



Mano en Mano
HAND IN HAND
Annual Report **2019**



WHO WE ARE

A Message from the Directors

Throughout Mano en Mano's history, there have been common priorities for community members: health, culture, youth, and self-determination. What this means for community members has and will change over time as families grow, people move into and out of the region, and we adapt to changing organizations and systems.

Structural and systemic barriers have prevented community member's goals from being realized, and we believe that the communities we work with already have the solutions to reach these goals. We believe that the communities that we work with are already strong, and that it is the system that is in need of change. And we believe that the most effective way to advance equity and justice is to facilitate leadership that already exists, focus on the root causes of inequity, and to celebrate the wisdom, languages, cultures, and communities that are here.

I hope you enjoy reading about the many ways Mano en Mano and the community leaders we work with have impacted the Downeast region and the State of Maine in 2019. Whether you are a community member, volunteer, ally, partner, donor, staff, board member, or somebody just getting to know Mano en Mano for the first time as you read this, you have a vital role to play in advancing our mission and working towards justice.

Sincerely,

The Directors Team at Mano en Mano

Christina Ocampo
Advocacy
Co-Director

Edith Flores
Advocacy
Co-Director

Ian Yaffe
Executive
Director

Juana Rodriguez Vazquez
Migrant Education
Program Director



Our Purpose

To ensure that Latinx people and farmworkers in Maine are **heard, celebrated, and thriving** in their communities, as determined by community members themselves.

Our Community Members are...

HEARD

Across our organization, we ensure that community members determine the priorities and programming that we offer. The **Nuestra Voz en la Comunidad** leadership group decides the events, priorities, and actions that the Advocacy Program will pursue all year long. The **Parent Advisory Council** meets throughout the year to determine the direction of programming in the Maine Migrant Education Program. In addition to continual conversations and feedback, we also pursue formal ways to gather input such as the **Community Survey** to ensure that individuals and families name what affects them and decide how they want to pursue change.

CELEBRATED

As community members have emphasized, celebrating language and culture, having opportunities to bring people together, and passing down traditions to younger generations is incredibly important. From hosting several large-scale celebrations each year like **La Posada** or **Día de la Madre** to the **Family Night** event we put on during the Blueberry Harvest School, we celebrate and value the languages and cultures of community members throughout our programming.

THRIVING

All of our programs invest time in building strong relationships, doing outreach to new members of the community, and meeting community members where they are in order to **ensure our community is thriving**. We focus on getting at the root causes of oppression - racism, colonialism, patriarchy - and challenging ourselves collectively (and first) to do better while pushing partner organizations and institutions to change. We believe that when equity and justice are front and center, our whole community will thrive.

Migration in Downeast Maine

Pre-Colonization

Since before the colonization of the Americas, Wabanaki families have traveled throughout what is now known as Maine for the blueberry harvest.

Pre-1970s

Many agricultural workers were poor white folks who migrated with the harvest seasons.

Late 1970s

Latinx farmworkers begin working in Maine.

Early 1990s

Families leave the migrant stream and begin moving to the Milbridge area of Downeast Maine.

Today

Year round community members are living in Milbridge area and seasonal community members come to Downeast Maine every year for blueberries, wreaths, and seafood packing.

For more than 14 years, Mano en Mano has been working with migrant farmworkers and their families in the Downeast Maine region to ensure access to essential services, increase economic and educational opportunities, and foster community leadership and equity. The individuals and families we work with range from long-term residents of Downeast Maine who left the migrant stream decades ago to seasonal farmworkers who travel from across North America to work in Maine's agricultural industries.

No matter where families are originally from or where they return to once the harvest is over, Mano en Mano works to ensure that every individual and family receives the support, services, and advocacy they need to live and thrive in Maine.



Our Community



Where are our families from?

Includes families who migrate to Maine for seasonal work as well as Downeast Maine resident families' countries of origin



Through programming centered around our core values of **relationships, trust, and self-determination**, Mano en Mano served a total of:

2,700+ individuals in 2019

Communities Served:

2,000+
Seasonal farmworkers in Washington county

400+
Latinx people in Downeast, Maine

300+
Migrant students across the state



A Year with Mano en Mano

The state of Maine has a robust agriculture industry: large crops of potatoes up North, a thriving aquaculture industry along the coast, and the highest wild blueberry production in the nation. These industries rely heavily upon the labor of migrant and seasonal farmworkers. As Mano en Mano works alongside the workers and families that are so critical to our state's economy, our programming follows the harvest seasons that guide the rhythm of our community members' lives.

SPRING

HARVEST SEASON The **Elvers fishing season** occurs in March through May all along coastal Maine. The **Broccoli planting season**, which consists of prepping and seeding fields, happens in Aroostook County during April and May. **Lobster and seafood processing** work starts back up again during this time in Downeast and southern Maine. The **Dairy industry**, based in Androscoggin, Kennebec & Somerset counties, has work year round.

MARCH Staff begin **outreach to families** who migrate for the elvers season. The children whose families meet eligibility requirements are enrolled in the Migrant Education Program and begin receiving services tailored to their educational goals.

APRIL Mano en Mano hosts a **Parent Advisory Council meeting** to center parent leadership and determine the direction of our educational programming.

Community members oftentimes take action for workers' rights during this time of year, like writing letters in solidarity with the Leche con Dignidad movement or participating in the **Coalition of Immokalee Workers March**.

MAY Nuestra Voz members and staff work together to put on the long-standing tradition of the **Día de la Madre (Mother's Day) event**, a celebration that typically brings over 150 community members together.

SUMMER

HARVEST SEASON The **Maine blueberry harvest** happens in July and August in Downeast and midcoast Maine. Additionally, a lot of work happens in the **Forestry industry** up north during this season. **Lobster and seafood processing** continues during the summer season.

JUNE Nuestra Voz hosts the annual **Día del Padre (Father's Day) event** that features a community barbecue and a soccer tournament that the dads organize. Staff members also do outreach to forestry workers up in northern Maine.

Families and staff members celebrate at the **high school graduation** ceremonies for their graduating students.

JULY Staff **provide students with learning kits** that include math games and culturally relevant books curated for each child's literacy level & languages. We also prepare for the influx of migrant students who come to Maine for the blueberry harvest.

AUGUST Mano en Mano runs the **Blueberry Harvest School**, a summer program with a school site and services provided in the camps where migrant blueberry rakers and their families live. As part of the BHS, we organize **Resource Fairs** for rakers and their families to have access to medical, dental, legal, and financial services from partner agencies as well as food and other necessities.

FALL

HARVEST SEASON **Apples** are a big harvest crop across the state during September and October. The **Potato harvest** in Aroostook County happens in September and October, and is followed by a **Broccoli harvest** at the end of October. **Lobster and seafood processing** continues during this season and starts slowing down at the end of November. The **Wreath making** season based in Downeast Maine starts up in October to meet the demand for holiday wreaths.

SEPTEMBER Staff connect students back to school and conducts **needs assessments** with students and families to define educational goals for the academic year.

OCTOBER The **Wreath Welcome and Resource Centers** are held for wreath workers and their families. These centers are held multiple times and in several different locations to provide access to services and resources. We also host **community potluck dinners** at these centers to welcome and offer gratitude for all that the workers do.

Staff members lead English classes at the request of the many out-of-school youth who come to work during wreath season. We also host another **Parent Advisory Council meeting** this month.

NOVEMBER As the wreath making season is in full swing, many seasonal workers connect with our staff to get connected to resources and meet basic needs.

WINTER

HARVEST SEASON The **Wreath making** season starts winding down and ends by mid-December. **Potato packing** in Aroostook County starts and continues through the spring. **Lobster and seafood processing** employers furlough employees during this time. As many workers are out of work during this season, they have much higher need for support.

DECEMBER Mano en Mano hosts **La Posada**, an event that brings families together to celebrate and pass down cultural traditions to younger generations.

JANUARY Nuestra Voz leadership group comes together to determine their priorities and goals for the upcoming year. Nuestra Voz continues to hold monthly meetings all year long.

As many year-round families have been laid off during this time, Mano en Mano provides support with community members' greatest needs such as unemployment, health issues, and tax preparation.

FEBRUARY Nuestra Voz plans and hosts workshops and capacity-building trainings such as mental health and well-being or workers' rights.

Staff connect students to **enrichment opportunities** during the February break from school, such as pottery-making, swimming, and science camps.

Nuestra Voz en la Comunidad

35
core leaders

150
members

97
virtual network
members

5

community events to
celebrate language,
culture, and tradition

500

participants
in advocacy
programming

20

workshops, trainings,
& leadership meetings
that built more
community power



ADVOCACY

Nuestra Voz en la Comunidad (Our Voice in the Community) is a group of community leaders that brings together the Latinx community of Downeast Maine to take on leadership roles and advocate for positive systemic and community change.

Nuestra Voz members come from multiple experiences & backgrounds - from year-round families to single seasonal workers - and that means conversations around community needs are comprehensive. Mano en Mano recognizes and values the leadership of each community member in the room.

2019 Nuestra Voz Priorities

Nuestra Voz came together to set focus areas and goals for the year. Here are some of the priorities & work that was done:

WORKER & IMMIGRANT RIGHTS.

Solidarity Action for Milk with Dignity Program. CIW March in Ohio. Racial Equity Workshop.

CULTURAL CELEBRATION.

Community events focused on passing on traditions and spending time with family including La Posada and Día de los muertos.

HEALTH. Workshops on mental health, meditation, and healthy relationships. A Health Fair was held in collaboration with multiple state and local health organizations.

Standing in Solidarity

Advocating for systemic change with workers across the nation.

In March of 2019, Mano en Mano staff and community members decided to travel to Columbus, Ohio to march in solidarity with farmworkers from Immokalee, workers from other industries, University of Ohio students, and allies. The march was part of a campaign to cut the university's contract with Wendy's over the fast food chain's refusal to protect farmworkers' human rights in its supply chain.

For Mano en Mano community members, it was an opportunity to stand in solidarity with the farmworker-led campaign and see that these issues are not isolated or specific to Maine, but rather national structural injustices that workers across the nation face.



CIW's March for Fair Food

"I've lived in Downeast Maine for 17 years and I've been involved with Mano en Mano since the beginning. The program has helped with everything, but being part of the CIW march last year was an amazing experience. We wanted to participate in this march in Ohio because we wanted to support farmworkers. Farm work is some of the most backbreaking work and there's a lot of discrimination towards farmworkers. **We have to be united and stand in solidarity.**

The trip to Ohio was really nice. We were a group of 12-14 people. We spent a lot of hours on the bus since it was really far, but we were all singing, dancing, eating fruits and sandwiches - everyone was really happy. When we arrived, we met a lot of people from all over. **We went to the march and we were all walking, shouting, and carrying bells and signs.** I also made a sign with tomatoes that I drew myself. We stayed at a church and the warm welcome we received was really great - they really supported us. They offered us a whole banquet of food and there were a lot of people there singing, dancing, and we also did activities and icebreakers too.

The most valuable part of the experience was to be there united with everyone. **As we got to meet a lot of people, we added more strength, more courage, and more mouths to yell.** We all walked together and in addition to being united, we had a lot of fun.

I think we all learned something new. Even though it got cold or started raining at times, no one complained because we were all really happy. After 3 days, we came back on the bus and even though we were singing on the way back all over again, we were also sad that the experience had to end. When we all met to reflect on our experience, everyone said they would like to do it again. To be able to go on a trip like this is really special, and I hope there are more opportunities like this in the future."

Maria's Story: Marching for Justice

"Llevo 17 años viviendo en Downeast Maine y me involucré con Mano en Mano desde el comienzo. El programa ha servido para todo, pero formar parte de la marcha de CIW el año pasado fue una experiencia muy bonita. Nosotros queríamos participar en esta marcha en Ohio porque queríamos apoyar a los trabajadores de campo. El trabajo del campo es el trabajo que más revienta y hay mucha discriminación hacia los trabajadores. **Hay que ser solidarios y unidos.**

El viaje a Ohio fue muy bonito. Habíamos un grupo de 12-14 personas. Pasamos muchas horas en el bus como el lugar estaba bien largo, pero todos estábamos cantando, bailando, comiendo frutas y sándwiches - todos muy alegres. Cuando llegamos allí, conocimos a muchas personas de otros lugares. **Fuimos a la marcha y todos estábamos caminando, gritando, llevando campanas y carteles.** Yo también hice un cartel con tomates que dibujé. Nos hospedamos en una iglesia y el recibimiento que tuvimos fue muy bueno - nos dieron mucho apoyo. Nos brindaron un banquete de comida y había mucha gente que cantaba, bailaba y hicimos dinámicas también.

El aspecto más valioso de la experiencia fue estar allá todos unidos. **Como conocimos a muchas personas, agregamos más fuerza, más valor y más gargantas para gritar.** Andamos todos juntos, y además de estar unidos, nos divertimos mucho.

Creo que todos aprendimos algo nuevo. Aunque a veces hubo frío o empezó a llover, nadie se quejó porque estábamos muy contentos. Después de 3 días, regresamos en el bus y aunque vinimos cantando de nuevo, también estábamos tristes que se acabara la experiencia. Cuando nos reunimos para reflejar en nuestra experiencia, todos dijeron que les gustaría hacerlo de nuevo. Poder hacer un paseo así es algo muy especial y espero que hayan más oportunidades así en el futuro."

Maria "China" has been a part of Mano en Mano and a leader in Nuestra Voz since their beginning.





ACCESS

650

encounters

including access to healthcare, transportation, housing, language services, employment, financial services, medical, vision, dental, psychological, and legal supports.

85%

of encounters occurred in a language other than English including: **Spanish & Haitian Creole**

Wreath Welcome & Resource Centers

For the third year, Mano en Mano hosted Welcome and Resource Centers for new and returning wreath workers to Downeast Maine, with the purpose of **welcoming and appreciating people and connecting them to essential resources and services.**

We fill the gap that we see people have before their first paycheck, especially after going into debt to get here. **These resources and services are owed to the people that come work here.** If they were paid a living wage, there would be no need for these centers.

15 partner organizations came to the table and supported the Centers to directly connect with community members to provide resources and services such as onsite medical care, legal consultation, and access to food and winter clothing. Everyone then came together to share a homemade meal during the community potluck dinner.

Mano en Mano's model provides spaces for community members to come together to **dismantle barriers to the resources they deserve in the language they can access.**

We bridge the gaps in access to medical, legal, financial, and language services and fulfill basic needs like warm winter clothes or food. Community members determine their needs and we respond with comprehensive services that put the individual and their agency at the center of all we do. We ensure all immigrants & farmworkers gain equitable access to the essential services and resources they need **to live and thrive in Maine.**

Community Survey Testimonies

In 2019, Mano en Mano gathered input from community members to inform decisions about our future programs & services and ensure that community members are at the center of determining how Mano en Mano describes and acts on community strengths, barriers, and priorities.

"When I first came to this state, I felt alone in everything. Mano en Mano helped me get connected with support and resources. I felt like someone was with me, supporting me with school, food bank, referrals, everything."

"Me han ayudado en mucho. Salud, apoyo emocional, diligencias y hasta con mi licencia."

"They have helped me with a lot. Healthcare, emotional support, errands, and even with my license."

In 2019, more than **45** staff & volunteers distributed:

13,310

total pounds of food during **800** visits by wreath workers and their families.

After the Centers

The centers are just the beginning. Our ultimate goal is to build connections over time. After the centers closed, Mano en Mano staff followed up on all the individual needs requested during the center, such as scheduling medical appointments, increasing access to legal advice or connecting them to specific resources.

Mano en Mano continues to operate as a drop-in resource center that immigrants and farmworkers can access year-round. Thanks to the connections we made at the centers, workers have felt comfortable reaching out for support in critical moments.

Thank you for the work that you do.

Gracias por el trabajo que tu haces.

Mesi pou travay Nou fe yo.

Housing

A path to stability and security for migrant families.

Since 2011, Mano en Mano has provided affordable multi-family housing for farmworkers and their families in Milbridge. Our 6 apartment units offer safe, affordable housing in an area where average rent and utilities costs are around \$950/month. In partnership with USDA Rural Development, families pay 30% of their income in rent - including utilities - for an average of \$550 per family in 2019.

Hand in Hand apartments offer a path to savings and home ownership for families to exit the migrant stream and settle in Downeast Maine.

Hand in Hand Apartments

Each family saves around **\$400/month** in rent & utilities expenses.

That's \$4,800 of savings in a year.

Hand in Hand Apartments have been open since 2011. That means families have saved a combined **\$230,400** in the past 8 years.

These are savings that families have then **reinvested back into their futures,** creating stability and a path to home ownership.

"I've lived in Downeast Maine for 3 years. Before we moved to the Hand in Hand Apartments, we lived in a house we rented in Machias, but it was really expensive to live there. The rent was \$675 a month and utilities were not included. Since the house wasn't in good condition, the heating bill alone was between \$500 and \$600 per month. I didn't have any other options, for that reason I had to work a lot - 12 hours straight always - and of all that I earned, it served just to pay our housing expenses.

When Mano en Mano staff let me know that there was an open apartment, I applied immediately. Since we moved to the apartment about a year ago, it's perfect. It helps so much that heat and other utilities are included. The place is great: it has a lot of space and we're really comfortable here."

Jaylene's Story: Resident of Hand in Hand Apartments

"He vivido 3 años en Downeast Maine. Antes de mudarnos al apartamento de Mano en Mano, vivíamos en una casa alquilada en Machias, pero era muy cara vivir allí. La renta era \$675 al mes y los servicios no estaban incluidos. Como la casa no estaba en buenas condiciones, sólo los gastos de calefacción eran entre \$500 y \$600 al mes. No tenía otra opción, por eso yo tenía que trabajar mucho - 12 horas corridas siempre - y de todo lo que yo ganaba, servía sólo para pagar los gastos de la vivienda.

Cuando el personal de Mano en Mano me avisó de que había un apartamento libre, yo solicité de inmediato. Desde que nos mudamos al apartamento hace casi un año, el apartamento es perfecto. Ayuda muchísimo que la calefacción y los otros servicios están incluidos. El lugar es buenísimo: tiene mucho espacio y estamos muy cómodas aquí."



Jaylene Rodriguez has lived in the Hand in Hand Apartments with her daughter during the past year.

“The Migrant Education Program really focuses on bringing students to college campuses, including 4-year colleges, because they are often only shown community colleges as being accessible to them. By going on college visits, students see that they can pursue whichever educational path they wish, and **most importantly, see themselves represented in the campus.** Last year when we took students to Thomas College and Husson University, students went on a campus tour led by a Spanish-speaking student and then attended a financial aid presentation led in Spanish. On our trip to Colby College, MEP students had lunch with Latinx Colby students and got to talk about what college and campus life was really like. It’s not as important how much tuition costs or what types of programs are offered; **if our students feel that their cultures and languages are represented and that there are other students they can identify with, they will be more successful.**”

- Juana Rodriguez Vazquez, Migrant Education Program Director

\$18,750

awarded in **scholarship funds** each year for MEP students pursuing higher education opportunities

Training topics during Parent Advisory Council meetings included:

- LANGUAGE RIGHTS
- SPECIAL EDUCATION RIGHTS & SERVICES
- ADVOCATING FOR YOUR CHILD’S NEEDS

Self-Determination and Advocacy led by Parents

A critical component of our model is creating opportunities for parents to provide feedback that determines the direction of our programming. In addition to continual communication and feedback through strong relationships with families, **the MEP hosts Parent Advisory Council meetings throughout the year.**

PAC meetings bring families together from around the state and in addition to gathering parent perspective, these meetings are also opportunities to train parents as advocates for their children’s education rights.

MEP staff noticed that after these PAC meetings, many parents began asking for more information and knowledge about the schools. Before, MEP staff oftentimes helped facilitate meetings between parents and teachers or school officials. Now, however, parents started asking to meet with MEP staff before school meetings in order to write down questions and prepare to voice their concerns directly. As Leslie Monroy, MEP Regional Coordinator, shared, **“The more educated parents are and the more prepared they feel, the better they will be able to advocate for their kids.”**



Pathways to Graduation

Supporting and advocating for the unique needs of migrant students.

We focus on supporting our students as they plan for their futures. We work alongside our high school and out-of-school students to ensure they have access to the support, resources, and services they need to graduate from high school and successfully transition to their chosen college and career pathways.

Ana Ortiz’s Story: Migrant Education Program Graduate

“Me involucré en Mano en Mano hace unos 3 años cuando me mudé a Maine. Cuando llegué aquí no hablaba nada de inglés y Juana, la directora del programa, me ofreció su ayuda para inscribirme en la escuela y ayudarme a aprender inglés.

Durante estos tres años, Juana siempre me apoyó en varios aspectos personales y de la escuela. Ella me llevó a citas con mi asesor, me llevó a ver programas de educación en diferentes universidades (lo que creo que fue muy útil para decidir qué quiero estudiar) y también me ayudó a ingresar a un programa de verano en la universidad de Orono.

Una de las cosas que más disfruto ser parte de Mano en Mano es pasar tiempo con otros latinos. Creo que esta es una manera en la que puedes sentirte cerca de tu país y cultura. Realmente disfruto cuando nos reunimos para celebrar nuestras culturas.

Estoy muy agradecida con Mano en Mano y el programa de educación porque me apoyaron para continuar con mis estudios. Probablemente sin su ayuda, no estaría en la universidad en este momento. Mis objetivos son terminar mi carrera en civil environmental engineering y encontrar un trabajo donde pueda aportar algo a la sociedad y preservar nuestro medio ambiente.”



Ana Ortiz is a former MEP student who graduated high school in 2019. She is now studying Engineering at the University of Maine at Machias.

326

students served statewide through Mano en Mano’s MEP services

32

average hours of 1-on-1 services per student per year

15

MEP students graduated high school or obtained their HiSet in 2019



MAINE MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Through our work in the Maine Migrant Education Program, we serve as advocates for migrant students and their families to compensate for educational disruption resulting from their mobile lifestyles. We support students ages 0-20 to experience less academic disruption, receive better support from their schools, and achieve their educational goals. Mano en Mano implements the Maine Migrant Education Program across the entire state in partnership with the Maine Department of Education.

“I got involved with Mano en Mano about 3 years ago when I moved to Maine. When I arrived here, I didn’t speak any English and Juana, the program director, offered to help me register for school and learn English.

During these three years, Juana always supported me in many ways, personally and with school. She brought me to appointments with my advisor, brought me to see programs at different universities (which I believe was very useful for me in deciding what I wanted to study) and also helped me attend a summer program at the University of Maine at Orono.

One of the things that I most enjoy about being part of Mano en Mano is spending time with other Latinos. I believe that it’s a way in which you can feel close to your country and culture. I truly enjoy it when we get together to celebrate our cultures.

I’m so grateful to Mano en Mano and the Education Program because they supported me with continuing my studies. Most likely without their help, I wouldn’t be in college right now. My goals are to finish my degree in Civil Environmental Engineering and find a job in which I can contribute something to society and preserve our environment.”



BLUEBERRY HARVEST SCHOOL

Multilingual classrooms and strengths-based curriculum **center students' language and culture.**

Weekly field trips and daily enrichment classes **promote social-emotional growth.**

Positive relationship-building with teachers and peers **prepare students to begin a new school year.**

At the Blueberry Harvest School, daily literacy and mathematics instruction **reinforces academic skills.**

The Blueberry Harvest School is a summer program that serves migrant students ages 0-20 through site-based and camp-based programming. Students come to the Blueberry Harvest School with their families during Maine's wild blueberry harvest. Our families come from the Passamaquoddy and Mi'kmaq Nations, across Maine, and states like Florida, Texas, and New Jersey along the migrant streams.

a school without walls

164 students served through site-based and camp-based services

776 school days provided during the 3 week program

Inspiring a Love of Learning

Preparing our littlest learners to succeed in school from their very first day.

The Blueberry Harvest School Program starts with a Pre-K classroom that serves 3-4 year olds, which is oftentimes the first experience these new students have in a school setting. For young learners in migrant families, **having a positive foundational experience where they feel valued and supported is critically important to their future educational success.**



An academic year Pre-K teacher who received one of the Blueberry Harvest School students in her class this year really noticed the difference in the student's school readiness:

*"One thing I noticed with the BHS student that I have this year was that their vocabulary was very rich and expressive. During the beginning months of our Pre-K year, **my student would expressively talk about the activities they did at BHS.** They would talk about visiting the town's vegetable garden, playing on the playground, and doing classroom activities.*

*The student was also very familiar with the layout of our school and classroom. Because my Pre-K student was familiar using our school's playground equipment, as they had played on it during BHS, **they became a mentor to their peers** as they were able to show their peers how to navigate the equipment safely.*

*Since my Pre-K student had attended BHS, I was able to find out early in the school year from a BHS teacher that rest time was a very challenging part of my student's day at BHS. Knowing this information, **I was able to provide accommodations** that allowed my Pre-K student not to get stressed during their daily rest time."*

- Suzen Polk-Hoffses

Pre-K Teacher at Milbridge Elementary School
Mano en Mano Board Member

Our Blueberry Harvest School Staff

Our seasonal staff are educators from all over the country, with many coming from the same communities the school serves. Our staff use a strengths-based approach in their teaching to ensure that all languages, cultures, identities, and emotions are welcome and valued inside and outside of the classroom.

2,162

healthy meals served to students, including daily breakfast, lunch, & snack.

Families that thrive mean students who thrive

Pre-K Families Event to share resources and information about their children's development & education.

Parent Advisory Council meeting with 25 parents in attendance to share feedback about the BHS.

Family Night of food, games, and sharing student projects with parents to celebrate the end of the program.

825

additional food bags provided for students to take home at the end of the school day.

413

blueberry rakers and their families received food, clothing, dental, medical & other support services during our **weekly Resource Fairs.**

75%

are multilingual in a language spoken by BHS families

44%

come from immigrant families

52%

identify as people of color

15%

come from tribal nations

37%

identify as LGBTQ+



FINANCES

Audited financial statements and copies of IRS Form 990 are posted at www.manomaine.org/finances

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019

	REVENUE	
	Annual fund contributions	54,509
	Grant and foundation income	262,093
	Government awards	890,178
	Hand in Hand Apartments revenue	92,296
	Other program service revenue	27,947
	TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,327,023
	EXPENSES	
PROGRAM SERVICES	Access to essential services	87,315
	Advocacy	90,533
	Hand in Hand Apartments	98,904
	Migrant Education Program	755,745
	Scholarships	18,750
	Welcome Initiative	8,248
	Total Program Services	1,100,089
SUPPORTING SERVICES	Administration	231,258
	Development and fundraising	21,086
	Total Supporting Services	252,344
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,311,839

Board of Directors

Laura Thomas, Chair
Cobscook Community Learning Center

Brian Dyer Stewart, Secretary
BDSWorks

Clemencia Garcia
Nuestra Voz en la Comunidad

Rebeca Ortiz, Vice Chair
Wyman's of Maine

Adan Delgado
Nuestra Voz en la Comunidad

Ester A. Kempthorne
Washington Academy

Scott Peasley, Treasurer
Machias Savings Bank

Beth Russet
University of Maine at Machias

Jennifer Peters
Sunrise County Economic Council

Suzen Polk-Hoffses
Milbridge Elementary School

Continuing tradition & celebrating one another.

Cultural events and celebrations are an important part of Mano en Mano's programming. Last year marked the 12th Annual Mother's Day Celebration, one of the longest standing traditions at Mano en Mano. Events like this one are an opportunity to bring the community together to celebrate language and culture and preserve traditions across generations. Other annual events include Father's Day, Día del Niño, Día de los Muertos, and La Posada.

Christina Ocampo, Advocacy Co-Director at Mano en Mano, explained the objectives of the Mother's Day celebration: "On this day we want to uplift single mothers, single fathers, caregivers, and parents that can't be with their children because of borders, walls, or bars."

Mother's Day Event 2019

ALL Identities, cultures, Languages, Emotions WELCOME

A special thanks to all of our community partners:

Cobscook Community Learning Center & TREE, Eastern Maine Development Corporation, Good Shepherd Food Bank, Harrington Family Health Center, Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project, Maine Department of Education, Maine Department of Labor, Maine Family Planning, Maine Human Rights Commission, Maine Mobile Health Program, Maine Seacoast Mission, MSAD #37, Pine Tree Legal Assistance, Preble Street, the Summer Food Service Program, and the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Your collaboration makes our shared goals possible.

YOU ARE THE EXPERT OF YOUR OWN IDENTITY

WE ARE MULTILINGUAL!

Thank You

Join us

VOLUNTEER. We are always looking for dedicated individuals who can help carry out events, provide child care during Nuestra Voz meetings, and chaperone field trips with our Migrant Education Program. Learn more at: www.manomaine.org/volunteer

DONATE materials and clothing for our resource fairs, cooked meals for our family events or monetary contributions to keep our efforts going. Make a contribution at manomaine.networkforgood.com or write to us at info@manomaine.org

FOLLOW us on social media to stay updated with our latest news, events, and photos. Help spread the word about our work by liking and sharing our posts. Check us out at: facebook.com/manomaine

WORK with us. We have a variety of seasonal and year-round positions. Check out our openings at: mano-en-mano.breezy.hr

FOR MORE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED, EMAIL US AT INFO@MANOMAINE.ORG

Thank you to the immigrant, indigenous, and farmworker communities that are at the center of our mission. Without your presence, ideas, and labor, there would be no Mano en Mano, and Maine would be a very different place.

Thank you to our dedicated team of year round and seasonal staff that fight for equity, education, and justice every single day. Our organization and programming are only as strong as the people within it. Thank you to our Board of Directors who sustain the health of our organization and whose commitment, passion, oversight, and guidance ensure that Mano en Mano lives its values always.

Lastly, our work would not be possible without the generous contributions of our donors. We are grateful for the individuals and families who support us tirelessly, the Maine businesses that demonstrate their commitment to our community, and the foundations that invest in our work.

For all who contributed their time, effort, ideas, resources, and dedication over the past year, **we thank you.**



Mano en Mano

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