



**Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 4, 2019

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Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation and Maine Water Award \$1,000 Grant to The Opportunity Alliance, the Community Action Agency for Cumberland County

Program to Provide Access to Nutritious Food for Families in Need

SOUTH PORTLAND, Maine —The Opportunity Alliance in South Portland recently received a \$1,000 grant from Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation and Maine Water to provide more fresh, healthy food to families in need in the community.

“Our summer program and the Food Locker Project run by Head Start Services provides healthy food for families, especially over school vacation weeks and breaks,” said Mike Tarpinian, President and CEO of The Opportunity Alliance. “The Food Locker project allows families to ‘shop’ and bring home food so they can still eat well even when not receiving meals during school.”

The Opportunity Alliance is the Community Action Agency for Cumberland County. Through multiple integrated community based and clinical programs, the Alliance serves more than 20,000 people annually throughout Maine.

“We are thrilled to help The Opportunity Alliance provide healthy food to families,” said Pamela Blackman, Customer Service Manager at Maine Water. “Safe drinking water and healthy food are the basics for good human health. Maine Water and its employees are passionate about clean water for families and communities in Maine and we are proud to partner with Harvard Pilgrim Foundation in making this grant possible to help Maine families have access to good, healthy food choices.”

Maine Water is a regulated public water utility that is committed to providing high quality water and world-class service to families and communities while being good stewards of the environment. They service 32,000 customers in Maine.

About Maine Water

The Maine Water Company is dedicated to the customers and communities it serves. Maine Water is a regulated public water utility that is committed to providing high quality water and world-class service to families and communities while being good stewards of the environment.

For more information, visit <https://www.mainewater.com/>

About Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation

Created in 1980, The Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation supports Harvard Pilgrim's mission to improve the quality and value of health care for the people and communities we serve. The Harvard Pilgrim Foundation provides the tools, training and leadership to help build healthy communities throughout Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. In 2017, the Harvard Pilgrim Foundation awarded more than \$2.3 million in grants to more than 900 nonprofit organizations in the region. Since its inception in 1980, the Foundation has awarded \$145 million in funds and resources throughout the four states.

For more information, please visit www.harvardpilgrim.org/foundation.

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