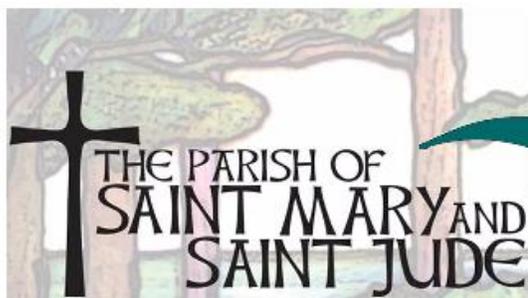




Families First Community Center  
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[www.facebook.com/Families-First-Community-Center-1007010682682336/](https://www.facebook.com/Families-First-Community-Center-1007010682682336/)  
[www.ebay.com/usr/ffccellsworth](https://www.ebay.com/usr/ffccellsworth)  
[www.gofundme.com/urgent-need-kids-without-homes](https://www.gofundme.com/urgent-need-kids-without-homes)  
(207) 460 – 3711



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 25, 2017

CONTACT: Dawn Carter Coffin, Board President

## THE STROUD FUND OF ST. MARY & ST. JUDE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF NORTHEAST HARBOR AWARDS \$10,000 GRANT TO FAMILIES FIRST COMMUNITY CENTER

ELLSWORTH - Families First Community Center has received a \$10,000 Outreach Fund Grant from The Stroud Fund to help finance the Renovation Fund for their Home.

“This generous grant from The Stroud Fund will go a long way to ensuring that the Families First Community Center can make the needed renovations to the Home they are preparing to purchase in Ellsworth. This Home will house and educate homeless parents with minor children,” said Dawn Carter Coffin, president of the board of directors. “We are especially thrilled to receive this benevolent grant

as in comes from Hancock County itself: right here in Northeast Harbor! This is so gratifying to FFCC, as it shows that the community has faith in our mission,” she added.

“The number one cause of homelessness in Hancock County is generational poverty, which affects multiple generations. Parents need help with life skills so they can be self-sufficient. The National Council to End Homelessness highly recommends these homes that teach life skills and offer referrals, education, medical, and safety planning.” The center is currently raising the money for needed renovations.

With this grant, Families First Community Center now has \$40,000 of the \$130,000 needed for the renovations. The Stroud Fund Grant helps a great deal.

The nonprofit Families First Community Center was founded in 2015 with a mission to break the cycle of homelessness before it is passed down to the next generation. It equips families with minor children with the housing and skills they need to gain self-sufficiency. Residents will be required to work 40 hours per week towards this goal. The Home opening is planned for late 2017. For more information, to donate funds or materials, or to volunteer, call 460- 3711, mail PO Box 951 in Ellsworth, email [familiesfirstellsworth@gmail.com](mailto:familiesfirstellsworth@gmail.com) or visit [www.familiesfirstellsworth.org](http://www.familiesfirstellsworth.org).

The Stroud fund is made possible through the generosity of Dr. Morris W. Stroud III, who established a permanent outreach fund in 1990. Income from this fund is disbursed for community needs and projects by the Stroud Committee. Applications are welcomed from individuals and groups and are processed on a Quarterly basis. The Fund distributes approximately \$32,000 a year. For more information, visit St. Mary & St. Jude at <http://www.maryjude.org/outreach.html>.

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