

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

We needed help and they responded! **New Beginnings clients volunteer time at Androscoggin Head Start**

Lewiston, ME (August 15, 2008) - Clients of New Beginnings, a local non-profit whose mission is to assist adolescents who are in crisis due to unstable or conflictive living situations to grow socially and emotionally so they can build self-respect and lead productive lives, recently donated their time at Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care's Coburn Center. Three youths, as well as Ethan May, Youth Worker, each volunteered two hours of their day to prepare the playground for return of children for fall pre-school classes. The Coburn Center playground, located at 269 Bates Street in Lewiston, is utilized by thirty-six children daily in the Head Start Pre-School program, ages three to five, as well as children in the Home Based Program, ages six weeks to five. This playground has a climbing structure, swings, a bike path, and three raised garden beds. New Beginnings' volunteers spent time raking, removing rocks and debris, and pulling weeds that have sprouted over the summer months, so that the children will have a safe place to play.

New Beginnings' transitional living program provides housing and supportive services to help older adolescents, ages sixteen to twenty-one, develop the attitudes and skills necessary for independent living. Services are designed for youth who are homeless or are at risk of homelessness. New Beginnings is a non-profit youth-serving agency located in Lewiston, Maine. Since opening its doors in 1980, New Beginnings has grown from a program providing basic shelter care to an agency with a variety of community-based services meeting the needs of youth in crisis and their families. The agency receives funding from individual donors, local organizations such as the United Way, and state and federal sources. Please call (207) 795-4077, or online at www.newbeginmaine.org for more information.

Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care has provided quality child development services to pregnant women, families, and children, newborn to age five, for over forty-three years. Program options include Full Day, Half Day, Pre-Kindergarten partnerships with local elementary schools, Home Based, Family Child Care, Infant and Toddler Early Head Start, and the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Services through these programs are provided annually to over nine hundred children and families throughout Androscoggin County.

Applications for all Head Start programs are accepted at any time. Most Head Start programs are free to eligible children. Full day childcare services are available on a sliding fee scale for parents who are working, continuing their education, or participating in job training. Please call (207) 795-4040 for more information. Please visit our website at www.androkids.com. Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care is a United Way funded and Lewiston and Auburn CDBG supported agency.