

Sweetser **REPORT**



SWEETSER IS

10%

SCHOOL-BASED
CLINICIANS



PLACED IN

150+

SCHOOLS IN
MAINE



SERVING

5,500

STUDENTS
IN MAINE

School-based services enters 25th year

School-based clinicians now comprise 10% of Sweetser's workforce, which is now 900 strong. In 1994, the program started as a pilot and was expanded the next year to include multiple new towns and schools. Today, Sweetser school-based clinicians support students and staff in more than 150 schools from York to Bangor, Maine, and last year served approximately 5,500 students.

If you hadn't heard, the program serves students even when school is not in session. Many students and families benefit from the support, particularly during transitions from school to summer and from summer to fall that may lead to anxiety and stress.

The next school year will be the program's 25th anniversary! If you have a story to tell about how Sweetser's School-based program helped you or a family member, we'd like to know. **Contact us at communications@sweetser.org.**

MISSION Providing quality treatment, support and hope to children, families and adults through a network of mental and behavioral health, developmental, and educational services.

VISION Helping people create promising futures.

As a member of the Midcoast Community Alliance, Sweetser school-based and crisis services staff teamed up to support the RSU1 “Set for Success” back-to-school event held August 19th at the Bath Middle School. In the photo, School-based Supervisor Ashley Wilock and Crisis Services Supervisor Jessica LeBlanc, along with a student helper, made stress balls out of rice and sand-filled balloons. The Midcoast Community Alliance promotes mental health awareness and understanding with a vision of a suicide-free community.



Dear Friends, Sweetser has continued to deliver on our promise to connect people with the services they need and deserve and I couldn’t be more proud of our donors, volunteers and staff who have made this possible.



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As you can see from our cover story, our school-based clinicians support thousands of children and families each year, and in 2019 the program will celebrate 25 years!

In June, I had the wonderful opportunity to watch Ian Dow graduate from the Sweetser School in Belfast. It was clear from the ceremony that he had developed a special bond with the school’s staff and students, and had even become a mentor to many. In this issue, you can see the pride on Ian’s face on that day, and some of the inspiring words he shared. In the future, he wants to help others like him and the friends he met at Sweetser. We are so proud of him.

Our crisis services staff took on an enormous opportunity to expand into five new counties in addition to the counties they already served. The feedback we have received shows that they have delivered services to many more of our state’s most vulnerable children, families and adults, professionally and compassionately.

Last spring, we welcomed Developmental Services as part of Sweetser, expanding services to include adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in a community environment in Bangor. On page 7, you can see some of our winning athletes who competed in the Summer Special Olympics. The clients and staff have been a wonderful addition to the Sweetser family.

Our roots in children’s residential care, which date back to 1828, continue to flourish with the introduction of the principles of CARE (Children and Residential Experiences), developed by our partners at Cornell University.

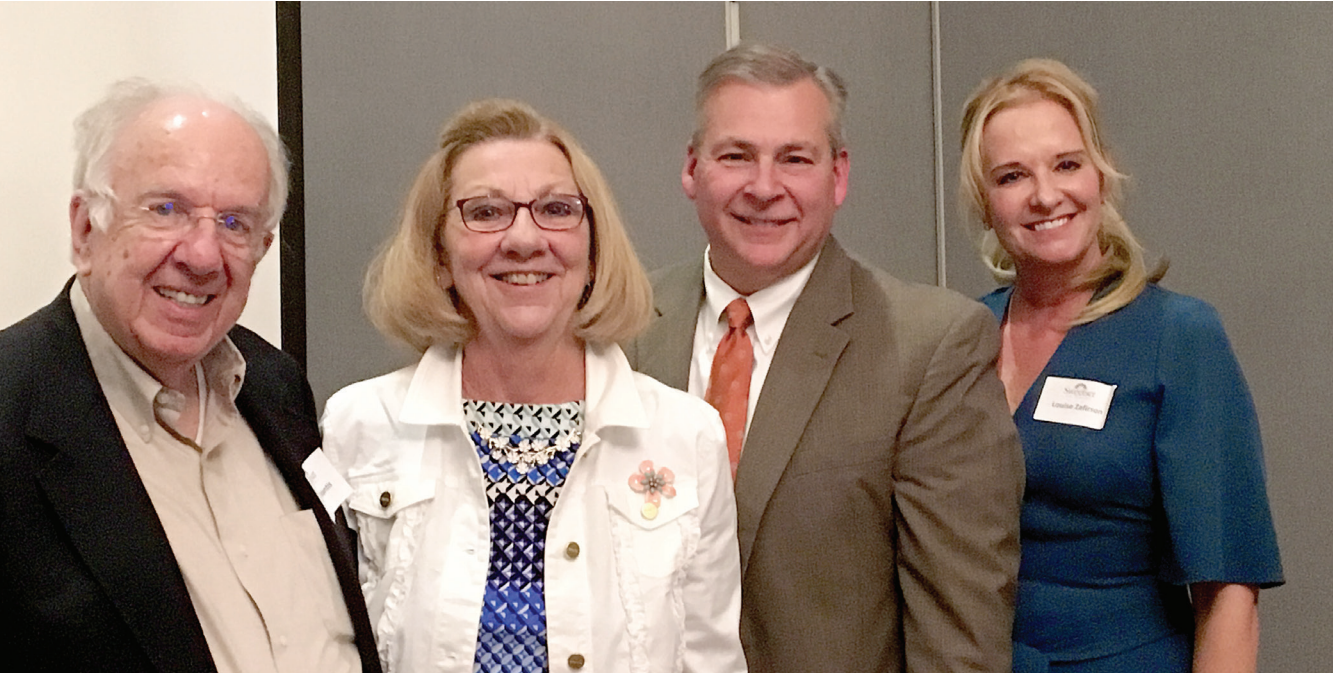
In September during National Suicide Prevention Month and in partnership with the Maine CDC, Sweetser launched a new web portal for use by clinicians throughout Maine. The Suicide Safer Care Portal (which can be accessed at sweetser.academy.reliaslearning.com) furthers our commitment to the national Zero Suicide initiative.

With your support, we continue to create promising futures for our state’s most vulnerable.

Deb

DEBRA D. TAYLOR, President and CEO

Recognizing Heritage Society Members



The annual Cornelius Sweetser Heritage Society Dinner was held in September at the Portland Marriott at Sable Oaks to honor those who have made an extraordinary commitment to Sweetser and/or have included Sweetser in their estate plans. The room was filled with those who have made a tremendous impact on Sweetser and its mission. Five former board chairs were in attendance and nine new Heritage Society members were recognized for their dedication and longtime support.

The newest members include:

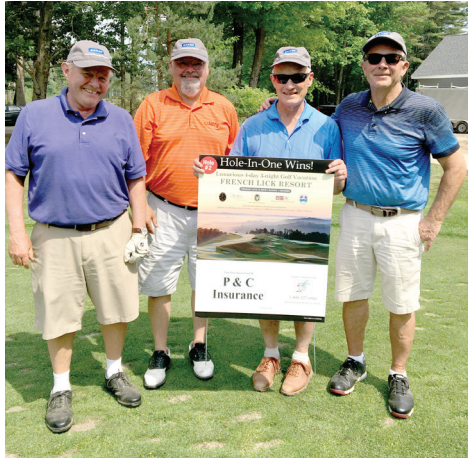
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|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| FRANK AND GABRIELLE AXTELL | ANDY AND ELIZABETH MANTIS |
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| RONALD AND CLAIRE BERGERON | RICHARD AND NANCY TAYLOR |
| MAVIS LONGFELLOW | FLORENCE THOMPSON |
| | FREDERICK WESTON |



ABOVE
New Heritage Society members Andy and Elizabeth Mantis with Sweetser Board Member Bill Zafirson and his wife Louise.

LEFT
Former Board Presidents Suzanne Megathlin and Connie Kent.

We are very grateful to this distinct group of friends!



“Hole In Ones” Highlight Golf Classic

The sold out 29th annual Sweetser/Prime Motor Group **Golf Classic** was truly a special event this year with two aces on holes two and 13 at Dunegrass Golf Club in Old Orchard Beach. Dennis Eagleson from The Baker Company and Doug Willett of P&C Insurance pulled off the unusual feat. Both golfers happen to be Sweetser Board members as well!

ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT Board Member Doug Willett of P&C Insurance is congratulated for his hole in one on #13 by Sweetser Facilities Senior Director Jon Mistos; Dennis Eagleson at center holding sign celebrating his hole in one on #2 with Baker teammates Allan Evelyn, Ed Bull and Mike Condon; Luke Labbe of PeoplesChoice Credit Union (left) won closest to the pin.

Winning teams included: first place — PeoplesChoice Credit Union (gross), Patrons Oxford Insurance (net); second Place — The Dunham Group (gross), CGI Business Solutions (net); third Place — KeyBank (gross), PM Construction (net).

The popular event raised nearly \$56,000 and is recognized as one of the premiere charity golf tournaments in Maine with 37 teams. Longtime Sweetser friend and Corporator, NEWS CENTER Maine NOW Anchor, Lee Goldberg, partnered with golfers at the putting contest once again.

We are grateful to longtime Presenting Sponsor, Prime Motor Group and all participating team sponsors, volunteers, businesses and many golf

clubs that support this tournament. A special thanks to our corporate sponsors: Prime Motor Group, ADESA Boston, Biddeford Savings Bank, Brian Gilbert Associates, Cafua Management/ Dunkin’ Donuts, Casella Waste Systems, Domestiks Cleaning Service, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, Lincoln Financial Group, P&C Insurance, Patrons Oxford Insurance, PM Construction, Saco & Biddeford Savings, Seacoast Security, Strategic Media, Systems Engineering, and Toyota Financial Services.



The Prime Motor Group team is ready to play.



Board member James Nylund and his wife, Emily Hricko, prepare for the cycle.

CYCLE OR STROLL FOR SWEETSER RAISES \$6,500

Perfect weather prevailed for our 5th Annual Cycle or Stroll for Sweetser event held on September 9th on the Sweetser Saco campus and along the scenic Eastern Trail. More than 80 friends and staff participated in the walk and ride to support Sweetser’s statewide services.

Cyclists enjoyed leisurely rides of two, eight and 14 miles and walkers teamed up for a pleasant three-mile stroll.

We are grateful to our Presenting Sponsor, General Dynamics. Special thanks to our other sponsors, including: Cigna, Oakhurst Dairy, Martin’s Point Health Care, Aroma Joe’s, Saco & Biddeford Savings, Amato’s, Back to Health Chiropractic, Saco Subway, Eastern Trail Alliance, River Drive Cooperage & Millwork, and Town & Country Federal Credit Union.

Congratulations to our top two event fundraisers, Greg Prince and Melanie Coombs. Combined, they raised over \$1,000 for Sweetser! We look forward to another successful event next year and hope you can join us!



**Greg Prince and
Melanie Coombs
raise over \$1,000
for Sweetser!**

SUPPORT

Sweetser is grateful for the valued support we receive from large and small companies, civic clubs and foundations. Donations and grants are invaluable to helping Sweetser meet the needs of our clients and programs throughout the state. Thank you for helping create promising futures for those we serve.



Sarah Milne of athenahealth organized a backpack and school supply collection, helping students prepare for a new year.

THE DAVIS FAMILY FOUNDATION awarded Sweetser a \$15,000 grant to purchase and install SMART boards at our School in Saco.

KENNEBUNK SAVINGS BANK supported Sweetser as a Major Sponsor of our Tom Petty Tribute Benefit Concert in September. Other sponsors who generously contributed to the event include Provencher Oil, Walmart of Scarborough and Hussey Seating.

THE ELMINA B. SEWALL FOUNDATION has awarded Sweetser a three-year “Legacy Grant” for operational support.

THE HANNAFORD HELPS REUSABLE BAG PROGRAM donated \$1 for every reusable bag sold in the Saco Hannaford store in the month of June.

CAMP MATAPONI again generously donated numerous personal hygiene products and cookies for clients in Sweetser residential programs.

BED BATH & BEYOND, in partnership with **GOOD360**, donated a significant amount of household products for Sweetser’s Developmental Services in Bangor.

ATHENAHEALTH donated backpacks and school supplies for students at the Sweetser School in Belfast.

A SETTING FOR LIFE SKILLS

At the Eslie J. Parquette School in Saco, Occupational Therapist Annie Altavilla and Speech Therapist Marsha Siviski teach a social skills class for students in kindergarten through grade 12 that culminates in a wonderful meal presented at a table beautifully set with flowers from Ricker Farm. Students are taught that they are worthy of such an offering. They also learn the basics of hosting a meal — making a place setting, folding the napkins, how to use the utensils for eating and cutting. School staff has remarked on how the students have risen to the occasion, exhibiting the best behavior at these special luncheons, where everyone has a seat at the table dining and celebrating what they have learned.



Caption TK dolupta tatae. Ihite cus pro molupta sperferi inum volum et as endent labo lore mod qui dolorepro lorem iest.

Everyone has a seat at the table dining and celebrating what they have learned.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2019

“Sold on Kids” Auction

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019

Sweetser/
Prime Motor
Group Golf
Classic

LEAVE A LEGACY

One of the easiest ways to leave a legacy and make a significant contribution is to include Sweetser in your will by simply filling out the form below. Thanks to the generosity of many friends over the years, bequests have played a significant role in helping Sweetser provide services to thousands of children, families and adults each year. For more information about making a planned gift to Sweetser, please contact Director of Development Todd Henry at thenry@sweetser.org or by calling him at 207-294-4484. Thank you!

I, _____ HEREBY GIVE, DEVISE AND BEQUEATH TO SWEETSER IN SACO, MAINE,
[\$ _____ DOLLARS] OR [_____ % OF THE RESIDUE OF MY ESTATE].
SIGNED, _____ THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20 ____ .
WITNESSED _____



THE 2018 SPECIAL OLYMPICS STATE GAMES WERE HELD JUNE 8-10

at the University of Maine at Orono. The event included 24 athletes who are also clients of Sweetser Developmental Services in Bangor. Thank you to staff who helped make this possible. We are very proud of our athletes!



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INSIDE

School-based clinicians supported
5,500 students last year

Celebrating Cornelius Sweetser
Heritage Society

Supporting services through
special events

Developmental Services compete
and medal in Special Olympics

PROMISES KEPT

In life we all need to find a purpose.

I've thought of many different things that I thought could be my purpose. But standing here today I have realized my purpose is to help people just like you. Purpose is the reason you journey; passion is the fire that lights your way. Being here today is the fire down in my soul that has encouraged me to move on. Just remember the words that I have said and the memories that you have had with me since I have been at Sweetser School."

IAN DOW, SWEETSER SCHOOL GRADUATION IN BELFAST, JUNE 13, 2018

If you would like to share how Sweetser supported you or a family member, we would love to hear from you. **Send to communications@sweetser.org**

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on Sweetser services,
call our PromiseLine
1-800-434-3000
or visit sweetser.org

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