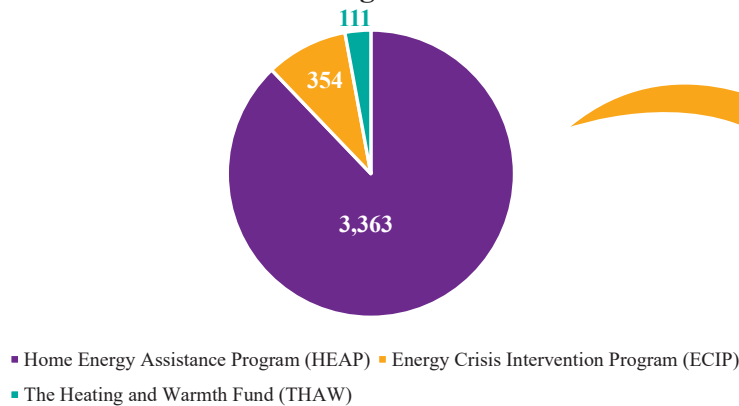
Thank you, Brad, for your service to DCP and your neighbors!



Energy & Housing

DCP's Energy & Housing programs build resilience in our communities by making it possible for our neighbors to heat, maintain, and improve their homes.

Total PY 2024 Fuel Assistance to Households by Program



The households receiving HEAP and ECIP represent the following numbers of individuals.

People Assisted	HEAP	ECIP
Total	5,876	625
Over Age 60	2,565	301
Disabled	1,301	137
Under Age 5	338	29

Households by County	HEAP	ECIP	THAW
Hancock	1,570	152	52
Washington	1,793	202	59
Total Dollars (both counties)	\$1,627,475	\$168,090	\$40,769

"Thank you so much for our emergency fuel. My husband and I have had a run of health issues. It has been quite a challenge! We really appreciate your help."

Energy Services included **8** employees.

Housing Services included **9** employees.

Housing by the Numbers

16 home weatherization jobs
7 in Hancock County
9 in Washington County

3 heating system repairs were all in Washington County

14 heating system replacements
6 in Hancock County
8 in Washington County

3 home improvement projects for low-income homeowners
1 in Hancock County
2 in Washington County

5 home accessibility and repair projects were all in Hancock County



Aging Services



Friendship Cottage helps aging adults and their caregivers build resilience by providing adult day service and caregiver support.

Friendship Cottage provided:

27 participants in Adult Day Service and **52** caregivers with
7,535 hours of caregiving and **410** hours of support to participants

2 people volunteered at Friendship Cottage

At Home helps aging adults build and maintain resilience by offering them the supports necessary to remain safely in their own homes and communities.

At Home provided:

30 participants with:

55 nurse visits

53 licensed social worker visits

514 check-in phone calls

184 rides to medical appointments

225 grocery/pharmacy deliveries

69 quality of life outings/activities

"Being a member of At Home is what keeps me in my beloved home. The staff and volunteers are always there for me, and I appreciate the phone calls I receive each month."

Quality of life outings/activities include barbecues, a tea party, trips to the library, shopping trips, and musical events.

12 people volunteered with At Home

The Aging Services Navigator assists our Washington County neighbors in building resilience by helping them access the systems, services, and resources they need.

The Aging Services Navigator assisted:

20 ongoing participants and provided **504** hours of short-term assistance

"I am so grateful to DCP and the Aging Services Navigator. In this program, I have found someone who looks out for me always. Most of all, I appreciate our friendship."



Supportive Services



Whole Family Coaching builds resilience by helping families develop plans and strategies to meet their own goals related to employment, financial literacy, or family well-being.

252 individuals in **77** households throughout Hancock and Washington counties participated in Whole Family Coaching.

Whole Family Coaching included **6** employees.



Maternal and Child Health nurses help families develop resilience as they navigate the many transitions of pregnancy and new parenthood.

210 individuals in **109** households throughout Hancock and Washington counties participated in Maternal & Child Health nursing.

Maternal & Child Health included **4** employees.



Breakthrough Youth builds resilient 10- to 24-year-olds by teaching financial literacy skills, healthy relationship strategies, and college/career planning.

132 individuals in **128** households throughout Hancock and Washington counties participated in Breakthrough Youth.

Breakthrough Youth included **1** employee.

Community Outreach



DCP builds resilience in our communities through the partnerships we develop. These partnerships increase our capacity to assist our neighbors in meaningful ways throughout the year.

**“To Warm a Winter’s Night,” a benefit for THAW
Presented by Darling’s Buick GMC, Machias Savings Bank,
and The Reny Charitable Foundation**



32 additional event sponsors and **56** in-kind auction donors

85 silent auction items

1 live auction item: a heat pump from Dave’s World Heating & Cooling.

161 tickets sold; **16** event volunteers



Giving Magic

Provided holiday gifts for

353 Hancock County children

448 Washington County children

with help from **16** businesses/organizations

and many generous individuals,

including **34** volunteers.

Top to Bottom Drive

Collected **\$1,085** and **691**
personal hygiene and home cleaning items
to assist families.



Everybody Eats!

Weekly

Free Community Meal

Served **6,468** meals and distributed

808 supplemental food boxes

containing **23,578** lbs. of food.

All this was done by **28** volunteers.



Child and Adult Care Food Program

Sponsored **35** home childcare providers,
providing nutritious meals to **762** children.

Provided meals for **74** children in DCP’s
3 Head Start centers.

Provided meals for **11** adults receiving adult
day service at Friendship Cottage.





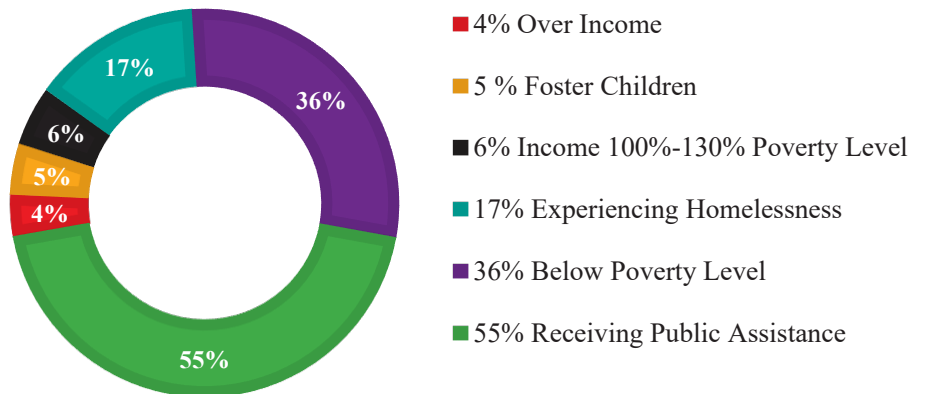
Early Childhood Programs

As the Head Start grantee for Hancock and Washington counties, DCP helps build resilient children and families through comprehensive Early Care and Education.

DCP enrolled:

- 26** children in Early Head Start
- 89** children in Head Start
- 64** children in childcare and public Pre-K

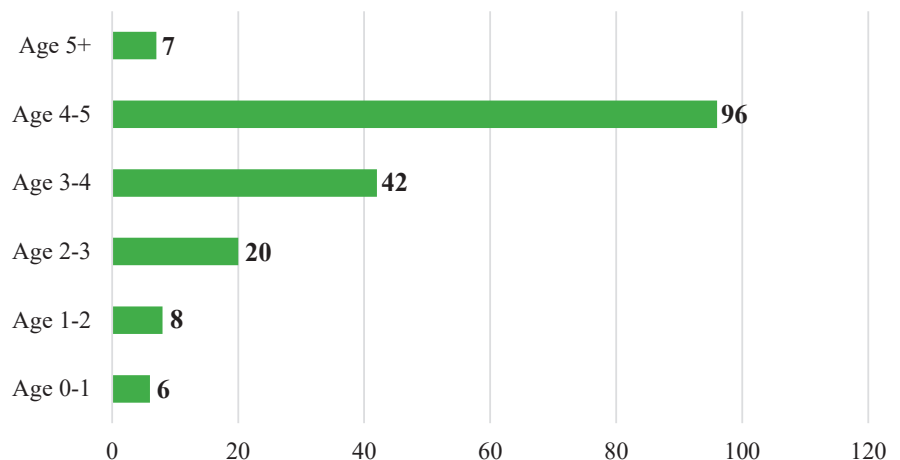
Head Start Programs Enrollment by Eligibility



Head Start Programs Demographics:

- 56** two-parent families
- 52** single-parent families
- 10** children in foster or kinship families
- 20** children in families experiencing homelessness

Total Enrollment by Age



"I am so grateful for everything this program has provided for my child. I am especially grateful for the teachers."

DCP's partnership with Family Futures Downeast made it possible for **19** families containing **27** children to invest in their futures by pursuing college education at either the University of Maine at Machias or Washington County Community College.

Health

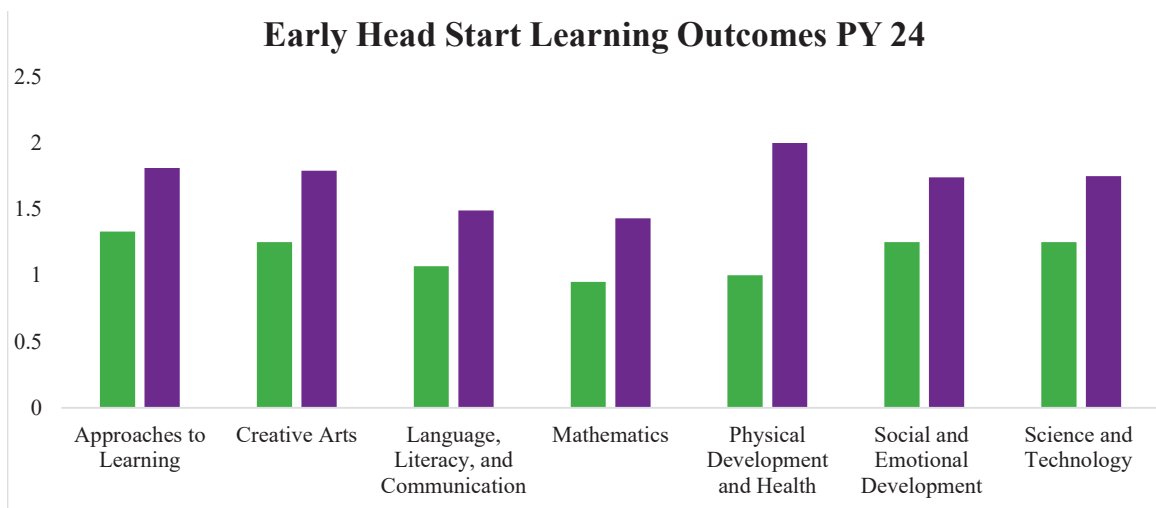
Percentage of Children Receiving Medical and Dental Exams

Exam Type	Early Head Start	Head Start
Medical	89%	86%
Dental	29%	33%

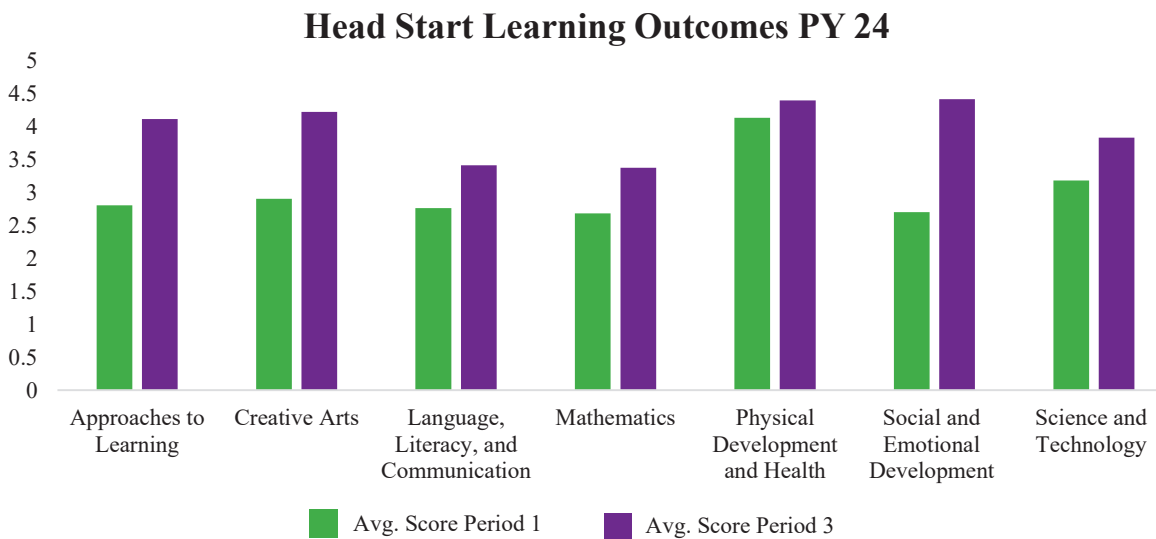
94 parents of enrolled children received education regarding preventative medical and oral health.

88 parents of enrolled children received education regarding nutrition.

School Readiness



92 parents were involved in discussions of their child's screenings, assessments, and progress.



66 families received support as children transitioned between Early Head Start, Head Start, and kindergarten.

Financials

Fiscal Year October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024

Head Start Programs

Head Start Revenues

Category	Budget	Actual
Federal	3,026,681.40	2,971,368.24
State	438,043.00	186,263.28
Other	92,500.00	55,313.16
In-Kind	664,593.00	65,118.16
Total Revenue	4,221,817.40	3,278,062.84

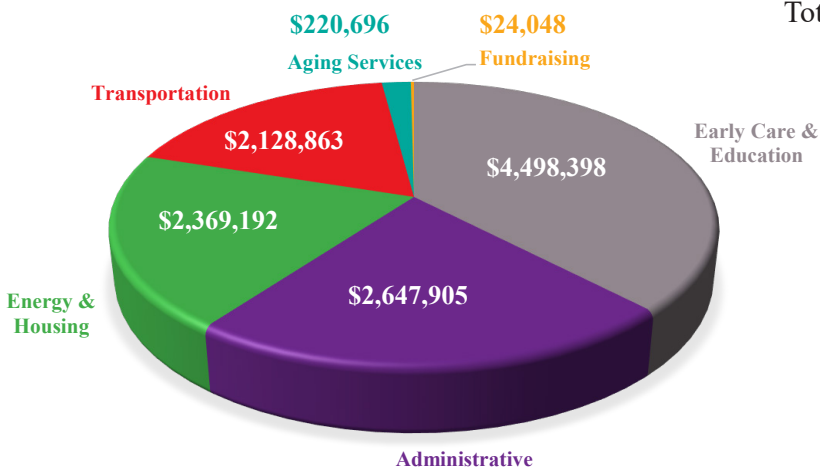
Head Start Expenses

Category	Budget	Actual
Personnel	2,270,483.00	2,345,174.13
In-Kind	664,593.00	65,051.96
Travel	17,625.00	33,470.52
Occupancy	135,392.00	78,560.91
Supplies	192,074.00	200,601.00
Food	17,249.00	10,008.55
Training	37,349.00	21,671.68
Administration	283,881.00	287,444.83
Telecommunications	56,510.00	32,789.93
Contracted Services	153,708.00	32,551.99
Miscellaneous	300,452.00	174,336.35
Total Expenses	4,129,317.00	3,281,661.85

Early Childhood Programs included **71** employees.

5 volunteers were members of the Parent Policy Council.

Total DCP Expenses



Total Expenses: \$11,889,102

Administrative Employees

Development	2
Finance	8
Human Resources	2
Information Technology	1
Operations	3
Administrative Assistants	2

All figures for Head Start and DCP financials are unaudited.

Thank You

The following community partners have been generous in their support as we work to provide services for our vulnerable neighbors in every community throughout Washington and Hancock counties:

Businesses and Organizations

Community Caring Collaborative	Eastern Area Agency on Aging	Maine Council on Aging
Child Development Services	Eastern Maine Development Corporation	Maine Seacoast Mission
Christine B. Foundation	Family Futures Downeast	Sunrise Opportunities
Community Compass	Friends in Action	United Way
Community Health & Counseling Services	Good Shepherd Food Bank	Versant Power
Downeast Economic Council		

Schools

Deer Isle-Stonington Elementary School	RSU #25 (Bucksport)	University of Maine Center on Aging
Deer Isle-Stonington High School	Trenton Elementary School	Washington Academy
RSU #24 (Sullivan)	University of Maine at Machias	Washington County Community College

Municipalities

Addison	Danforth	Princeton
Alexander	Dedham	Robbinston
Aurora	Eastbrook	Roque Bluffs
Baileyville	Ellsworth	Sedgwick
Bar Harbor	Franklin	Sorrento
Blue Hill	Gouldsboro	Southwest Harbor
Brooklin	Hancock	Steuben
Brooksville	Jonesboro	Stonington
Bucksport	Lamoine	Sullivan
Calais	Lubec	Surry
Castine	Mariaville	Talmadge
Charlotte	Milbridge	Topsfield
Cherryfield	Mount Desert	Tremont
Columbia Falls	Northfield	Vanceboro
Cooper	Orland	Waltham
Cranberry Isles	Pembroke	Winter Harbor
Crawford	Penobscot	Washington County Unorganized Territory

List of supporting municipalities complete as of May 2025.

Thank you to **the more than 400 donors who contributed nearly **\$800,000** in support of DCP's programs last year.**

DCP also acknowledges—with deep gratitude—the contributions of our extraordinary volunteers who donated thousands of hours in FY 24. Their willingness to share their valuable time and expertise with their neighbors expands our capacity to provide services in our communities.

Our list of partnerships would be incomplete if we did not acknowledge the State of Maine and its various agencies which make many of our programs and services possible.



www.downeastcommunitypartners.org