



Maine Community Development Association

JANUARY-APRIL, 2014

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

<i>CDBG Featured Administrator</i>	1
<i>Maine Housing Authorities</i>	2
<i>MCDA Calendar</i>	2
<i>Fair Housing Equity Assessment</i>	3
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	4
<i>Grant Opportunities</i>	4
<i>Newly Appointed MCDA Director</i>	5
<i>Maine Made Program</i>	5
<i>Jobs Openings</i>	6
<i>Maine Downtown Center</i>	6
<i>News from OCD</i>	7
<i>About MCDA</i>	8
<i>MCDA Executive Board and Subcommittee Members</i>	9

Featured Administrator



Paula Simpson

Paula is a highly-energetic and detail oriented administrator who has worked for the City of Sanford for 21 years. She has been the Treasurer since 2005 and Tax Collector since 2011. Paula had administered numerous CDBG projects for the City including Housing, Downtown Revitalization, Economic Development, Public Service, Public Infrastructure and MicroEnterprise Assistance. In addition to CDBG projects, Paula also administers Brownfield Grants and Tax Increment Financing projects for the City.

Paula says she “truly enjoys being a CDBG Administrator because of her work with grant recipients and being an integral part of the municipal team working on economic development activities.” Paula ensures that all the grant requirements are being done correctly and timely and utilizes her tact and sense of humor to get the job done. Her files are always in impeccable order and any requests made of her are met with a positive attitude and are done in a professional and timely way. Paula has the CDBG administration process “down to a science” and “loves working with all of the ladies at the Office of Community Development”. Outside of work Paula enjoys boating, being at the beach, dancing, reading and being a Mimi to 5 grandchildren. The Office of Community Development is pleased to recognize Paula for her years of dedication to the CDBG program and for being a gem of an administrator!

Maine Housing Authorities

Maine groups are pushing Congress to restore funding for Section 8 vouchers so individuals and families who are homeless or close to it can find a stable place of their own. In last year's federal spending cuts, known as sequestration, Maine lost 500 of its 12,000 Section 8 housing vouchers. A federal budget agreement in 2014 restored approximately one-half of those lost vouchers, but Maine is still short 250 vouchers to bring back pre-sequestration levels. Housing vouchers are an effective tool used to reduce homelessness. In 2013, 7,700 Mainers experienced homelessness. In Portland, the problem has become that homeless shelters have overflow shelters for their overflow shelters.

U.S. Sen. Susan Collins, the top Republican on the Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee has stated that while there are serious budget issues to address, providing housing assistance to our most vulnerable citizens must remain a priority. To restore the roughly 40,000 pre-sequestration vouchers that have yet to be refunded, the federal government will need to come up with about \$320 million; Maine would need about \$2 million. If the funding is not restored to pre-sequestration levels in the 2015 budget it could affect the number of housing vouchers Maine gets for years to come. The way funding works for the program is that the previous year's numbers are dropped into the formula for determining the next year's making the lower-than-normal allocation the new base and keeping housing authorities from placing more individuals and families.

There are 20 local Maine housing authorities across the state, with Maine State Housing Authority covering areas of the state that don't have their own housing authority. According to a 2010 survey conducted by the Maine Affordable Housing Coalition, while there are 12,000 housing vouchers in Maine, there is demand for 12,000 more. Fewer vouchers would create significant problems for people struggling with homelessness and poverty.

MCDA Calendar

February 6, 2014	Executive Committee Teleconference
March 6, 2014	General Membership Teleconference
April 10, 2014	General Membership Teleconference
May 1, 2014	General Membership Teleconference
May 2, 2014	General Membership Meeting to coincide with the Maine Downtown Center Conference in Waterville
May 29, 2014	Professional Development Workshop at Seadog Conference Room in Bangor Rain Date: May 30, 2014
June 19 and 20, 2014	CDBG Certification and Implementation Workshop City Center in Augusta
August, 2014	General Membership Meeting to coincide with the World Acadian Congress in the St. John Valley
October 2, 2014	MCDA Annual Meeting and MMA Convention

FAIR HOUSING EQUITY ASSESSMENT (FHEA)

As part of Northern Maine Development Commission's (NMDC) requirement under the HUD Sustainable Community Initiative Grant Program, the completion of a FHEA was required. The FHEA contains Seven (7) Chapters

- Background
- Segregated Areas and Areas of Increasing Diversity and/or Racial/Ethnic Integration
- Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty
- Access to Existing Areas of High Opportunity
- Fair Housing Infrastructure
- Physical Infrastructure
- Strategies/Action Plan

Analysis should be focused on a regional scale across these components, comparing within and across jurisdictions to gain a full picture of regional equity and access to opportunity. The findings of the FHEA inform strategy development, priority setting, and investments as part of the regional plan.

Chapter 1 – Background: There are four sections in this chapter;

1. High-level snapshot of current demographics
2. Description of anticipated major changes
3. Highlighting successes to affirmatively further fair housing and other civil rights
4. Highlighting significant civil rights victories/fair housing related problems.

When looking at the demographics of your community, include the race, families, and disabilities of the population. Take a look at trends comparing the demographics over a 20 or 30 year period. Highlight three things that could shape the future of fair housing; i.e. where is the population growth or decline, highlight the difference in the race of population, percent of elderly population, etc.

Recent or on-going major public investments, such as a new transit line, commercial investments, job opportunities and other investments could alter the future of fair housing as well. Examine recently passed laws or major policy changes that could impact housing in your community. Examples could include zoning changes, subdivision restrictions, etc.

Adoptions of the Fair Housing Resolutions and Fair Housing Proclamations are good examples of affirmatively furthering fair housing. This is a requirement of all CDBG recipients. Information on other significant civil rights victories or fair housing-related problems can be obtained through the Pine Tree Legal Office or the Maine Human Rights Commission.

A review of Chapter 2 – Segregation/Integration will be published in the next issue of the MCDA Newsletter.

Upcoming Events

Event	Date
Certified Business-Friendly Community Program	Application deadlines are May 2 and September 5, 2014 www.maine.gov/decd/cbfc
Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry	Maine State Park Campground Reservations open February 10, 2014 www.campwithme.com
Maine Community Foundation	Community Building Grant Program-February 18, 2014 www.mainecef.org
FY 2014 Economic Development Assistance Program	CFDA 11.300 Investments for Public Works and Economic Development Facilities http://eda.gov/

SAVE THE DATE!

CDBG Certification and Implementation Training Workshop

June 19 & 20, 2014

City Center, Augusta

Go to www.meocd.org to register!

Grant Opportunities

[Robert Wood Johnson Foundation \(RWJF\)](#) Launches Project to Help People Learn More About the Quality of Their Doctor's Care. RWJF recently announced the launch of an innovative \$1.3 million project to help consumers better understand and assess the quality of care their local physicians provide. Recruitment of up to 10 regional health collaborative for participation in the project, The DOCTOR Project, will begin immediately. Results are expected to be published by Consumer Reports beginning in 2015. FMI, read the [press release](#) or contact Melissa Blair at media@rwjf.org, (609) 627-5937.

[The Mary Kay Foundation](#) The Foundation awards grants each October in observance of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. At least one domestic violence shelter in every state will receive an award, with any remaining funding distributed based on state population. Only applicants operating an emergency shelter for survivors of domestic violence are eligible to apply. Applicants must have Section 501(c) (3) status. FMI and application guidelines, go [here](#).

Newly Appointed MCDA Director



Anne Krieg

Anne Krieg, AICP is the Director of Planning, Economic and Community Development in Bridgton, Maine. Assigned committees include the Comprehensive Plan Committee and the Community Development Committee, as well as the resource staff for the Bridgton Economic Development Corporation. Other assignments include the management of the CDBG projects and working on economic development activities to grow business in Bridgton. She also lends permitting and zoning support to the Planning Board.

Prior to Bridgton, Anne was the Planning and Development Director for the Town of Bar Harbor, Maine for 9 years. Anne also was the Town Planner for Reading, Massachusetts and Principal Planner for the Town of Danvers, Massachusetts. Prior to public service, she worked for 7 years in the private sector in the fields of construction drawing preparation, permitting, site planning and campus planning.

Anne graduated from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse University in 1986. She is married with 3 children (2 girls aged 21 and 15, and one son who is 9.

Anne was appointed to the MCDA Board of Directors in March, 2014 to serve the remainder of a term vacated by Justin Poirier. Welcome, Anne.

MAINE MADE PROGRAM

The Maine Made Program promotes a variety of products produced in Maine. Products range from boats to jewelry, books, art, specialty foods and much more. The Maine Made Program has over 1,700 members throughout the state. Membership in this program provides access to the unique branding and marketing advantage that is known worldwide. The Maine Made Program assists member businesses with marketing their products. The Maine Products Marketing Program (MPMP) provides marketing assistance to all qualified Maine producers. A selection process will ensure that only high quality, Maine products from reliable producers are part of the program. Companies wishing to participate in the program must show adequate production

capabilities and sound customer service practices. There is no fee to apply to the Maine Products Marketing Program and once enrolled, members will be entitled to the "Maine Made – America's Best" logo, kiosk display opportunities, scholarship opportunity for first year exhibitors at the New England Products Trade Show, and educational seminars and workshops offered through the Small Business Development Centers and the Maine International Trade Center. For more information, log on to the www.mainemade.com website or contact Tammy Knight at DECD, #59 State House Station, Cross State Office Building, 3rd Floor, Augusta, ME 04333-0059 or telephone (207) 624-7489.

- **Town of New Gloucester – Town Planner:** Seeking a highly motivated Town Planner to lead the town’s planning department. Position is responsible for the duties associated with town planning, including development review, drafting of land use plans, comprehensive plans, land use ordinances, and special projects. A Bachelor’s degree in land planning or a related field from an accredited college or university and at least three years professional experience in the field of land planning, economic development, or a related field are required. A complete job description is available on the town’s website: www.newgloucester.com. Applications with cover letter and résumé should be submitted and received by 4:00 p.m. on June 11, 2014 to: Paul R. First, Town Manager, 385 Intervale Road, New Gloucester, Maine 04260.
- **Town of China - Code Enforcement Officer:** The Town of China (population 4,328) seeks an experienced and enthusiastic professional to fill the full-time position of Code Enforcement Officer/Licensed Plumbing Inspector. This is a highly responsible and accountable administrative job and consists of extremely technical work in issuing and carrying out building and plumbing inspections, securing compliance with code and zoning regulations, and assisting in the planning and site plan review process. For further information on this job opening, please visit www.china.govoffice.com.

MAINE DOWNTOWN CENTER

More than 200 people from 65 communities attended the 14th Annual Maine Downtown Conference held on May 2, 2014 in Waterville. Among the topics were action plan for sustainable growing communities, Maine Street Four-Points Program, basis of grant writing, green downtowns, and Healthy Maine Streets. The Healthy Maine Streets is a new initiative aimed at making downtowns healthier. It is a federally funded project through the Communities Transformation Grant from the National Centers for Disease Control. This program focuses on work site wellness within small businesses and healthier downtowns. 213 businesses from 19 communities are currently

taking part in this program. The program started in January, 2013 and is scheduled to end in September. To learn more, check out the website at www.healthymainestreets.org.

Another powerful program is the Leadership Maine program. Leadership Maine prepares statewide leaders to shape Maine’s changing economy. The program curriculum is designed for leaders from all sectors. On June 18, 2014, Leadership Unplugged Spring 2014 will be held at the USM Lewiston-Auburn College in Lewiston. It is designed to be a series of conversations with Maine leaders around issues of economic importance. To register for this event, go to www.mdf.org/events.

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- The 2014 CDBG Budget was \$350,000 greater than the \$10.9 million budget expected. In March, 2014, the Office of Community Development (OCD) reported the following requests for each community and economic development category with the available budget.

Program	LOI	\$ Request	\$ Budget
<i>Public Infrastructure</i>	9	\$4,700,000	\$2,700,000
<i>Public Facilities</i>	3	\$ 650,000	\$ 0
<i>Housing Assistance</i>	8		\$1,000,000
<i>Downtown Revit.</i>	4	\$1,400,000	\$ 400,000
<i>Micro-Enterprise</i>	8	\$ 715,000	\$ 700,000
<i>Workforce Develop.</i>	<i>Only category with more money in the budget than requests</i>		
<i>Economic Develop.</i>		\$4,700,000	\$2,700,000

- HUD proposes changes in Environmental Review reporting. HUD is proposing in its rule-making process that all environmental review forms be completed on-line. While this is a great feature where a community uses a user name and password to enter the website and complete forms, the drawback is that it could take 6 months to 1 year for HUD to provide the user name and password. More to come on this topic in the upcoming newsletters.
- 13 Communities receive grant awards in the categories of Economic Development, Workforce Development, Micro-Enterprise, and Downtown Revitalization: The Department of Economic and Community Development in a press release dated May 19, 2014 announced that 13 communities received grant awards as follows:
 - Economic Development:
 - Brunswick – Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority \$250,000 25 jobs
 - Madawaska – Evergreen Manufacturing Group \$150,000 5 jobs
 - Madawaska – Gateway Hospitality \$150,000 5 jobs
 - New Canada – Hebert Construction \$ 90,000 3 jobs
 - Rockport – Fresh Off The Farm \$270,000 9 jobs
 - Workforce Development:
 - Augusta – National Alliance on Mental Illness \$ 98,000 360 individuals
 - Eastport – Millennium Marine \$100,000 12 individuals
 - Nashville – Irving Forest Products \$ 97,500 60 individuals
 - Micro-Enterprise:
 - Fort Kent \$150,000
 - Frenchville \$150,000
 - Madison \$ 25,000

- Winthrop
- Sanford
- Downtown Revitalization:
 - Skowhegan

\$100,000
 \$100,000
 \$400,000

ABOUT MCDA

DID YOU KNOW!!!!!!!!!!

MCDA's Purpose

TO PROVIDE FORUMS TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND FOSTER COMMUNICATION RELATING TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND CONCERNS, AND TO PROVIDE EDUCATION AND TRAINING THROUGH WORKSHOPS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION TAKES PLACE AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION. FOUR (4) REGULAR MEETINGS FOR THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ARE HELD ANNUALLY THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MAINE. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE CALLED BY THE PRESIDENT OR MAJORITY OF OFFICERS ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS.

MCDA Newsletters

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS HIGHLIGHTING COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARTICLES OF SPECIAL INTEREST THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MAINE ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP.

Benefits to Becoming a Member...

- MCDA Funding Directory*
- Training and Workshops*
- Legislative Advocacy*
- Affiliation with Other Agencies and Organizations*
- Links to Funding and Business Agencies*
- MCDA's ability to network with multiple partners*

Who's Invited to Join????

ANY PERSON, MUNICIPALITY, OR FIRM EMPLOYED BY OR INTERESTED IN ECONOMIC AND/OR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

THE COMPOSITION OF MCDA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OFFERS NEW MEMBERS AN EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE BASE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND AVAILABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES. THE TENURE AND EXPERIENCE OF THIS ASSOCIATION CAN PROVIDE NEW MEMBERS WITH A MULTIPLE RESOURCE BASE ON A VARIETY OF PROPOSED PROJECTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY. I AM/AM NOT INTERESTED IN SERVING ON ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

- ✓ ADVOCACY
- ✓ COMMUNICATIONS
- ✓ FINANCE
- ✓ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- ✓ MEMBERSHIP

there are only 22 municipalities who are members of the Maine Community Development Association (MCDA). Now, more than ever, MCDA urges each municipality to become a member of the organization. MCDA is an affiliate group of the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) and as such enjoys the same status regarding lobbying. MCDA's Advocacy Role is to weigh in on proposed legislation and policies that impact community development in Maine. This organization is the "voice" of community development policy making in Maine.

Each year, prior to the distribution of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, the State Department of Economic and Community Development's (DECD) Office of Community Development (OCD) holds public hearings on the upcoming program statement. Each year, proposed changes to the CDBG program are prepared and made available during the public hearing forums. Little or no representation among municipalities is on hand to provide comments on the program changes that would have a direct affect on their communities needs.

Focus on cutting federal spending and decreasing the national debt has resulted in continual decreases of the CDBG budget over the past few years. CDBG is vitally important for Maine communities since it is the only flexible source of federal assistance available to address a wide array of rural community development needs. OCD administers the CDBG funds through an annual competition based on scoring criteria adopted in the rule-making and program statement process. OCD works collaboratively with MCDA to review proposed changes and garner support for the CDBG program. This is the time for the MCDA membership to provide feedback on the CDBG program.

Please join and make your 'voice' count!

Please visit our website at www.maineccda.org for a membership application or contact any member of the Board of Directors.

Maine Community Development Association

Local Government Center
60 Community Drive
Augusta, ME 04330-9486

Page 8 of 9

1-800-452-8786

www.maineccda.org

MCDA Subcommittee

Members:

Advocacy

Vacant (Chair)
Tony Levesque
Ron Harriman

Communications

Joella Theriault (Chair)
Tony Levesque
Ken Arndt

Finance

Mathew Eddy (Chair)
Executive Committee

Professional Development

Gail Chase (Chair)
Jim Gulnac
Joella R. Theriault
Steve Dyer
Mathew Eddy

Membership

Steve Dyer (Chair)
Tony Levesque

Nomination

Tony Levesque (Chair)

2013-2014 MCDA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President:

Darryl Sterling
Central Maine Growth Council
reet
901
(207) 680-7300
Term Expires: October, 2015

Vice President:

Gail Chase
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments
17 Main Street
Fairfield, ME 04937
(207) 453-4258
Term Expires: October, 2015

Treasurer:

Mathew Eddy
45 McKeen Street
Brunswick, ME 04011
(207) 729-9694
Term Expires: October, 2014

Secretary:

Joella R. Theriault
Northern Maine Development Commission
11 West Main Street, Suite 104
Fort Kent, ME 04743
(207) 543-1802
Term Expires: October, 2014

Past President:

Rodney Lynch, AICP
Towns of Thomaston and Kingfield
123 Summer Street
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Term Expires: October, 2015

BOARD MEMBERS

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Term Expires: October, 2014

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