

Families First Community Center

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BANGOR SAVINGS BANK'S COMMUNITY MATTERS MORE AND *YOU* AWARDED \$5,000 GRANT TO FAMILIES FIRST COMMUNITY CENTER

ELLSWORTH – Families First Community Center (FFCC) was awarded a \$5,000 grant by Bangor Savings Bank's Community Matters More that will be invaluable in aiding FFCC in starting their NEW Case Management Outreach Program!

"We are so very grateful to Bangor Savings Bank for choosing Families First Community Center to be on the Community Matters More ballot! We are also so thankful to the entire community for voting for FFCC to win this \$5,000 grant from Bangor Savings Bank! We would not have this grant without your vote and we are very grateful to everyone who voted! The money will go towards employing our first Case Manager, Katie Harriman, who started work at FFCC on Monday, April 30. Through FFCC, she offers FREE Case Management services to anyone who feels in need in Hancock County," said Dawn Carter Coffin, president of the board of directors.

The non-profit organization, founded in 2015, is currently renovating a large house and barn at 41 North Street, Ellsworth, to forward their main mission of breaking the cycle of homelessness by housing six families with minor children and equipping them with the skills they need to gain self-sufficiency.

In addition to housing, the community center will provide services such as educational and job training courses, medical and safety services, a variety of life skills, and case management. These are not only open to the residents of the home, but to anyone in need in Hancock County.

Coffin states, "I want to acknowledge the assistance of Sheryl Edgecomb, Ellsworth branch manager for Bangor Savings Bank. She was so helpful and encouraging to us during the grant process in the same way we plan to support the families we will serve. I also want to acknowledge everyone who voted for us! We would not have this fantastic grant if not for you!

FFCC would also like to present a challenge to every other bank in Hancock County to match Bangor Savings Banks generous grant."

Families First Community Center is currently seeking volunteers in every aspect of their organization and especially to help with the home renovations that are currently ongoing.

For more information, to donate funds or materials, call 460-3271, mail PO Box 951, Ellsworth, email <u>familiesfirstellsworth@gmail.com</u> or visit their website at <u>www.familiesfirstellsworth.org</u>.

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