

Recognizes Six 2021 Leaders & Luminaries Awardees with \$25,000 in Nonprofit Grants

Camden, Maine, December 10, 2021 – Camden National Bank announced its 2021 Leaders & Luminaries Awardees and provided \$25,000 in grants for their respective organizations. The 2021 honorees include: Kim Pittman from Maine Volunteer Lawyers Project (<https://www.vlp.org/>), Shannon Richards from Maine Crafts Association (<https://mainecrafts.org/>), Pam Dyer Stewart from Women for Healthy Rural Living (<https://whrl.org/>), and Barbara Wirth from Maine Boys to Men (<https://maineboystomen.org/>).

Camden National Bank aims to shine a light on board members who demonstrate innovative thinking and outstanding board governance. Since 2011, Camden National Bank has donated \$200,000 to 54 Maine nonprofits with Leaders & Luminaries Awards presented to board directors who have gone above and beyond to make an impact on our communities.

“Over the last couple of years, nonprofits have been forced to rethink, restructure and adapt in order to address the unexpected circumstances that came their way as a result of the pandemic. It’s during these trying times, that effective board governance is imperative,” said Greg Dufour, President & CEO of Camden National Bank. “It’s with great privilege that we get to honor and recognize these dedicated board directors who continue to drive positive change in our communities.”

Camden National Bank’s independent selection committee narrowed the pool of nominations down to four Leaders & Luminaries Award Winners, each receiving \$5,000 grants. This year, Camden National Bank will also be recognizing two additional winners: Spotlight Award and an Emerging Leader Award, each receiving \$2,500 grants. Donations were funded through the bank’s private charitable foundation, The Bank of Maine Foundation.

2021 Leaders & Luminaries Award Winners:



Pam Dyer Stewart, Board Member, Women for Healthy Rural Living (Milbridge, ME): Being a home-birth midwife, Pam Dyer Stewart has been

committed to helping women and families in Downeast Maine for many years. It was fitting when Pam joined the Women for Healthy Rural Living 2009, which allows her to extend her reach to impact an even greater community of women in all age groups. Thanks to Pam’s vision, passion and commitment, the organization established its most successful project, Incredible Edible Milbridge (IEM), which is a series of public vegetable garden education initiatives designed to create a community that is stronger, healthier, and more food independent. Pam saw the need and importance to children in IEM, so she worked closely with the schools, to fully integrate IEM into their curriculum. In addition to growing programs, Pam has taken thoughtful approach to diversify the organization’s board membership, bringing on members of a younger demographic and from different ethnicities because of Pam’s guidance, wisdom and commitment that Women for Healthy Rural Living is growing and thriving.