



## Families First Community Center

501(c)(3) Organization: 47-4792801  
P.O. Box 951, (41 North Street), Ellsworth, ME 04605  
(207) 460 – 3711

[familiesfirstellsworth@gmail.com](mailto:familiesfirstellsworth@gmail.com)

[www.familiesfirstellsworth.org](http://www.familiesfirstellsworth.org)

[www.facebook.com/Families-First-Community-Center-1007010682682336/](https://www.facebook.com/Families-First-Community-Center-1007010682682336/)

[www.ebay.com/usr/ffccellsworth](http://www.ebay.com/usr/ffccellsworth)

“The true reflection of society can be seen in the way that it cares for the elderly, the poor and needy, and the homeless.”  
~ Hubert Humphrey ~



CONTACT: Terri Ouellette, Board President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 25, 2018

### RAY & KAY ECKSTEIN CHARITABLE TRUST AWARDS \$15,000 GRANT TO FAMILIES FIRST COMMUNITY CENTER

ELLSWORTH - Families First Community Center has received a \$15,000 Grant from the Ray & Kay Eckstein Charitable Trust towards the Renovation Fund for the new Ellsworth family shelter.

“This generous grant from the Ray & Kay Eckstein Charitable Trust will help a lot towards the necessary construction to the large home on North Street in Ellsworth, giving us our wheelchair lift and the rest of the finish carpentry materials. This almost completes Phase I, our renovation financing, with construction now well underway. We then need to raise the funds for Phase II, hiring our Staff, enabling us to open in the spring. Families First Community Center will provide housing and educational classes for homeless parents with minor children,” said Terri Ouellette, president of

the board of directors. “FFCC is honored to receive funding from the Ray & Kay Charitable Trust for the second year in a row,” she added.

The nonprofit FFCC was founded in 2015 when volunteers at a local homeless shelter realized the unique needs of families with minor children were not being met – and some families were turned away due to lack of space. FFCC has raised the funds to purchase and completely renovate the home, with a large addition for a child learning center and multiple apartments, including one ADA-compliant. In addition to housing and teaching life skills to six families, the home will provide case managers, mentors, referrals, and on-site classes to the community.

“We are also still looking for volunteer contractors, electricians, plumbers, drywallers, painters, anyone who is handy with a hammer,” said Ouellette. Volunteers are needed to help with the renovations this winter.

The opening is planned for the spring of 2019. For more information, to donate funds or materials for the renovations, or to volunteer, you may call 460-3711, mail PO Box 951, Ellsworth, email [familiesfirstellsworth@gmail.com](mailto:familiesfirstellsworth@gmail.com) or visit [www.familiesfirstellsworth.org](http://www.familiesfirstellsworth.org).

The Eckstein Charitable Trust’s grant-making interests are derived from the areas that Ray & Kay Eckstein concentrated their personal giving for the majority of their married life. The couple enjoyed giving to organizations that focused on faith, family, education, and human needs in the communities in which they resided. Today the Eckstein Trust provides grants in support of five core values: faith, human needs, family, education and vibrant communities. More information is available at <http://ecksteincharity.org>.

- - END - -