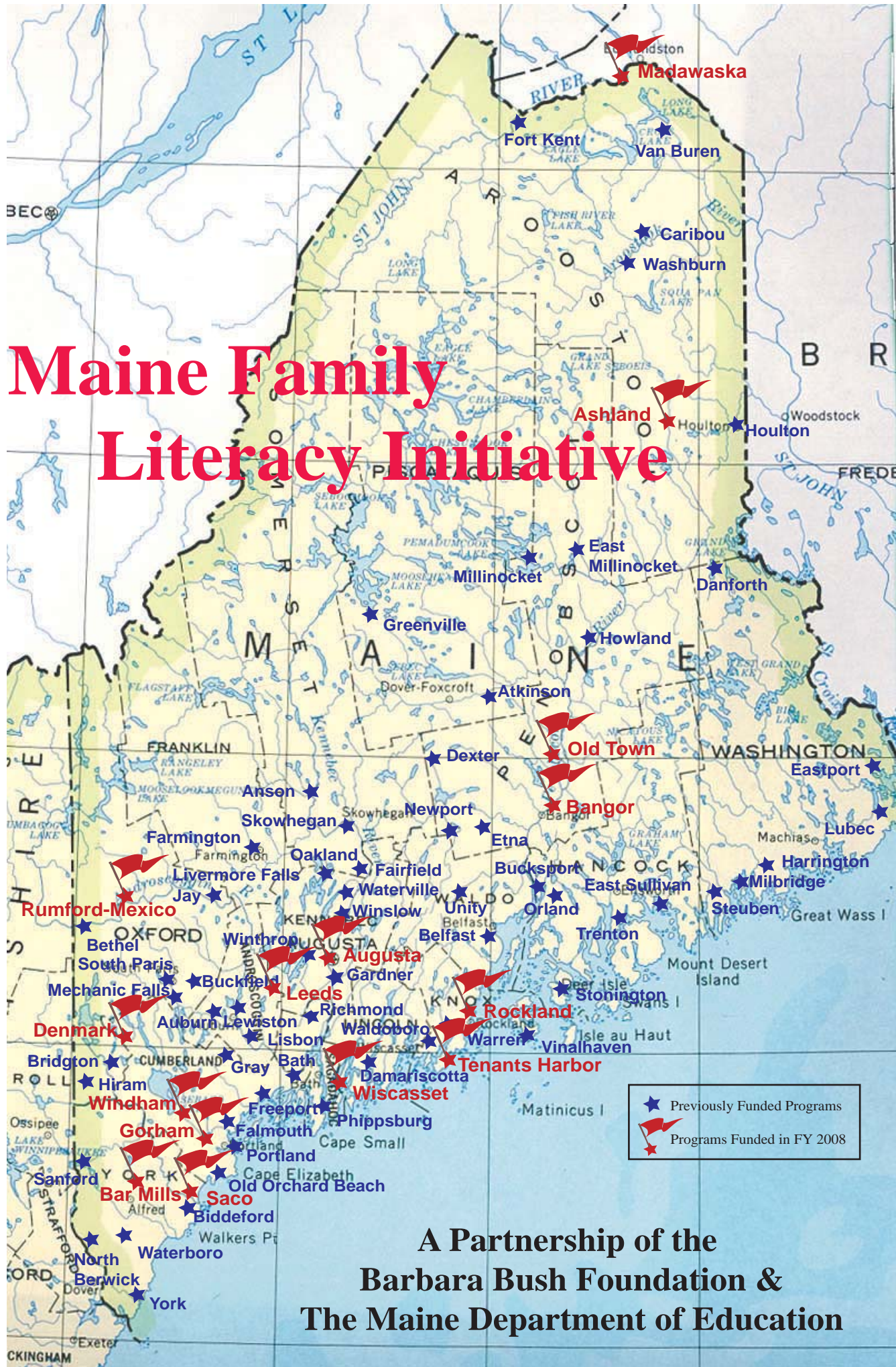


# Maine Family Literacy Initiative



A Partnership of the  
Barbara Bush Foundation &  
The Maine Department of Education

**Maine Family Literacy Initiative  
Awards Ceremony  
June 19, 2007  
11 a.m.**

**The Maine Family Literacy Initiative**

Rebecca Dyer, State Director of Adult Education  
Maine Department of Education

**Introduction of Student Speaker**

Rebecca Dyer  
Maine Department of Education

**Student Speaker**

Bryttini Robie  
*Families Read (Reach, Explore, Achieve, Dream)*

**Introduction of Special Guest**

Karen Baldacci  
First Lady of Maine

**Presentation to Grant Recipients**

Mrs. Barbara Bush, Honorary Chair  
The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy

**Closing Remarks**

Rebecca Dyer

### **Maine Family Literacy Initiative 1996-2007**

The Maine Family Literacy Initiative (MEFLI) began in 1996 when the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy partnered with the Maine Department of Education to develop and expand family literacy programs throughout the state. The Initiative is funded by generous donations from Maine residents and the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy and is administered through the Maine Department of Education.

In August of 1996, the first fourteen grants were awarded, totaling \$100,000. Since then, applications have been received from colleges, adult education programs, elementary schools, libraries, Literacy Volunteer affiliates, medical centers, and community-based organizations. In June 2007 the Maine Family Literacy Initiative will have awarded 166 family literacy grants, totaling \$2,787,855.

In November 2001, the Maine Family Literacy Initiative published a guide called "Successful Strategies in Family Literacy." Interviews with family literacy administrators, teachers, parents and collaborators were conducted to gather information on what worked and what didn't work. The guide, in its second printing, has been distributed to over 25 states and in 4 different countries.

In July 2004, the Maine Family Literacy Initiative contracted with the Center for Adult Learning and Literacy at the University of Maine in Orono to provide intensive technical assistance and professional development to planning grants and family literacy programs. The result of this contract has been higher quality applications, programs that are ready to begin providing services immediately and the collection of promising practices.

In August, 2005, a newly formed Maine Family Literacy Initiative Advisory Board met for the first time. The Board has helped create a greater awareness of the initiative and has provided guidance on the application and selection of grantees. Members of the board represent a variety of groups such as Head Start, Maine Humanities, Title I, Reading First, Adult Education, Literacy Volunteers, Libraries, and Maine Parent Federation.

In May 2007, the Maine Family Literacy Initiative Advisory Board heard the findings of a year-long research project from the University of Maine. The project examined the long-term impact of planning grants on the implementation and sustainability of family literacy programming. Study findings indicated that planning grants are an important component of the resources available to communities to plan and implement family literacy services and are most helpful to grantees with no prior experience with family literacy.

Maine Family Literacy Initiative programs have documented a dramatic increase in the number of times per week a child is read to when families participate... from never to daily reading time. Research shows that the amount of time spent reading to a child before the age of five dramatically increases the child's school readiness. Children from low income families have often been read to as little as 25 hours total prior to entering first grade, while children from middle income families typically have been read to for over 1250 hours. Family literacy recognizes that a child's academic success is related to early educational experiences and helps parents offer a foundation for learning that will carry their children through school.

Maine Family Literacy Initiative programs also document changes in the educational attainment of parents. In our programs parents earn GEDs and high school diplomas, improve literacy, get and keep jobs, and go on to post-secondary school. Parents also learn to be their child's first and best teacher.

Programs funded through the Maine Family Literacy Initiative have accomplished much over the last twelve years and we look forward to helping more Maine families achieve their goals and discover the joys of reading together.

*Outcomes 1996-2007*

- Over \$2.7 million awarded to 166 family literacy programs in twelve years.
- Programs funded in 77 different communities across the state.
- Families in these programs now read more often to their children and some who never read to their children are now doing so.
- Families are using the library for the first time or are using the library more often.
- Parents are becoming more involved in day-to-day school activities of their children.
- Adults in the programs are showing gains in their own reading abilities. Many of the adults have requested help in reading and are improving these skills. Others are working to prepare for or have passed the GED. Many are now looking forward to attending college, often as the first member of their family to do so.
- Elementary teachers have commented that children who have attended a family literacy program are better prepared for school.
- Parents in the family literacy programs develop a sense of accomplishment and hope through their efforts.
- Many programs have continued to provide family literacy services in their communities beyond their Maine Family Literacy Initiative grant cycle.

## **The Maine Family Literacy Initiative 1996-2007**

### **1996**

#### **AUBURN ADULT EDUCATION, AUBURN**

*Project Outreach* is a collaborative effort with a local housing project, DHS/ASPIRE, Head Start and the school department.

#### **BANGOR ADULT & COMMUNITY EDUCATION, BANGOR**

*Learning is for Everyone* expands an existing family literacy program by increasing services and including additional families.

#### **BETHEL ADULT EDUCATION, BETHEL**

*Project Fast Track* focuses on families with children during the transition period from Head Start into elementary school.

#### **DEXTER ADULT EDUCATION, DEXTER**

*The Yet To Be Named Project* is a collaborative program providing monthly family meetings that encourage family literacy projects.

#### **FRANKLIN COUNTY ADULT BASIC EDUCATION, FARMINGTON**

*Families for Literacy* provides special family events that include a variety of entertaining literacy activities.

#### **GARDINER ADULT EDUCATION, GARDINER**

*Raising Lifelong Learners* is a collaborative effort of Head Start, the public library and adult education.

#### **LEWISTON ADULT EDUCATION, LEWISTON**

*Parents Plus: Family Connections* provides services for single parents and their children.

#### **LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA – MAINE, PORTLAND**

*The Maine Family Literacy Initiative* establishes family literacy as an integral focus of Literacy Volunteer affiliate programs statewide.

**PORTLAND ADULT EDUCATION, PORTLAND**

*Family Literacy at Adams* is a community literacy project involving the parents and children in a local elementary school.

**RICHMOND ADULT & COMMUNITY EDUCATION,  
RICHMOND**

*Richmond's Family Literacy* involves pre-school children and their families in family literacy activities.

**OXFORD HILLS ADULT EDUCATION, SOUTH PARIS**

*Oxford Hills Family Literacy* Parents and TOTS (PAT) Project makes a connection with new mothers and provides services to the entire family.

**SUMNER ADULT EDUCATION, SUMNER**

*Families Reading Together Downeast* expands the existing Even Start program through collaboration with local libraries.

**MAINE CORRECTIONAL CENTER, WINDHAM**

*Helping Incarcerated Parents (HIP) Family Literacy Project* includes instruction in how to use technology for incarcerated parents and their children.

**WINDHAM ADULT EDUCATION, WINDHAM**

*Parent Resource Education Program (PREP) Family Literacy Initiative* expands an existing program for adults by providing activities for family literacy, parenting and child development.

**1997**

**ATKINSON ADULT EDUCATION, ATKINSON**

*Atkinson Learning Connection* is a collaboration of two school districts, Head Start, and a library, including weekly literacy activities organized around a monthly theme.

**BUCKFIELD ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION,  
BUCKFIELD**

*FAST (Families and Schools Together) Project* focuses on family learning experiences, including a conference and family fun nights.

**BUCKSPORT ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION,  
BUCKSPORT**

*Bucksport Family Matters Family Literacy* involves parents in activities with their children at school, Head Start, a library and senior citizen center.

**FREEPORT COMMUNITY EDUCATION, FREEPORT**

*Freeport's Family Literacy Initiative Parents Involved in Reading* is a program in which family storytelling sessions will be the foundation activities for learning.

**MSAD #36 AND JAY ADULT EDUCATION, JAY**

*Putting it all Together* is a project that creates two 12-month models for "at risk" pre-first grade children, their siblings and parents.

**LISBON ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION, LISBON**

*Together We Can*, designed for parents and their kindergartners, will include family reading activities in the home as well as adult education and pre-literacy for children.

**OLD ORCHARD BEACH ADULT EDUCATION, OLD  
ORCHARD BEACH**

*Learning is a Family Matter* will involve families in weekly family learning centers, family fun nights, and library story hours.

**COMMUNITY CONCEPTS, INC., SOUTH PARIS**

*Project Children and Parents* is a collaborative effort that will provide educational activities for families by involving them in the school community.

**MASSABESIC ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION,  
WATERBORO**

*Traveling Tales in Rural York County* offers family tutoring, parenting and reading in participants' homes.

**WATERVILLE ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION,  
WATERVILLE**

*Knapsacks of Knowledge* will distribute children's literature, materials for intergenerational literacy activities and parent resource material.

**1998**

**AUBURN SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, AUBURN**

*Knowledge as Power* is a home-based program that will eliminate barriers that prevent families from receiving literacy services.

**LVA – GREATER BATH AND LINCOLN COUNTY, BATH**

*Read With Me* Family Literacy project expands an existing family literacy program by involving parents in their children's schools.

**MSAD #34 ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION, BELFAST**

*Parent Assisted Preschool to Encourage Literacy* will assist children in gaining the skills they need to enter school prepared and advance parents' understanding of their roles as first teachers.

**YORK COUNTY HEAD START, BIDDEFORD**

*Transitions for Learning* will improve school readiness and upgrade parents' skills in Head Start families at two local elementary schools.

**CARIBOU ADULT EDUCATION, CARIBOU**

*Literacy – The Family Connection* will teach basic skills as well as computer and multi-media technology, career development and family health.

**LEWISTON ADULT EDUCATION, LEWISTON**

*Family Focus* will work with single parents from an inner city elementary school to improve literacy and parenting skills and provide children with stimulating learning opportunities.

**EAST END CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP, PORTLAND**

*East African Family Literacy Project* is a collaboration of Portland Adult Education, Portland Housing Authority and Refugee Resettlement Program to develop language and reading skills in families recently emigrated from East Africa.

**VINALHAVEN ADULT EDUCATION, VINALHAVEN**

*Family Voices*, a community family literacy effort, will bring together grandparents, parents and children to create a living family history document.

**1999**

**MSAD #34 ADULT EDUCATION, BELFAST**

*Traveling Library for Children Project* will convert an old district-owned school bus into a traveling library to provide better access to quality reading materials for families.

**MSAD #36 AND JAY ADULT EDUCATION, LIVERMORE FALLS**

*Putting It All Together, Part II* provides literacy instruction to families who are involved in the Head Start program in Livermore Falls and families with children who are pre-first grade in the town of Jay.

**KITTERY ADULT EDUCATION, KITTERY**

*Head Start Literacy Program* provides general and workplace education to Head Start parents to enhance future employability and offers education and support for parents to encourage their child's educational growth and healthy development.

**PORTLAND WEST INC., PORTLAND**

*After-School Reading Camp* is a fun, constructive 'camp' for 20-25 disadvantaged children, grades 1 – 3, who have been referred by their teachers for additional literacy activities.

**GOODALL LIBRARY LITERACY VOLUNTEERS, SANFORD**

*Learning Together* provides children with reading readiness skills while their parents are being tutored by Literacy Volunteers. Parents also learn how to interact with their children and enjoy reading together.

**ISLAND MEDICAL CENTER, STONINGTON**

*Growing Up Reading* is a weekly program with an education focus for children and parents and develops Growing Up Reading Kits to promote pre-literacy and literacy activities in the home.

**MSAD #40 ADULT EDUCATION, WALDOBORO**

*Waldoboro Family Literacy Project* provides literacy and academic services for adults while their children are participating in Head Start activities and offers a weekly story time for community members to help promote literacy and reading in the home.

**MONMOUTH/WINTHROP ADULT EDUCATION,  
WINTHROP**

*A Bridge To Tomorrow*, a collaborative effort with Maranacook Adult Education, will provide a yearlong team-based intervention for families with children who have six-month to one-year language delays and who are transitioning into public schools.

**2000**

**AUBURN SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

*Parents As Partners* provides families who are at high risk with the information and skills needed to create a literate environment in the home.

**MSAD #44 ADULT EDUCATION, BETHEL**

*Family Focus* assists families in developing family plans, which include intergenerational activities, and works with parents on education, career guidance and employability skills.

**BIDDEFORD ADULT EDUCATION, BIDDEFORD**

*Family Literacy* provides learner-centered education in the home. Each week children receive a new book to read that provides the structure for families to design their own weekly learning plans.

**MSAD #68 ADULT EDUCATION, DOVER-FOXCROFT**

*Family Literacy Connections* strengthens the skills that adults need to be successful in their roles as worker, family member and citizen. Activities are documented through family picture histories and family portfolios.

**MSAD #49 ADULT EDUCATION, FAIRFIELD**

*Project F.A.R. (Families Are Reading)* provides computer literacy for parents, parental involvement in the planning of a book distribution program, and home visitations to help parents focus on their child's emergent literacy skills.

**MSAD #9 FRANKLIN COUNTY ABE, FARMINGTON**

*Families for Peace* provides an opportunity for families to increase their awareness of the issues of child abuse prevention, conflict resolution, peacemaking and gender respect through book discussions and related activities.

**MSAD #27 ADULT EDUCATION, FORT KENT**

*FABLE (Family Activity-Based Learning Experience)* provides Even Start parents the opportunity to plan, coordinate and participate, with their children, in a wide range of intergenerational activities in regional, state, and international settings.

**MSAD #11 ADULT EDUCATION, GARDINER**

*Circle of Learning* establishes adult learning centers at two schools, assists in the distribution of Book Bags for children, and features twelve Circle of Learning and eight Intergenerational Computer socials during the year.

**SACO-OOB ADULT EDUCATION, OLD ORCHARD BEACH**

*The Family Resource Center*, a project developed by adult learners, will develop the critical link between parents and schools and provides materials and programming for low income families whose children have been identified as at risk during kindergarten registration.

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT,  
PORTLAND**

*Books With Wings* creates opportunities for incarcerated adults to positively interact with their children. Books are given to the children, along with a videotape of the incarcerated parent reading the book for his/her child.

**2001**

**FAMILIES FIRST, AUGUSTA**

*Southern Kennebec County Healthy Start* is a collaborative of the Maine Family Literacy Task Force. Agencies already making home visits will deliver quality books to families and will provide a nationally recognized parenting education program.

**BUCKSPORT ADULT EDUCATION, BUCKSPORT**

*Family Matters* expands an existing program to allow for further development of parenting and adult literacy skills through increased parent-child activities, home visitations, and contact time.

**MSAD #55 ADULT EDUCATION, HIRAM**

*Family Reading Club* is a collaborative effort between adult education and the local health center. It will provide a weekly meeting place for families with pre-school children where parents and children can have a good meal, have fun, meet others in the community and develop reading and pre-reading skills.

**MECHANIC FALLS, POLAND AND GRAY ADULT EDUCATION**

*Parents as Educational Partners* will provide literacy training in area learning centers, libraries and town halls and intergenerational learning opportunities in the homes of the areas most in need.

**PORTLAND ADULT EDUCATION, PORTLAND**

*Riverton Refugee Family Literacy* will coordinate comprehensive family literacy services for fifteen of the seventy-nine refugee families in the Riverton Housing Community.

**OXFORD HILLS ADULT EDUCATION, SO PARIS**

*The Oxford Hills Family Learning Project* will provide in home, project based literacy activities, which will address the issues and family goals identified by learners.

**MSAD #40 ADULT EDUCATION, WALDOBORO**

*The Warren Family Literacy Project* is a collaborative of the Maine Family Literacy Task Force. The collaborative will establish a family literacy center in the new Warren Elementary School and will provide the full spectrum of family literacy services to the most in need families of Waldo County.

**MASSABESIC ADULT EDUCATION, WATERBORO**

*Family Ties* expands an existing family literacy program at the York County Jail and provides individualized instruction for the families of inmates in their homes.

**WATERVILLE ADULT EDUCATION, WATERVILLE**

*Waterville Area Teaching Literacy Coalition (TLC)* is designed to help parents improve their reading and parenting skills, put more quality books in the homes, and encourage parents to read to children.

**2002**

**BENTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, BENTON**

*Ready to Write, Ready to Read, Ready to Succeed* will serve the families of K-2 children identified at risk for reading problems. Through the reading and writing process and regularly scheduled family literacy events, the families will create literacy rich home environments while at the same time becoming more connected to the school community.

**MSAD #44 ADULT EDUCATION, BETHEL**

*Book Buddies Plus* will build strong, literate families through a coordinated program that emphasizes adult education, parenting, intergenerational activities and early childhood education through collaboration with Head Start and Early Head Start.

**BIDDEFORD ADULT EDUCATION, BIDDEFORD**

*First Teachers* will provide adult literacy, parent education and intergenerational programming two mornings a week for Head Start families at the Head Start facility and one morning each week at the Adult Learning Center.

**CARIBOU ADULT EDUCATION, CARIBOU**

*The Family Learning Center* will initiate intergenerational activities that will positively affect family bonding, reading levels, feelings of accomplishment and self-esteem for area families.

**MSAD #23, CARMEL**

*Literacy Welcome Wagon* will promote literacy for families by uniting the energy of teachers, parents, grandparents, local P.T.A. and service agencies to conduct a four-component family literacy program.

**MSAD #27 ADULT EDUCATION, FORT KENT**

*The Opportunity to Undertake Teaching, Reinforcement, and Enhancement of Academics in Children's Homes (OUTREACH)* project will build and foster early connections between district schools, teachers, and parents and enhance the school readiness and academic success of children through a home-based service delivery model.

**MARSHWOOD ADULT EDUCATION, SOUTH BERWICK**

*Coaches for Literacy* will empower parents to become their children's first literacy coaches and to recognize that their coaching in literacy will help children achieve a "home run" in the world of reading.

**OXFORD HILLS ADULT EDUCATION, SOUTH PARIS**

*The Oxford Hills Family Literacy* project will expand their home-based family literacy program to add a Family Learning Center for group classes, individualized instruction, and intergenerational activities.

**WELLS-OGUNQUIT ADULT EDUCATION, WELLS**

*Families Growing Together* will utilize existing center-based adult education services and the *Parents As Teachers* home visit framework to create an intensive, integrated collaborative family literacy program for young families with children ages 0-5.

**2003**

**AUBURN SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, AUBURN**

*Knowledge as Power* will provide intensive, home-based family literacy services for high risk, low-income families, including the growing population of Somalis and other immigrants.

**BIDDEFORD ADULT EDUCATION, BIDDEFORD**

*The First Teachers/Head Start Family Literacy* partnership will build on its current success to expand family literacy services to all five Biddeford Head Start sites.

**EAST END CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP, PORTLAND**

*The East End Family Literacy Initiative* will improve the literacy and life skills of twenty at risk families in Portland's East End so they may succeed at home, at work, and in their community.

**GORHAM ADULT EDUCATION, GORHAM**

*Family Links*, a collaborative effort of Gorham Adult Education, Little Falls Kindergarten Center, and Gorham Head Start, will weave together an integrated program that supports families and children at home and at school, using both a home-based and center-based approach.

**LITERACY VOLUNTEERS, BANGOR**

*The Family Learning Center at Park Woods Planning Grant*, a collaborative effort between LVA-Bangor and Park Woods Transitional Housing will lead to comprehensive family literacy services at the “Family Learning Center at Park Woods,” as families transition from homelessness to stability and financial security.

**MSAD#38, ETNA**

*Breakfast and Bedtime with Books* MSAD #38, MSAD #23, and Carmel-Etna Head Start will partner to provide a series of story hour events, using Equipped for the Future as the organizing framework.

**MSAD #43, MEXICO-RUMFORD**

MSAD #43 will team up with LVA and elementary school personnel to develop new family literacy connections and services.

**MSAD #45, WASHBURN**

*Washburn Family Literacy Program* a center/home-based program will provide comprehensive family literacy services for up to fifteen families in the Washburn, Perham, and Wade communities.

**MSAD #49, FAIRFIELD**

*Clinton C.A.R.E.S. (Children and Adult Read and Succeed)* utilizes successful elements of a current MEFLI program in Benton. Ten new families from Clinton will be enrolled and services to the Benton families will continue, with the Benton families serving as mentors as the program builds a bridge between home and school.

**MSAD #74, ANSON**

*Family Literacy Initiative* addresses two of the school district’s focus areas: literacy and community involvement, by strengthening the PACT (Parent and Child Together) time in their family literacy program.

**OXFORD HILLS SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, SOUTH PARIS**

*FAST (Families and Schools Together)* will focus on kindergartners, those entering school the following year, and their families, in a project designed by Title I staff and principals from four district elementary schools. The program will feature monthly kindergarten clubs and preschool clubs.

**SANFORD ADULT EDUCATION, SANFORD**

Sanford Schools and LVA will partner in “Families R.E.A.D.” (Reach, Explore, Achieve, Dream) to develop more unified and coordinated family literacy services.

**SCHOOL UNION 60, GREENVILLE**

*Greenville Family Literacy Planning Grant* working in conjunction with the local library, local preschool, community action program, and the Greenville Education Association, Adult Education will develop family literacy efforts, using “Successful Strategies in Family Literacy” as a guide.

**SCHOOL UNION 104, EASTPORT**

*Eastport Family Literacy Planning Grant* will develop a comprehensive family literacy program using “Successful Strategies in Family Literacy” as a guide.

**SCHOOL UNION 113, EAST MILLINOCKET**

*Chickadee Family Literacy Proposal* will build on a successful REA (Reading Excellence Act) family literacy program and will focus on working collaboratively with new community partners to enhance existing services available to needy families within School Union 113.

**STEVENS BROOK ELEMENTARY, BRIDGTON**

*“Jump Start: Bridgton’s Family Literacy Service Station”* will connect Stevens Brook Elementary School with the Maine Parent Federation, to spark connections with other providers as they develop a family literacy program.

**TRENTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, TRENTON**

*“Trenton C.A.R.E.S.” (Community Alliance to Reach Every Student)* will develop a family literacy program to enhance intergenerational involvement and simultaneously improve MEA (Maine Educational Assessment) test scores.

**YORK ADULT EDUCATION, YORK**

Together with the Community Wellness Center, York Adult Education will work to identify family literacy collaborators to address needs of a growing English As a Second Language (ESL) population.

**2004**

**LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, BANGOR**

*The Family Learning Center at Park Woods* will target recently homeless families at Park Woods and will expand the hours family literacy services will be available.

**MSAD #11, GARDINER**

*Wellness and Literacy Knowledge (WALK)* will target families of first grade children who receive Title I services to increase the literacy and wellness knowledge of participants while helping families build a reading culture in their homes.

**MSAD #43, MEXICO**

*River Valley Family Literacy Project* will expand existing parent education, intergenerational services, literacy staff development, and coordination of services to provide a comprehensive family literacy program.

**SCHOOL UNION 60, GREENVILLE**

*Learning in Families Everyday (LIFE)* will expand current adult education services to include early childhood, parenting and intergenerational services.

**STEVENS BROOK ELEMENTARY, BRIDGTON**

*Jump Start Family Learning* is designed to engage families, to support them, to provide them with strategies and literacy materials and empower them through a four-component family literacy program.

**YORK ADULT EDUCATION, YORK**

*York's Early Success (YES)* will build upon their community needs assessment to provide a comprehensive family literacy program that will help families develop lifelong learning strategies, positive parenting and self sufficiency.

**TRENTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, TRENTON**

*Trenton CARES* is a program designed to enhance family aspirations, knowledge and involvement in literacy through the creative integration of adult literacy, early childhood, parent education and intergenerational activities.

**SANFORD ADULT EDUCATION, SANFORD**

*Families READ* is a family literacy partnership among Sanford Adult Education, Goodall Hospital and the Alliance for Healthy Families designed to help parents learn how their attitudes towards learning can affect their children and help families reach their potential as a unit.

**GORHAM ADULT EDUCATION, GORHAM**

*Family Links* will expand their family literacy program to promote the development of a seamless system for transitioning children and their families from preschool services to kindergarten and between elementary grades.

**TOWN OF MILBRIDGE, MILBRIDGE**

*Milbridge Public Library* will cooperate with area service providers to develop a family literacy program for Hispanic families in their area.

**MSAD #48, NEWPORT**

MSAD #48 will identify possible collaborators in their region and develop a plan to provide family literacy services.

**HOME, INC, ORLAND**

*H.O.M.E.* a non-profit community-based organization that serves unemployed, underemployed and homeless populations in rural Maine will identify potential partners and work to develop a family literacy program for their clientele.

**MSAD #37, HARRINGTON**

MSAD #37 will identify community needs and potential partners to develop a family literacy program.

**WATERVILLE ADULT EDUCATION**

*Kennebec Valley Community Action Program and Waterville Adult Education* will jointly develop a family literacy program for their region.

**MSAD #47, OAKLAND**

MSAD #47 will identify appropriate partners to collaborate in developing a family literacy program.

**WINSLOW SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, WINSLOW**

Winslow's planning committee will identify existing services for families and bring the community together to develop a family literacy program.

**MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, MILLINOCKET**

Millinocket will develop a community map of existing services and conduct community meetings to develop a family literacy program.

**MSAD #29, HOULTON**

The school districts of Southern Aroostook County, together with Maine Public Health, have formed a planning committee to develop a regional family literacy program.

**MAINE STATE PRISON, WARREN**

The Maine State Prison will develop a family literacy program to help incarcerated fathers develop positive relationships with their children.

**2005**

**PORTLAND ADULT EDUCATION, PORTLAND**

*Fliers (Family Literacy for Immigrants Entering Reiche School)* will provide English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes, an after-school program for ESOL kindergarten students, and weekly parent/PACT sessions to support immigrant families with children entering kindergarten.

**YORK ADULT EDUCATION, YORK**

*Family Wellness Through Literacy* is a partnership between York Hospital and York Adult and Community Education to provide a holistic, family-focused approach to health and wellness. The program will feature weekly Family Nights, incorporating literacy skills with participant-identified health and wellness concerns.

**MSAD #37, HARRINGTON**

*Narraguagus Family Literacy Project* is a partnership between MSAD #37 (Harrington) and the Maine Parent Federation to serve high-risk families in rural coastal Washington County, where the median household income is the lowest in the state and unemployment rate is twice that of the state average.

**SANFORD COMMUNITY ADULT EDUCATION, SANFORD**

*Families Read (Reach, Explore, Achieve, Dream)* is a partnership between Sanford Community Adult Education and H.D. Goodall Hospital's Alliance for Healthy Families to offer two-parent families home visits by a family literacy coordinator, in addition to parenting, PACT, adult and early literacy in a center-based setting.

**MAINE STATE PRISON, WARREN**

*Seeds of Change* is a program designed to give fathers incarcerated at Maine State Prison the opportunity to participate in family literacy. This project is a collaborative effort of Coastal Community Action's Retired and Senior Volunteer and Head Start programs, Maine State Prison, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Literacy Volunteers of Mid-Coast Maine, and MSAD #5 Adult Education.

**MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, MILLINOCKET**

*Millinocket Families Read* is a partnership between the Millinocket School Department and Millinocket Memorial Library to target families with children in kindergarten through grade two to improve both literacy skills and wellness. This family literacy project includes literacy instruction in an after-school program.

**MSAD #29 ADULT EDUCATION, HOULTON**

*Readers Rock* is a partnership between the Maliseet Indian Head Start and MSAD #29 to provide family literacy to the Native American population. Literacy goals and activities will be integrated into participation in local cultural events including the Potato Harvest Festival, Maliseet Cultural Day and Micmac Cultural Activities.

**MSAD #60, GREENVILLE**

*LIFE (Learning in Families Every Day) For Little Ones* builds on a successful MEFLI project providing family literacy to families with children in kindergarten through grade 3. School Union #60 Adult and Community Education in Greenville will partner with Moosehead Region Volunteers to provide similar services to preschoolers and their families.

**MILBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY, MILBRIDGE**

*FIESTAS (Families in Education Striving to Achieve Success)* is a partnership between the Milbridge Public Library and CWCABEC (Covering Washington County Adult Basic Education Collaborative) to provide family literacy for English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) families. The project includes a summer ESOL family literacy camp, a library summer reading program, and nightly ESOL family literacy activities during the blueberry harvest season.

**LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF WALDO COUNTY, BELFAST**

*My Family Maine* will develop a plan to implement a family literacy program using family interviews, genealogical research, computer journals, group projects, photography and recipes to build both parent and child literacy.

**MSAD #74, ANSON**

*Carrabec Family Literacy* will expand a pre-existing family literacy program into a lasting program that will help more members of the community reach their potential abilities with fewer limitations.

**HARTFORD SUMNER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HARTFORD**

*A Lifeline To Literacy* will plan literacy events that model and encourage constructive ways of reading at home with the goal of supporting and encouraging school readiness and reading.

**MSAD #54, SKOWHEGAN**

*MSAD #54 MEFLI Planning Grant* will explore their own community resources and programs and design a comprehensive family literacy program using the book *Successful Strategies in Family Literacy* as a guide.

**MSAD #15, GRAY**

*Family Stories* will develop a plan to assist parents in creating an awareness of their own unique style of reading and storytelling while helping the child with an understanding of family values through exposure to stories of different cultures.

**COBSCOOK BAY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER,  
LUBEC**

*Cobscook Bay Family Literacy Planning Project – Making Connections* will weave music, theater, cooking, gardening and pottery into a family literacy program.

**ELLA LEWIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, STEUBEN**

*Reading For Life* will engage multiple agencies in planning a family literacy program by focusing on promoting healthy growth and development of family life through extended reading opportunities.

**MSAD #36 AND JAY ADULT EDUCATION, LIVERMORE  
FALLS**

*Falls' Families* will develop partnerships with community agencies to provide the integration of early childhood education, parenting education, adult education and intergenerational education into a comprehensive family literacy program.

**2006**

**MSAD #57 – MASSABESIC ADULT EDUCATION,  
WATERBORO**

*“Family Outreach”* Adult Education, the Line Elementary School, and the Parent Resource Center will partner to provide home based services for high risk families. Children under the age of five will be prepared for school; parents will focus on literacy skills, employment options, and support for their children’s literacy development.

**MSAD #15 ADULT EDUCATION, NEW GLOUCESTER**

*S.T.A.R (Story Telling Accelerates Reading)* The S.T.A.R. project will enhance current literacy services provided by both Adult Ed and the Gray Public Library by focusing on storytelling as a family catalyst for literacy activities.

**MSAD #54 ADULT EDUCATION, SKOWHEGAN**

*“Families Learning Together”* Integrating existing community services in one location, adult education and North Elementary School will offer family literacy services to high-risk, low income families, with particular emphasis on single parents with less than an 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading level.

**WALDO COUNTY PRE-SCHOOL AND FAMILY SERVICES,  
BELFAST**

*“ERF (Early Reading First)/SPICE Infant Toddler Project”* With Maine Family Literacy Initiative (MEFLI) funds, the increase in emergent early childhood literacy instruction for at least fifteen children from birth to 5 years olds will double. Parents of these children will participate in the other 3 family literacy components through integrated services provided by the SPICE Even Start program.

**MSAD #36/JAY ADULT EDUCATION, LIVERMORE FALLS**

*“CATCH (Children, Adults, Teens, Community and Home) the Web”* High-risk families with children from birth to 3 years old will be the target families for services provided by Adult Education, Literacy Volunteers, Androscoggin Early Head Start, and the Maine Parent Federation.

**PORTLAND ADULT EDUCATION, PORTLAND**

*“Rec-Smart”* will enable Portland Adult Education to partner with Reiche Elementary School’s 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Project to institutionalize family literacy among school age immigrant children in Portland’s West End neighborhood.

**WINSLOW SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, WINSLOW**

*“WINSLOW (Win Support for Literacy of the Whole Family) Project”* Partnering with Waterville Adult Education, Literacy Volunteers, and Parents as Teachers, the WINSLOW project will link each family with a qualified, trained mentor to guide the family through the four components of family literacy.

**MSAD #37, HARRINGTON**

*“Narraguagus Family Literacy”* Building on prior success, MSAD #37 and Harrington Early Care and Education Center (a program of Child and Family Opportunities) will continue serving current families and will add new families with preschool children, in which at least one parent is reading at or below an 8<sup>th</sup> grade level.

**MSAD #74, ANSON**

*“Carrabec READS (Reading Empowers All and Drives Success)”*

Low-income families with children from birth to 4 years of age will be recruited to participate in Carrabec READS, a program offered through adult education and Kennebec Valley Community Action’s Child and Family Services Head Start.

**NOBLE ADULT EDUCATION, NORTH BERWICK**

*“B.E.L.L. (Berwick Encouraging Literacy for a Lifetime)”* One step

in a long-term collaboration of agencies, the B.E.L.L. program will bring together staff from Noble Adult Education, the Berwick Public Library, Berwick Head Start, and the Berwick K-5 school system to provide family literacy services to low-income families.

**MADAWASKA SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, MADAWASKA**

The *Madawaska Family Literacy Initiative* will bring Madawaska Adult Education and Madawaska Elementary School together to plan an integrated program that connects parents to support systems enabling them to acquire the skills to become active and effective supporters of their children’s academic development.

**MAINE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER, DANFORTH**

The *Connections* project will enable the Maine Family Resource Center to partner with MSAD #14’s adult education program to plan a comprehensive family literacy program for residents of the rural East Grand area.

**MSAD #31, HOWLAND**

*Liftoff to Literacy* will identify potential partnerships in the region to develop the resources, training and materials to reach out to families with literacy activities that build vital reading readiness experiences.

**2007**

**MAINE EDUCATIONAL CENTER FOR THE DEAF AND  
HARD OF HEARING, FALMOUTH**

*The Family Literacy Initiative* is a partnership between the Center and the Program for Deaf Adults at LaGuardia Community College of the City University of New York to increase the literacy of program participants' entire families in both American Sign Language and English.

**PENQUIS COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, BANGOR**

*Voices in Reading: Parents and Children Together* is a partnership between the Penquis Community Action Program and Literacy Volunteers of Bangor, Raising Readers, the Maine Discovery Museum, and the Bangor Public Library to provide a comprehensive family literacy program in the Bangor area.

**MSAD#54, SKOWHEGAN**

*Families Learning Together* is a new partnership among the Early Head Start program of the Kennebec Valley Community Action Program, MSAD #54 Adult and Community Education, and Skowhegan Elementary Schools and will expand their successful family literacy program to include families with infants and toddlers.

**SANFORD ADULT COMMUNITY EDUCATION, SANFORD**

*Families READ (Reach, Explore, Achieve, Dream)*- builds on a successful family literacy program developed over the past four years and supported in part by MEFLI funds. Sanford Community Adult Education and Goodall Hospital's Alliance for Healthy Families will add a health and wellness component and offer a multi-level family literacy program.

**SCHOOL UNION #47, PHIPPSBURG**

*Kids Connections* will enhance existing literacy services for high risk two - five year old children and their families in Phippsburg through the partnership of School Union 47, the Totman Library, and Family Focus.

**HEALTHY KIDS!, DAMARISCOTTA**

*Lincoln County Parents as Teachers* is a partnership between Healthy Kids!, School Union 74 Adult Education and Tri-County Literacy Volunteers, and will expand Parents as Teachers services in Lincoln County.

**MSAD #31, HOWLAND**

*Lift Off to Literacy* utilizes the PLATO computer program as a cornerstone of this family literacy program. The project will enable adults to improve their literacy skills at school or at home, as their children are served by Penquis Community Action's Head Start program in Howland.

**MADAWASKA SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, MADAWASKA**

*Building Learning Teams (BLT) with Families* is a newly developed partnership of Madawaska Elementary School, Madawaska Adult Education, and Aroostook Community Action's Head Start. The partnership will work with a host of education and social service agencies to provide family literacy to previously underserved families.

**TEEN AND YOUNG PARENT PROGRAM, ROCKLAND**

*The Growing Tree* will serve adolescent parents who have dropped out of high school and their children, birth to three, as the target participants of this family literacy program. The project is a partnership between the Teen and Young Parent Program, MSAD #5 Adult and Community Education, and the Passages Program of the Community School.

**MSAD #3, THORNDIKE**

*The SPICE Family Literacy Alphabet Soup Curriculum*, aligned with Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines, National Head Start Performance Standards for language and literacy, as well as SAD #3's kindergarten expectations, will guide SPICE's Early Childhood Educator in emergent literacy instruction, parenting education, and interactive literacy time for enrolled families with children under age five.

**GRAY PUBLIC LIBRARY, GRAY**

*Early Language and Literacy Center* is a concept of the Gray Public Library and MSAD #15 Adult and Community Education. An Early Language and Literacy Center will be designed to provide opportunities for 4-year olds and their parents to explore emerging literacy in a supportive environment.

**MSAD #44, BETHEL**

*TEL-ME* is a project of MSAD #44 which will convene a team to develop expertise in identifying community services that target parents and children in need of literacy services.

**MSAD # 24, VAN BUREN**

*Reading Is A Family Affair* will assemble a planning team of nine to plan a family literacy program that will impact at risk children who are either underperforming in school or who are at risk of coming to school unprepared to learn.

**MSAD # 6, BAR MILLS**

*Bonny Eagle Family Literacy Initiative* will convene a committee to include representatives from area agencies and organizations, including Steep Falls Public Library, Title One, and the Leavitt Mill Health Center. The committee will develop a family literacy program model that will service the needs of families in their community.

**MSAD # 32, ASHLAND**

*Family Literacy* will develop a committee including the Adult Education Director, Town Manager, parents, and representatives from the town library, schools, and the Community Action Program to assess existing needs and services to develop a family literacy plan in SAD #32.

**WISCASSET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, WISCASSET**

*Family Reading Initiative* will convene a Community Literacy Planning Committee, comprised of Wiscasset's Adult Education Director, Curriculum Director and Director of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center, Title One Coordinator, and social service agencies, to establish literacy goals for the future.

## **2008**

### **AUGUSTA SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, AUGUSTA**

*Project L.I.F.E. (Literacy is for Everyone)* will link the services of Augusta Adult Education, Southern Kennebec Child Development Center, Child Development Services, and the Augusta public school Pre-K, Title I and Special Education programs to address the literacy needs of the entire family. Project advisors will work directly with families to support and encourage their participation in the project.

### **WINDHAM ADULT EDUCATION, WINDHAM**

*GATEWAY (Goals Attained Through Education for Windham Adults and Their Young Children)* is a partnership between Windham Head Start, Windham Adult Education, Windham Public Library, Windham Primary School and other community providers to provide comprehensive family literacy services. In addition, they will pilot-test three new areas of focus: computer literacy, numeracy, and financial literacy.

### **MADAWASKA SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, MADAWASKA**

*Building Learning Teams (BLT) with Families* brings together a mix of agencies to provide services to the families of Madawaska, Grand Isle, Frenchville and St. Agatha. Head Start, Madawaska Adult Education, Maine Parent Federation, the Career Center, Literacy Volunteers, elementary schools, and Maine Centers for Women, Work, and Community will work together to provide access to family literacy services at home and at community-based sites throughout the region

### **WISCASSET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, WISCASSET**

*Wiscasset Family Literacy Center* is a collaborative partnership between Wiscasset Primary School, Wiscasset Adult Education, Wiscasset Head Start, and Tri-County Literacy Volunteer's "Read With ME". The Wiscasset Family Literacy Center will foster partnerships between school and family and provide a seamless system to support successful learning for all.

### **LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF BANGOR, BANGOR**

*Voices in Diversity: Parents and Children Celebrating Literacy* is a partnership between Literacy Volunteers of Bangor and the Penquis Community Action Program. They will expand their services to include English Language Learners focusing on culturally sensitive activities and the importance of native language literacy.

**MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #32, ASHLAND**

*Families of Learners* serves a previously underserved area by bringing together Ashland Central School, SAD # 32 Adult Education, Head Start, and Literacy Volunteers of Aroostook County to provide center, home-based, and extended year services to families with children in grades Pre-K and One.

**MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #6, STANDISH**

*Read to Succeed* is a program promoting family literacy at home and at school. This project will bring together community partners, including Adult Education, Guidance, Title One, Literacy Volunteers, Steep Falls Public Library, the Training Resource Center, and Buxton's Social Welfare Department to improve literacy skills of families in the district.

**TEEN AND YOUNG PARENT PROGRAM OF KNOX COUNTY, ROCKLAND**

*The Growing Tree - Focus on Fathers* will provide targeted outreach efforts and family literacy programming specific to young fathers. This program expands the partnership of the Teen and Young Parent Program of Knox County, M.S.A.D. # 5 Adult and Community Education, the Rockland Public Library, and the Passages Program of the Community School.

**RURAL COMMUNITY ACTION MINISTRY, LEEDS**

The *Community Literacy Planning Committee* will identify and convene community partners, local literacy stakeholders, and literacy consumers from Androscoggin, Oxford, and Kennebec counties to develop family literacy goals.

**SACO SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, SACO**

*Family Literacy Collaborative*, a partnership between the Saco School District and Old Orchard Beach/Saco Adult Education, will convene a planning committee to build a comprehensive, community-based approach to family literacy.

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, GORHAM**

*Family English as a Second Language (ESOL) at Kennedy Park* will allow USM and other community partners to explore expansion of an ESOL class to include intergenerational literacy activities for refugee mothers and their children.

**JACKSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY, TENANTS HARBOR**

*Family Reading Initiative* will allow the Jackson Memorial Library to identify and work with area collaborators to develop a family literacy initiative for three mid-coast Maine villages.

**REGION 9 SCHOOL OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY, MEXICO**

Region 9 Adult Learning Center and the School of Applied Technology will create a cross-generational literacy rich program prior to the opening of their new early childhood program in 2008.

**OLD TOWN SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, OLD TOWN**

*Reading in the Family* builds upon established successful relationships between the Old Town School Department, the Old Town Public Library and The River Coalition, Inc. to plan a family literacy program for underserved Pre-K children and their parents.

**DENMARK PUBLIC LIBRARY, DENMARK**

*Brownfield/Denmark Family Literacy* is a partnership between the Denmark Public Library and the local elementary school to plan a family literacy program for their area.

**Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy**  
*Barbara Bush, Honorary Chair*

**Maine Family Literacy Initiative**  
**Advisory Board**

Becky Dyer, Chair	Maine Department of Education
Benita Somerfield	Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy
Shirley Helfrich	Maine State Library
Brita Zitin	Maine Humanities Council
Kate Laidman	Center for Community Inclusion
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LeeAnn Larsen	Reading First
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Kathy Manning	Title I
Janine Blatt	Early Childhood
Sarah Robinson	Literacy Volunteers of Maine
Julia Walkling	New Books, New Readers
Rob Wood	Portland Adult Education
Carol Wynne	Center for Adult Learning and Literacy
Evelyn Beaulieu	Center for Adult Learning and Literacy

*"Sharing the pleasure of learning to read has to be one of the most important experiences a loving adult and child can have. Reading together brings families together."* Barbara Bush