

Local Solutions

Autumn 2017

LOCAL SOLUTIONS WORKING WITH PARTNERS

Creating inspired housing in the heart of a thriving supportive community on MDI where people with special needs can flourish.

Our Board of Directors:
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Celebrate with US!

The PARISH HOUSE Opening DEDICATION AND GARDEN PARTY

SEPT. 6, 2017 4-7 PM
27 KENNEBEC STREET BEHIND ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH BAR HARBOR

The Waiting is Over!



Seven years of hard work with our partners and the support of our community has brought this project from dream to reality.

Seven years after the inception of Local Solutions, the waiting, planning, and hard work are over and our vision has come to fruition. We have kept faith in our belief that given a wholesome supportive environment, young adults with unique needs could live happy meaningful lives. Just a few short weeks after the doors of the Parish House opened on August 7th, that hope is being realized. We are joyfully watching our house become a home where each resident has the opportunity to thrive in a healthy and vigorous way.

We are deeply grateful to our partners and for the generous support of many contributors without whom this never could have happened. Father Tim Fleck of St. Saviour's Episcopal Church conceived of the idea to donate the beautiful historic Parish House to our cause and worked tirelessly to make it happen. Community Housing of Maine has worked for four years with architects and funders to develop plans and guide the renovations that have created an apartment community in the Parish House. EL Shea began months of meticulous reconstruction in November 2016 turning this vintage building into six delightful apartments and comfortable common living areas. Finally the Parish House became a home that could give our young residents a sense of belonging and the opportunity to flourish.

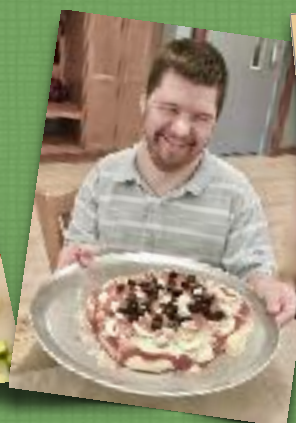
Our First Week at the Parish House!



Belonging



Engagement



Nurturing



JOY!



Adventure

Welcome To Volunteers of America As The Latest Parish House Partner

After a long, arduous search, Local Solutions is thrilled that Volunteers of America Northern New England (VOANNE) has agreed to provide staffing and services for the residents of the Parish House. An official with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) suggested that Local Solutions contact Volunteers of America. After many weeks of meetings, phone calls, and careful consideration, VOANNE wholeheartedly committed to becoming the Parish House service agency.

With over 100 years of experience helping vulnerable populations, Volunteers of America is an ideal partner. They have developed a model of care for the Parish House that emphasizes health and wellness and engagement with community, and fosters a nurturing environment. "We are very happy to be partnering with organizations that are working hard to build a bright future for their community," said June Koegel, VOANNE President/CEO.



Introducing VOANNE Staff for The Parish House

Local Solutions is pleased to introduce three members of the staff of The Parish House; all three are the Resident Assistants (RA's) who will serve as the direct managers at the house: Julie Dufour (lead RA), Michael Wright, and Ravon Palmer.



Julie Dufour (*Left*) With an Associate's Degree in Culinary Arts, a Bachelor's Degree in Recreation and Leisure Services, and a Master's degree in Therapeutic Recreation Administration, Julie brings a wealth of knowledge and over 30 years of experience in the field of human services (seven of those with VOANNE) to her position as lead RA at the Parish House. A Maine native, she grew up in eastern Maine and has enjoyed spending time in the Bar Harbor area her whole life.



Michael Wright (*right*) Growing up in the small logging community of Princeton Maine, Michael spent the years after high school working in the paper mill industry with his father as a crane operator. Eventually Michael earned his Bachelors degree in Public Administration. The father of two daughters, he is also an avid fitness enthusiast and hiker.



Ravon Palmer (*left*) While finishing her BS degree in Healthcare studies, Ravon joined VOANNE a year and a half ago to help open their Intensive Residential Treatment Behavior Health Program. A Maine native who grew up in Lewiston, she is currently working on her MBA in Healthcare and an RN degree in Nursing at Husson University.



***Your donations are welcome
Stock contributions are accepted:***

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Local Solutions is a 501(c)(3) Non-profit charitable organization.

