

BREAKING BARRIERS

Winter
2022



Pumpkins in the Park Went Digital, Again!

Similar to last year, due to COVID-19, it was necessary for us to make some modifications to the traditional Pumpkins in the Park event and go digital again. This year's, 19th Annual Pumpkins in the Park ran from Friday, October 22 and went until Saturday, October 30 on the UCP of Maine Facebook page. The schedule was as follows:

- Day 1, Friday 10/22: Scavenger Hunt (through the entire week), sponsored by Beal College
- Day 2, Saturday 10/23: Halloween Trivia Sheet (through the entire week), sponsored by Barresi Financial
- Day 3, Sunday 10/24: Halloween Candy Appreciation Day, sponsored by SJ Rollins Technologies
- Day 4, Monday 10/25: Halloween Movie/Show Appreciation Day, sponsored by Mainly Eyes
- Day 5, Tuesday 10/26: Coloring/Drawing Contest, sponsored by Machias Savings Bank
- Day 6, Wednesday 10/27: Story Reading w/ The Briar Patch, sponsored by The Shop Inc.
- Day 7, Thursday 10/28: Costume Contest - Babies, Kids, Adults, and Pets, sponsored by Central Maine Wireless
- Day 8, Friday 10/29: Pumpkin Carving Contest, sponsored by Bangor Savings Bank
- Day 9, Saturday 10/30: Halloween Decorating Contest, sponsored by KidsPeace



Scavenger Hunt: Attendees were able to participate in the Scavenger Hunt by using a clues sheet that went throughout the week. Each scavenger hunt location was marked with the UCP of Maine pumpkin logo and/or can be found on participating businesses website/social media. Participants could take photos or submit where they found the pumpkin logos on the UCP of Maine Facebook page for a chance to win a prize.

Halloween Trivia Sheet: The sheet was provided on the UCP of Maine Facebook page and event page and could be filled out and submitted throughout the week for a chance to win a prize. **Halloween Candy and Halloween Movie/Show Appreciation Days:** On these days we encouraged participants to submit photos eating or sharing their favorite Halloween candy using the hashtag #pumpkinsinthepark and #ucpofmaine. **Coloring/Drawing Contest:** For this contest participants could submit photos of their artwork on the UCP of Maine Facebook page or event page for a chance to win a prize. **Story Reading w/The Briar Patch:** Participants enjoyed Halloween stories via videos that were posted on the Pumpkins in the Park event page and UCP of Maine Facebook page. **Costume Contest, Pumpkin Carving Contest, and Halloween Decorating Contest:** Participants could submit their contest photos on the UCP of Maine Facebook page or the event page for a chance to win a prize. There were four different categories for chances to win, Babies, Kids, Adults, and Pets. *For all contests, prizes were drawn randomly by submission on the UCP of Maine Facebook page and/or event page.*

The event was a free event since it was only online. All event sponsorships benefited UCP of Maine in supporting children and adults with physical and intellectual needs in our community. We hope to be back in person next year for our monumental 20th Annual Pumpkins in the Park!

UCP of Maine Expands Offices to College Place in Waterville

UCP of Maine has expanded our offices to accommodate the growth in our service area. The new office is at College Place in Waterville, located on 32 College Ave., Suite 304 and will

offer Outpatient Mental Health Services along with Behavioral Health Home (BHH) and both Children's and Adult Case Management. Sadel Davis, Director of Behavioral Health Home and Case Management Services for UCP of Maine, recently shared "We are very excited about the move and being able to expand all of UCP's services. One of the biggest advantages of the new space is with our Outpatient Mental Health Services; we have immediate openings for



clients and looking forward to continue to grow the program!" To make a referral you can contact Jared Dolley at 207-941-2952 x333 or jared.dolley@ucpofmaine.org.



Share your UCP of Maine story: office@ucpofmaine.org

Early Childhood Education Expansion

UCP of Maine opened a brand new K-2 classroom and program within the Bridges department. The new classroom, located at Evergreen Woods on Mt. Hope Ave. in Bangor, is currently accepting referrals and once full, can serve up to 10 students.

Andrea Richards, Director of Early Childhood Services for UCP of Maine recently shared, "We are excited to be opening this new classroom and expanding the Bridges program to now offer education from kindergarten to second grade.

We will be working closely with local community schools and creating specially designed instruction for each student. The Success For All curriculum, that we will be using, supports play and social development, as well as including literacy, handwriting, and art."

Also, UCP of Maine is pleased to announce we received a \$2,500 grant from the TEGNA Foundation as part of their community grants program that addresses critical community needs and initiatives. These funds were used to help create a new classroom for our Bridges, Early Childhood Education program. The Bridges program is a center-based education program for toddlers and preschoolers who require individualized support for a variety of reasons, including behavioral, motor, sensory

or social needs. The program also has access to a variety of consultants in areas including behavioral, speech and occupational therapy.

The children in the program work on all of these needs while participating in age-appropriate activities both with peers and individually, including art, music & movement, outdoor play and circle time, snack and table activities.

Andrea Richards, also shared, "There continues to be a strong need for special education services for toddlers and preschoolers. While the long-term goal for many of our students is to be in a mainstream setting, we're grateful that the community continues to recognize the



value in specialized services. The families we work with put their trust in our teaching team's ability to adapt learning opportunities and levels of support to each child. It is my hope to expand in such a way that we can incorporate classrooms for typically developing children on-site, while still providing a meaningful, individualized educational experience to all our students. Each step we take helps us support Bridges families and provide a needed resource to our community."



Bangor Savings Bank Grant Opportunity

Every February, Bangor Savings Bank runs their Community Matters More program that directly engages the public in grant awards. Voters will determine the recipients of over \$155,000 in grants awarded to 45 nonprofits across Maine and New Hampshire. The nonprofit with the most votes in each region will receive a \$5,000 grant, with runner-up grants awarded up to fourth place.

We would like to encourage our friends, family, and supporters to vote UCP of Maine for Southern Penobscot County starting February 1st and going through the entire month. Voting can be done online (www.bangor.com/cmm) or at any Bangor Savings Bank location. UCP could be awarded a grant of up to \$5,000 or even win the \$15,000 anniversary grant!

Start the New Year off right with a new job at UCP of Maine!

Work in rewarding fields such as **early childhood education, in home and community supports, and nursing care.** UCP of Maine offers great opportunities with a **good work life balance, flexible scheduling, clinical supervision, and a comprehensive benefits package!**

Apply Today!

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Connect with us!

 For more information, full list of positions, and to apply visit: www.ucpofmaine.org



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