The Maine Center for Economic Policy provides citizens, policymakers, advocates, and media with credible and rigorous economic analysis that advances economic justice and prosperity for all Maine people.
Dear Friend,

2015 was a watershed year for the Maine Center for Economic Policy. We stuck to our knitting—providing credible and rigorous analysis to policymakers, advocates, and media—to make a positive difference. Nowhere was this more apparent than our work on the state budget.

MECEP worked tirelessly behind the scenes to evaluate different budget proposals and craft alternatives for legislators to consider. This work was more important than ever since Governor LePage limited policymakers' ability to obtain needed information to develop their own plans.

With our assistance, legislators rejected the governor’s harmful fiscal policies and overrode his veto to pass a budget that:

- Averts future fiscal crises by avoiding costly future tax cuts primarily for the wealthy.
- Boosts funding for K-12 education, University of Maine and Maine Community College, and college scholarships for low-income students.
- Directs $50 million in refundable tax credits to more than 150,000 low-income Mainers.
- Increases property tax relief for Maine homeowners by protecting state aid to municipalities and doubling the homestead exemption for all Maine homeowners.
- While these changes will result in a more progressive tax system and increase the likelihood that the state can uphold commitments to students and communities, there is still much work to do to advance economic justice and prosperity for all Maine people.

MECEP continues to provide analysis on some of the most important opportunities for Maine—accepting federal funds to provide access to affordable health care for tens of thousands of Mainers and restructuring the rules of our economy so that hard working Mainers are able to provide for their families.

MECEP’s presence in the media and online was as robust as ever in 2015. Our work was cited in over 100 news articles, op-eds, and radio shows. Our blog has become the go-to place for analysis on topics ranging from Maine’s labor market and economy to payday lending. Finally, people and organizations throughout Maine routinely call on us for information and analysis to inform their work. In 2015, MECEP staff responded to an unprecedented number of information requests and spoke at conferences and gatherings throughout Maine and New England on topics that included higher education affordability, women’s economic security, and Maine’s demographics and economy.

None of this work would be possible without the commitment of dedicated staff, board, and supporter. We will miss the many contributions of Christy Daggett, Joel Johnson and Alex McAuliff who left MECEP’s staff in 2015. New staff members Sarah Austin, Megan Michaud, and James Myall have allowed a seamless transition as we look forward to continuing to deliver high quality, credible analysis that makes a difference in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Garrett Martin, Executive Director
MECEP Donors

**Individual Donors**

MECEP Donors


Grants and Contracts
Center for Responsible Lending ~ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities ~ Charles Stewart Mott Foundation ~ Elmina B. Sewall Foundation ~ Ford Foundation ~ Helen and George Ladd Charitable Corporation ~ Ivorybill Foundation ~ Jebediah Foundation ~ Maine Health Access Foundation, Inc. ~ Stoneman Family Foundation ~ Working Poor Families Project

Honoraria and Organization and Business Supporters

In Honor
Christopher St. John ~ Alex McAuliff

In Memory
Ruth Benedict ~ Paula ~ P. Donald Moses ~ Milt Hillery

MaineShare
MECEP is a proud member of MaineShare, which provides funding to over 40 statewide organizations working every day to make Maine a better place to live.
# 2015 Financial Statement

## Revenues
- **Grants**: $665,723
- **Contracts**: $2,000
- **Donations**: $143,777
- **Other**: $6,422
- **Total**: $817,922

## Expenses
- **Research & Analysis**: $593,694
- **Fundraising**: $39,580
- **Management & General**: $158,318
- **Total**: $791,592

*Go to www.mecep.org for a copy of our IRS Form 990*

## Assets
- **Net Assets Year-beginning**: $311,630
- **Net Assets Year-end**: $340,525
- **Unrestricted Funds**: $288,554
- **Temporarily Restricted Funds**: $35,417
MECEP Staff

Sarah Austin
Policy Analyst

Jody Harris
Associate Director

Garrett Martin
Executive Director

Megan Michaud
Senior Associate

James Myall
Policy Analyst

Mark Sullivan
Communications Director

Steve Ward, Chair
Retired, Maine Public Advocate, Newcastle ME

Lynn Davey, Ph.D., Vice-Chair
Principal, Davey Strategies, Portland ME

Chip Newell, Treasurer
Principal, The NewHeight Group, Portland ME

Lock Kiermaier, Secretary
Retired, Fiscal and Program Analyst, Maine Legislature
Principal, Kiermaier Consulting, Augusta ME

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Annee Tara
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Lee Webb
Senior Policy Fellow, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, Union ME