



Megan Hannan, Executive Director
Maine Community Action Partnership
c/o Penquis
262 Harlow Rd.
Bangor ME 04402
207-831-9893

Jason Parent, CEO/Executive Director
Aroostook County Action Program, Inc.
PO Box 1116
Presque Isle, ME 04769-1116
207-764-3721

Shawn Yardley, CEO
Community Concepts, Inc.
240 Bates Street
Lewiston, ME 04240
207-739-6553

Mark Green, Executive Director
Downeast Community Partners
248 Bucksport Rd.
Ellsworth, ME 04605
207-610-5904

Suzanne Walsh, CEO
Kennebec Valley Community Action Program
97 Water Street
Waterville, ME 04901
207-859-1579

Claire Berkowitz, President & CEO
Midcoast Maine Community Action
34 Wing Farm Parkway
Bath, ME 04530
207-442-7963

Joe Everett, President & CEO
Opportunity Alliance
50 Lydia Lane
South Portland, ME 04106
207-523-5055

Kara Hay, President & CEO
Penquis
PO Box 1162
Bangor, ME 04402
207-973-3500

Donna Kelley, President & CEO
Waldo Community Action Partners
PO Box 130
Belfast, ME 04915
207-338-6809

Jim Trundy, Executive Director
Western Maine Community Action, Inc.
PO Box 200
East Wilton, ME 04234-0200
207-743-7763

Barbara Crider, Executive Director
York County Community Action Corporation
PO Box 72
Sanford, ME 04073
207-324-5762

Maine Community Action Partnership Supports LD 1891 An Act To Continue Supporting Safe Drinking Water for Maine Families

February 2, 2022

Senator Rafferty, Representative Sylvester, honorable members of the Committee on Labor and Housing, I am Megan Hannan, Executive Director of Maine Community Action Partnership, and we support LD 1891 An Act To Continue Supporting Safe Drinking Water for Maine Families.

For more than 50 years, Community Action has served as a dynamic and community-based force in addressing the causes and conditions of poverty throughout Maine and the country. Our ten Community Action Agencies deliver programs and services for people with low- and moderate income across the state, including the Home Energy Assistance Program, or HEAP; workforce development; the current rental relief program; Head Start and some also develop affordable housing. We also conduct several safety tests for air and water, including for arsenic in tap water.

In 2017, bipartisan legislation funded a program for MainepHousing to provide funding to help remediate contaminated wells in low income Mainers' wells. Since the implementation, 662 households have benefitted from the program, nearly all using Community Action Agency connections.

Because of the success of the program, the funding that was designated for the program in 2017 is running out. We need to appropriate more funds to make sure that Mainers in need can have access to clean drinking water. Access to clean drinking water should not depend on your income.

Low-income communities, tribes, rural communities and communities of color are disproportionately impacted and more susceptible to health impacts and financial impacts of exposure to arsenic and other contaminants in drinking water.

We have tested as many homes as we can, given the shortage of funds, and welcome the additional funds to support safe homes.

I am happy to answer any questions that I can, now or in the work session.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Megan Hannan](#)
Executive Director