



2020

Annual Report

The Maine Center for Economic Policy provides citizens, policymakers, advocates, and media with credible and rigorous economic analysis to advance economic justice and prosperity for all Maine people.

Dear Friend and Supporter,

Despite 2020's many challenges, we made a difference. MECEP mitigated the impacts of the pandemic on families and communities and advanced policies to restore the hope of prosperity for all Mainers. Highlights of the year include:

Securing COVID-19 relief for families and communities. MECEP and partners advocated to expand unemployment benefits to 86,000 Mainers affected by coronavirus-related loss of work and helped secure an additional \$73 million to fund key priorities in the state budget.

Creating a brighter future for all Mainers. MECEP worked with legislative champions to develop policy proposals to strengthen and improve tax laws and close loopholes that impede potential revenue which funds resources and supports that create opportunity and promote equity.

Giving a cash boost to working families. MECEP crafted a proposal for a refundable tax credit for households with low to moderate income that provide unpaid family care.

Advancing racial equity. MECEP helped establish a permanent state-level commission to end racial disparities in state laws; documented the disparities and unequal recovery of Black families and workers from job losses due to COVID-19; and deepened engagement with organizations led by people of color to establish policy research priorities.

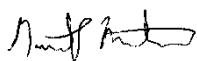
Leveraging expertise and helping newly elected legislators. In addition to independent research, analysis, and advocacy, MECEP analysts were in high demand for appointments in the policymaking process and directly drove research and solutions in both the Legislature and Gov. Janet Mills' administration. During the election cycle, MECEP crafted a primer on the state's unprecedented revenue shortfall spurred by the pandemic, emphasizing the threat to families and communities and how the next Legislature can protect essential services.

Shaping and informing the debate. In 2020, MECEP's research and analysis were cited by local, state, and national media nearly 200 times. Reporters, columnists, and editorial writers rely on MECEP for reliable, evidence-based analysis of the most pressing policy debates.

Setting the stage for durable, broad-based support. MECEP worked with partners to develop and train new activists to speak out on inequality, tax fairness, and the need for progressive revenue; conducted education outreach to build support for revenue policies; and continued to enhance digital organizing to mobilize advocates.

We thank all our supporters, partners, board members and staff for being a part of our efforts to move Maine toward shared prosperity this year and in the years to come.

Sincerely,

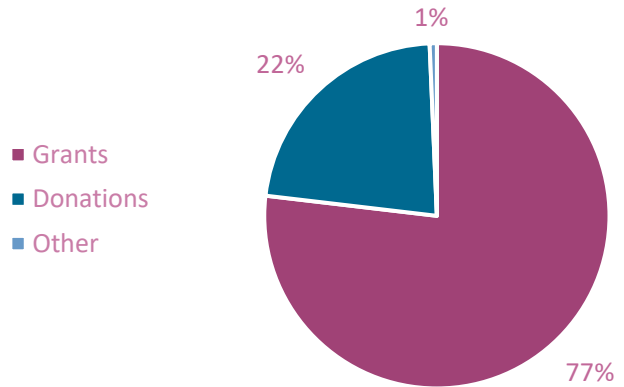


Garrett Martin, Executive Director

Financial Statement

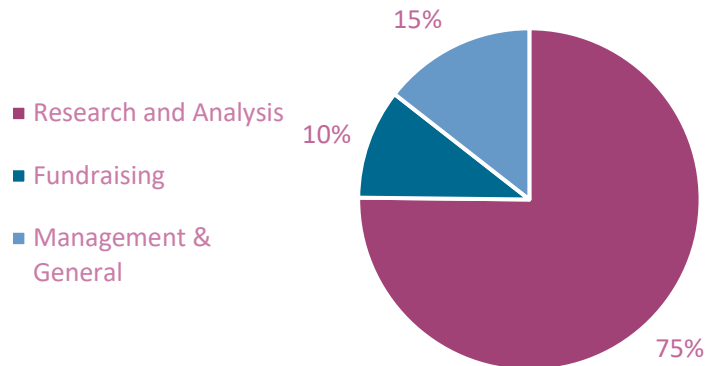
Revenues

Grants	.....	\$963,413
Donations	.....	\$281,521
Other	.....	\$8,435
Total		\$1,253,369



Expenses

Research and Analysis	.....	\$776,017
Fundraising	.....	\$107,229
Management and General	.....	\$149,098
Total		\$1,032,344



Assets

Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$798,967	Unrestricted Funds	\$534,116
Net Assets End of Year	\$1,019,992	Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$251,125
		Restricted for Operating Reserves	\$234,751
		TOTAL	\$1,019,992

Note: MECEP operates on a modified cash basis. Revenues do not include grant income received in 2019 and restricted for use in 2020 or grants received in 2020 and restricted for use in 2021.

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In Recognition

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In Memory

Joe Mayo

MaineShare

MECEP is a proud member of MaineShare, which provides funding to more than 40 statewide organizations working every day to make Maine a better place to live.

MECEP Staff, 2020



Sarah Austin
Tax and Budget Policy Analyst



Jody Harris
Associate Director



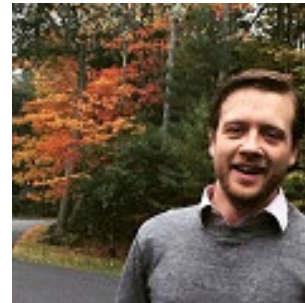
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